

Annual Report

2021

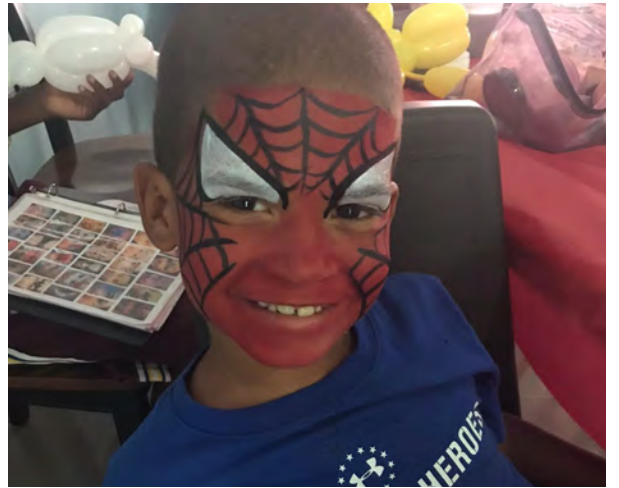




**“ RELIGION THAT GOD OUR FATHER
ACCEPTS AS PURE AND FAULTLESS IS THIS:
TO LOOK AFTER ORPHANS AND WIDOWS
IN THEIR DISTRESS. AND TO KEEP ONESELF
FROM BEING POLLUTED BY THE WORLD. ”**

**JAMES
1:27**

Our Year in Pictures



Content

3

Prayer Quote

4

Our Year in Pictures

6-7

Mission Trips and Internships

8-10

2021 Timeline and Highlights

11

About the Children

12

Impact & Finances





About Samaná & AOL Campus

Advocates of Love is the only CONANI-licensed resource in Samaná for neglected and orphan children. Our expansive campus includes a Children's Home, a Mission Hotel that can accommodate up to 20 guests, a Church onsite and a private Internship Residence, called Casa Rosa. We offer the most affordable, high quality mission trips in the Dominican Republic. How do we do it? Our primary focus is enriching the lives of the children, as well as the lives of visitors, like you. We are not focused on making a profit from Mission Trips. Our children are visibly different – happier and more relaxed – after visiting with mission travelers. Many mission trip guests choose to become child sponsors or volunteer advocates after forming a relationship with our children. These are the long term relationships we are interested in fostering.

Our Mission Hotel can accommodate 20 guests. We are here to curate the perfect trip for you and your group. You can expect that our team will take care of everything from the time you arrive until the time you depart the country – our mission trip travelers have come to expect a white glove service and we pride ourselves on our ability to offer such a bespoke experience. Not only will we give you all the details you need on flights, transportation, and things to do, we can plan a variety of different experiences. Want to do construction? Interested in hosting a Vacation Bible School? Would you like to minister to others in

Mission Trips & Internships

the Samaná community? How about a medical mission trip? These are just a few of the mission-driven events we have helped to plan and host. To learn more about why we are a great choice for your mission trip, read [The Best Mission Trips for Christians](#).

Mission trips through Advocates of Love qualify for community service hours. We are also equipped to offer longer-term mission internships with separate living quarters.

Travel from Miami, Florida to Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic is a short 2h:20m flight. The shuttle we provide from Santo Domingo / Las Americas Airport (SDQ) to Samaná is also only 2h:20m of scenic jungle and roadside shops that showcase the colorful culture. To learn more about our campus and how to get around Samaná visit our website: www.advocatesoflove.org.

On a mission trip with Advocates of Love there is plenty of leisure time and our children know how to have fun! Our team will work with you to plan excursions like a day at the beach or special meals at one of the amazing restaurants where you will immerse in authentic local flavors. Your group may also enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime memory, such as whale watching, zip-lining, horseback riding, exploring caves and so much more. Learn all about the unique offerings of an Advocates of Love mission trip, regardless of season.

Mission Trips - You can either join us on one of our trips or come on your own with your own group.

5-Day Trips

Includes lodging, transportation, flight cost from Miami Airport, all meals

Total Cost per person between \$1,000 - \$1,200 per person

Optional add-ons excursion adventures (can run about \$100-\$200 pp based on selections)

Stay Longer - Internships Available

Contact us at
info@advocatesoflove.org
to learn more.





2021 Timeline

J

January 2021

Three King's Day Celebration with a pizza party for our children in children's home and community care program

F

February 2021

Conani officials from Santo Domingo tour the new campus and we receive their accolades of how we should be the model and standard of NGO's in the country.

M

March 2021

Program director Daury leads an adventurous enrichment by taking the kids on an outing to explore nearby caves. The children learn firsthand the many workings and nature of caves.



We received a new child placement from Conani. A four year old girl named Islanda. She learns very quickly and is able to pick up Spanish as a second language. Her first language is creole.

A

April 2021

Ziplining Adventures at Dominican Tree House- A favorite of the children.

M

May 2021

- Dominican Mother's Day.
- Children Transition to In-Person School - children have 6 weeks of classes before summer starts.
- Boys made dressers for the girls' dorm.
- Native singer, Riccie Oriach, donates essentials items.
- Giving Hope - ribbon cutting ceremony to commemorate seed money to build new campus.

