

# Leaders of Peace





## MAKING HEALING & HOPE POSSIBLE SINCE 2008

 **6,000+**  
children served

 **29 OF 38**  
care programs led by EI graduates

 **78%**  
decrease in PTSD

This means better lives and increased potential to thrive!

 **95%**  
completing their education

That's 4 times the national averages!

## THANK YOU

**You are restoring lives & communities.**

Your support has placed Exile International on the front-lines for nearly 13 years — providing life-changing, Christ-centered care to 6,000 children and their communities. Thank you for partnering with us. Thank you for making each child's healing and hope possible.



**Bethany & Matthew Williams**  
Exile International Co-Founders

## OUR MISSION

Empowering rescued child soldiers and children orphaned by war to become leaders for peace through art-focused trauma care and holistic rehabilitation





# WHO WE SERVE

## RESCUED CHILD SOLDIERS & CHILDREN ORPHANED BY WAR

100,000 children abducted & 6 million orphaned by war in DR Congo & Uganda

# 12

YEARS  
OLD

Avg age at abduction.  
Avg age of a 6th grader.

# 3

YEARS  
IN CAPTIVITY

Avg time captive – exposed to  
violence, trauma, & loss.

Decades of war have orphaned 6 million children and forced 100,000 more into slavery. Children as young as 7 are kidnapped and forced to fight in rebel armies. Psychologically tortured and brainwashed — children are enslaved, forced to fight, and forced to kill.

Many are forced to participate in violence against their own families and communities. Still more are abducted and abused, becoming victims of rape and sexual violence.

Those fortunate enough to escape or be released are left with deep and enduring emotional scars as a result of what they've seen and been forced to do. Many are unable to return home because they have either lost or been rejected by their families.







## Meet Shalom

Fourteen year old Shalom was abducted at gunpoint by rebel fighters. Taken from his family and home, it would be years before Shalom could return. A story far too common in DR Congo, Shalom was enslaved by the rebels and forced to be a child soldier — forced to commit horrific acts of violence. But this would not be the end of his story.

After being rescued by the UN peacekeepers, Shalom was brought to The Peace Lives Center — an Exile International rehabilitation center. With time and the help of counselors and mentors, we have seen God work miracles in Shalom.

**"I give glory to God for saving me until this day... I thank Jesus for saving my life." — Shalom**

Since graduating from Exile's rehabilitation and leadership programs, Shalom is thriving! A recent university graduate, Shalom is pursuing his dream of helping others. Shalom is now an Exile leader — leading an Exile rehabilitation center in the very community from which he was once taken.

Few are better equipped to lead Exile's programs than young men and women like Shalom. Because of Shalom and others like him, Exile developed a training and equipping model for program graduates who are now successfully replicating the leadership programs that restored their lives.

In the past year, 16 new care programs were launched by EI graduate-leaders — providing over 700 more children with the care they need to overcome and thrive! In 2020, 29 of Exile's 38 care programs were led by graduate-leaders... with even more launching in 2021!

These graduates are the embodiment of disciples making disciples — not stopping with their own healing, but sharing Christ's restoration and hope with others.

Formerly child soldiers, these young men and women are leaders for peace with the potential to transform their nation.



## ROAD MAP TO HEALING

“When I arrived at Exile, I was welcomed with open arms. I could not believe such a peaceful place existed! I love being here because I am finally healing from my inner wounds.”

JUSTINE, 12 YEARS OLD  
FUTURE LEADER FOR PEACE  
EXILE INTERNATIONAL, CONGO



**1** ABDUCTION  
& CAPTIVITY



**3** TRAUMA  
HEALING



**2** ESCAPE OR  
RESCUE BY UN



**4** EDUCATION  
& DISCIPLING



**5** LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT  
& PEACEBUILDING



**6** RESTORATION  
& NEW LIFE





## ART-FOCUSED TRAUMA CARE

**Expressive therapies provide a medium for children to process emotions & experiences they do not yet have the words to share.**

Trauma can disrupt the language centers of the brain — making it difficult to express oneself to begin healing wounds of trauma.

Therapeutic programs incorporating music, dance, drama, and art provides war-affected children with avenues to share their stories — pain, loss, hopes, and dreams in a way that bypasses verbal language. Externalizing traumas is an integral and empowering step in each child's journey of healing and recovery.

Processing their stories with caregivers and peers, children rebuild a sense of connection and normalcy once lost to extreme physical and emotional traumas.



# OUR APPROACH

## Christ-Centered & Holistic

Fostering healing and hope through rehabilitative care programs addressing the needs of the spirit, mind, and body — child survivors of war are finding new life in Christ!

## Art-Focused Trauma Care

Music, dance, drama, and art provide a safer outlet for child survivors of war to express and process their emotional wounds.

## Education

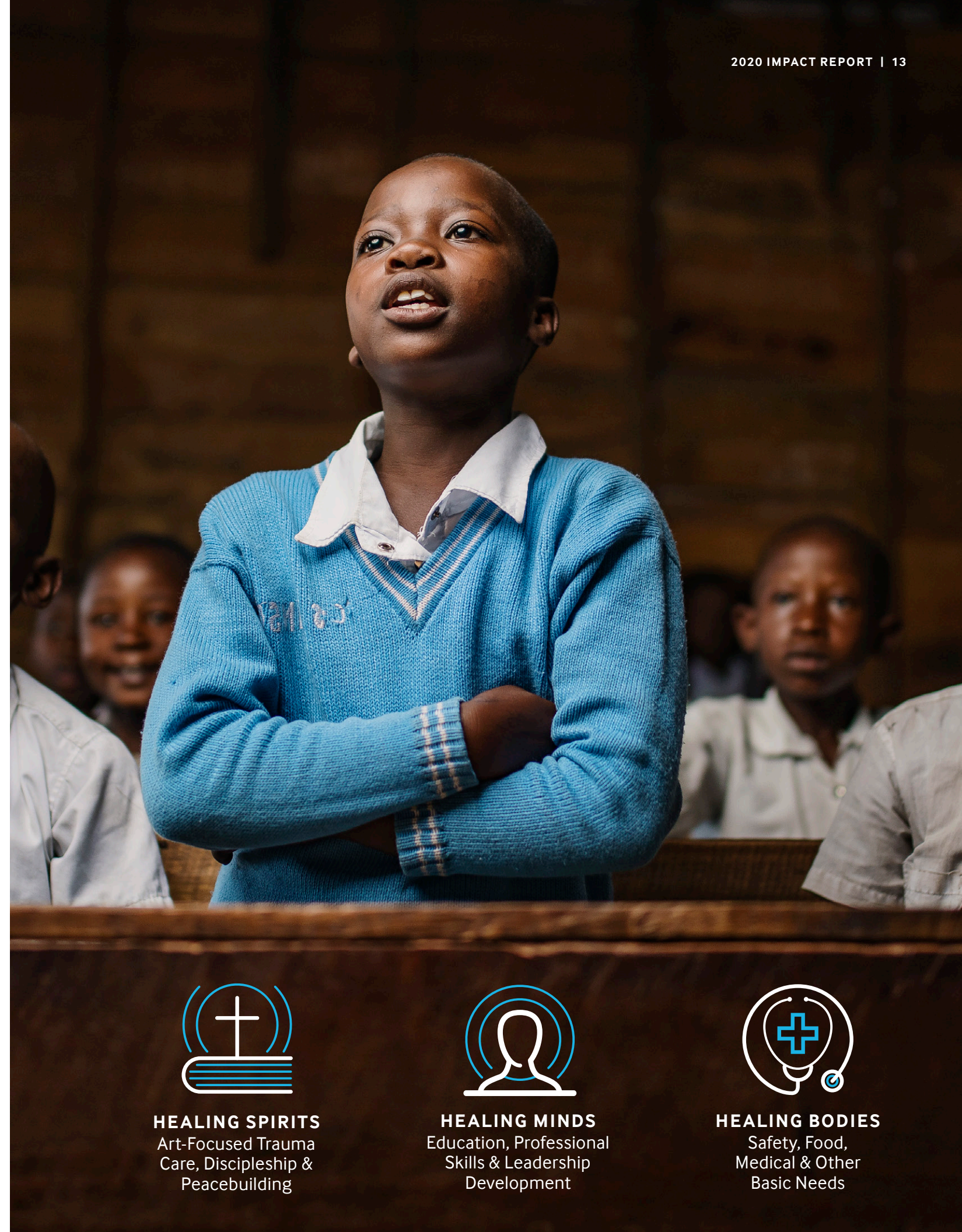
Education enables children to move from surviving to thriving — empowering young men and women to escape poverty, to support families, and to develop their own communities.

## Peacebuilding, Conflict Resolution, & Leadership Development

Conflict impacts all our lives. In a region known for conflict, EI is empowering the next generation of influencers with the tools needed to overcome conflict and lead communities towards peace.

## Graduate-Led Replication

Every year, EI is training and empowering more program graduates to launch care programs in their communities. These graduates and their influence are vital to ending cycles of violence and poverty throughout the region.