J**June 2021**

Visit to a local house that houses a bird sanctuary and nursery of many native plants.

J**July 2021**

-Summer program begins - includes trips to the capital, trampoline park, botanical gardens and beach clean-up
 -Summer academics - tutors help with reading and writing; older children received certifications with Cisco Networking Academy

A**August 2021**

Receive new placement from Conani. A nine year old boy named Junior, who is very happy and excited to join our home and family.

S**September 2021**

Children Return to School.

O**October 2021****N****November 2021**

-First Mission Trip of 2021 - Chosen Hitters baseball tournaments and backpack donations
 -First Thanksgiving Feast

D**December 2021**

Swing sets are completed and opened for the kids to enjoy. Christmas activities take place all month long. From decorating the tree, to baking christmas cookies, constructing gingerbread houses, our annual Noche Buena celebration to special outings when winter school break begins.



Twelve Days of Christmas Giving Challenge

Thank you



SCAN ME

- Basketball Court - Mike Calhoun, Board of Advisors Founder
- Hope House - Giving Hope Foundation
- Treehouse / Ziplining - Bart Griffin, Dominican Treehouse Village Founder and Creator
- Swingsets - Troy Duhon - Giving Hope Foundation
- School Supplies - Aurea & Aaron Svelti
- Gazebo - Vilma Nunez and her team Convierte Mas Team
- 4-wheel Adventure - Michel, Adventure ATVs
- Volunteer to Teach Dance - Sabrina Rim
- Mission Trips featuring Dominican Treehouse Village



Addressing the Need

MORE THAN

100,000 Dominican children are orphans.

578,000

children under the age of 15 are without parental care.

20%

of the Dominican Republic's population earn less than \$2.00 USD a day.

15%

of all Dominican children aged 5-14 are engaged in labor activities.

Poverty, gender inequality, history of domestic violence and sexual abuse, and lack of access to education are common push factors that increase a child's vulnerability of being sold into sexual slavery. The Dominican Republic is a source, transit, and destination country for persons subjected to sex trafficking.

1 in 5

citizens is chronically undernourished.

The children who participate in the labor force do so without attending school. As soon as they stop going to school, their lives are often marked by a vicious circle of drugs, crime and violence. The percentage is particularly high for boys and for children who live in rural areas.

Positive Impact of Your Donation Investment in 2021

18

children in our Children's Home in 2021

7

children are permanent placements

5

children not available for sponsorship

10

children community care

47

volunteers have visited the Children's Home

2021 Donation Distribution

79%

\$365,381

2021 Total expenses
(Including construction projects)

79% (\$288,115) Direct program expenses

21% (\$77,266) US & In country general overhead

Advocates of Love was birthed in January 2013, and we formally received our domestic 501c3 Nonprofit status on January 25th.

When we began, we partnered with a local pastor and rented a small home for our residential care program. The need was so great, but we discovered a lack of advocacy to reach the children who desperately needed our care. We were the first orphan and vulnerable children care resource ever in the entire province - and, to date, we are still the only CONANI-approved resource in Samaná

We began to travel through the tougher villages and would speak at churches. We challenged the people to advocate for any children they knew who were in need of safety, support and other services. In the first year, with help from the community, we filled our 850 sq ft rental with 10 children and had another 11 in our community care program.

Shortly thereafter, the Lord led us to purchase our first campus on the southern side of the province and we moved into over 5000 sq ft of space with plenty of yard area for the children to run around in.

Like people all across the globe, we were affected by the Global Pandemic. Again, the Lord guided us to use this pause for greater things. Through the generous support of Danny Sinclair, Callan Sinclair, Giving Hope NOLA, and Board of Advisors, we set out to develop a major campus expansion and it was completed by the end of 2021. God's grace never ceases to amaze me when I have faith through hard work. In August 2021 we moved into the new campus, which includes four dormitories (4800 sq ft total), and our common area building that includes the kitchen, classrooms, an office and plenty of storage space (4640 sq ft total).

One of my favorite memories from 2021 was leading a group in May when we opened the missionary quarters. Officially experiencing the vision of the ministry coming to life was priceless and visitations from friendly new faces are vital to our children.

Our vision for 2022 is to maximize the resources we have to facilitate mission trips. We have always offered them, but now we are now fully prepared to be able to house and transport up to 25+ visiting people and offer a hands-on experience within the ministry. It is our vision that this would also include internship opportunities as well.

We have many opportunities to get involved. Join us in praying for these children and for those that take care of them everyday. Our motto is: Pray, Go, Give. Come visit with a team or just your family and experience first hand all of what God is doing here in Samana through the only orphan care resource in the province. Give financially by sponsoring a child or selecting a monthly amount to help us with all of the necessary costs of taking care of these children.

Let Us Pray.

Jesus, you have begun a good work in the ministry of Advocates of Love and we can trust that you will see it to completion. I pray you will continue to motivate those you are calling to join your great work and that it will continue to have an impact on your kingdom.





Advocates of Love is the first available resource for neglected and orphan children in the Samaná region. We provide 24-hour care for those children who meet the CONANI standards, and community-based care for those who meet the standards set forth by Advocates of Love. To date, we are still the only resource for these children in Samaná.

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