**HEALING SPIRITS**  
Art-Focused Trauma  
Care, Discipleship &  
Peacebuilding



**HEALING MINDS**  
Education, Professional  
Skills & Leadership  
Development



**HEALING BODIES**  
Safety, Food,  
Medical & Other  
Basic Needs



## GRADUATE-LED REPLICATION

### **29 of 38 Care Programs Led by Program Graduates**

Every year, Exile trains and equips more program graduates to launch rehabilitative care programs in their communities. These graduates and their influence are vital to ending cycles of violence and poverty throughout these regions.

Focusing efforts on replication driven through graduate-led programs — healing and hope are spreading at exponential rates in previously unreachable communities!

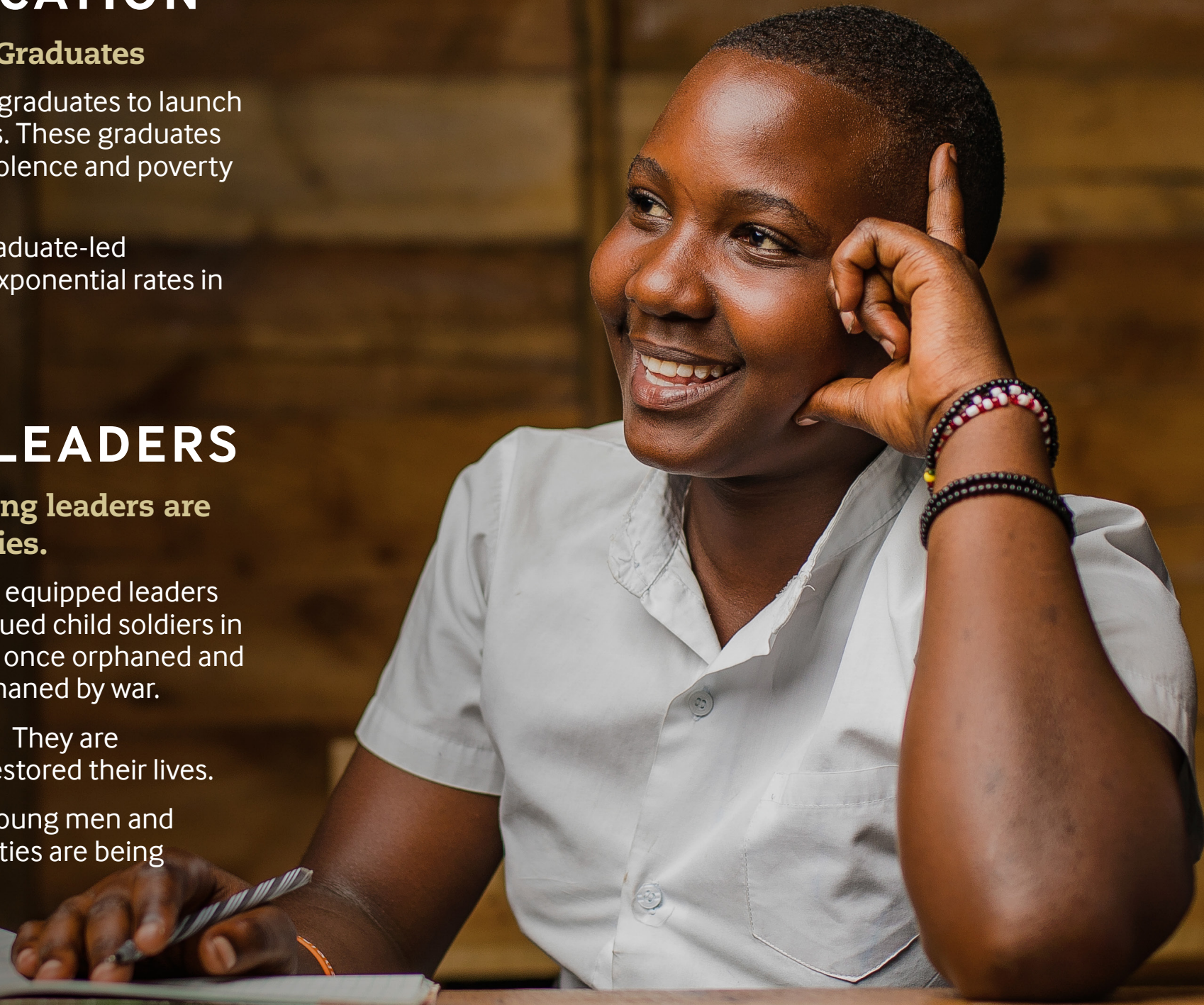
## FROM SURVIVORS TO LEADERS

### **Lives are being transformed & these young leaders are bringing healing to their own communities.**

Former child soldiers — now healed, trained, and equipped leaders — are bringing healing and hope to recently rescued child soldiers in their communities. Program graduates who were once orphaned and on the street are now ministering to children orphaned by war.

Not only are they passionate — they are capable! They are successfully replicating the care programs that restored their lives.

With God's help and through these empowered young men and women — good news is spreading and communities are being transformed!





## Dembe's Story

I was four years old when I was abandoned by my parents because of the war and forced to live on the streets. The nights were very cold, and I was often without food. It was so challenging learning how to survive by myself. Often times older children on the streets would hurt me because I was so small. I was very sad and alone. I had no hope.

But I now know God was always with me. He saw me and sent a woman who made a living selling food in the community to rescue me. She saw I was being beaten by other children and knew they intended to initiate me into a street gang. She felt sorry for me and knew I needed help right away. This wonderful lady brought me to a local pastor. When he saw me, he knew my situation was very bad. The pastor brought me to Exile International. That's when my life changed for the better!

I received everything I needed! Exile International gave me shelter, food, medical care, and so much more. Exile also helped me to start healing from my inner wounds. I am now in fourth grade and love school. Dreaming of a future was something I could never do before, but now I want to become an engineer when I grow up! But while I am still a child, I will keep playing soccer — it's my favorite sport!

**I thank God that He saw me and brought me peace!**



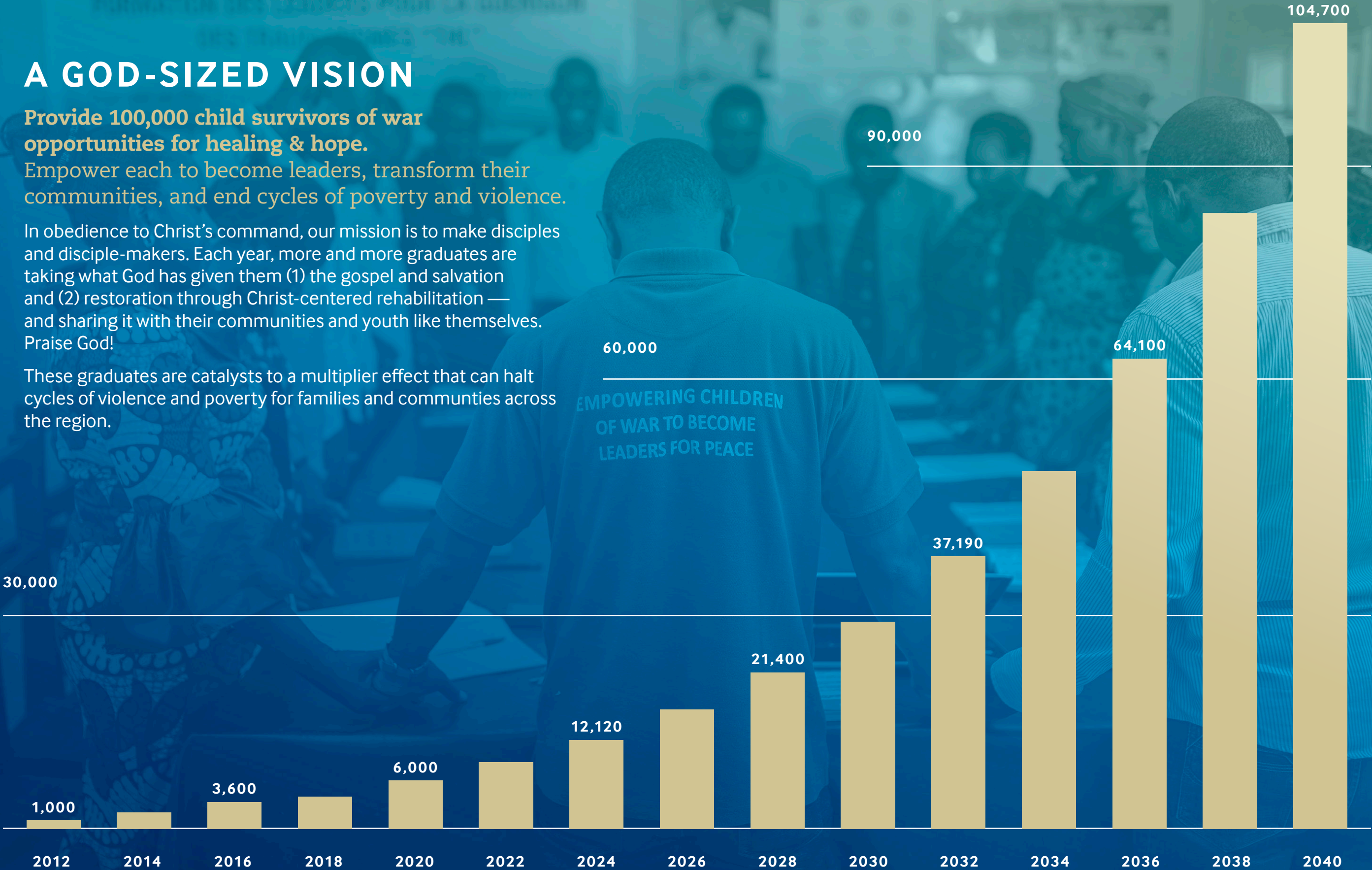


# A GOD-SIZED VISION

**Provide 100,000 child survivors of war opportunities for healing & hope.**  
Empower each to become leaders, transform their communities, and end cycles of poverty and violence.

In obedience to Christ’s command, our mission is to make disciples and disciple-makers. Each year, more and more graduates are taking what God has given them (1) the gospel and salvation and (2) restoration through Christ-centered rehabilitation — and sharing it with their communities and youth like themselves. Praise God!

These graduates are catalysts to a multiplier effect that can halt cycles of violence and poverty for families and communities across the region.







## LOCAL EXPERTISE

### Relevant, Transformative & Sustainable

Coming alongside the local church and local expertise, Exile implements culturally appropriate care that is both transformational and sustainable!

Local professionals, churches, and program graduates are leading the charge — transforming communities for Christ.

### 257 local staff & volunteers

These men and women are our heroes and mentors. As experts in their own culture, they lead Exile's rehabilitative care programs each day drawing from years of experience and wisdom.

Daily we learn from their faith, hope, and commitment to serving Christ and serving His children.



# 2020 IMPACT

1918

## CHILDREN HEALING THEIR WOUNDS

Through Exile's 38 care programs in DR Congo and Uganda.

29 OF 38

## CARE PROGRAMS LED BY GRADUATES

Program graduates are replicating the programs that transformed their lives — bringing healing and hope to fellow war-affected youth!

95%

## COMPLETING THEIR EDUCATION

95% of sponsorship program beneficiaries complete their educational journeys. That's 3-4 times higher than averages in Uganda (17.5%) and DR Congo (31.7%).

78%

## DECREASE IN PTSD SYMPTOMS

On average, youth experience a 78% decrease in PTSD symptoms within 24 months of entering Exile's programs.\*

\*Trauma recovery and progress is tracked on an on-going basis using the CRIES Test (a trauma severity test).

# 2021 GOALS

2,200

## CHILDREN SERVED IN 2021

7 NEW

## CARE PROGRAMS LED BY GRADUATES

PILOTING

## KEY INITIATIVES

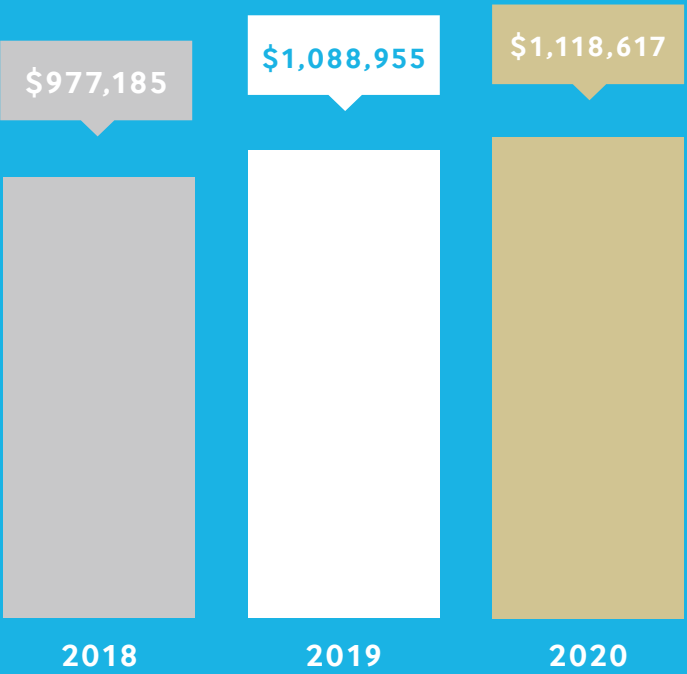
including EI's Extend Program, expanded vocational programs, and new monitoring and evaluation tools

# BUDGET

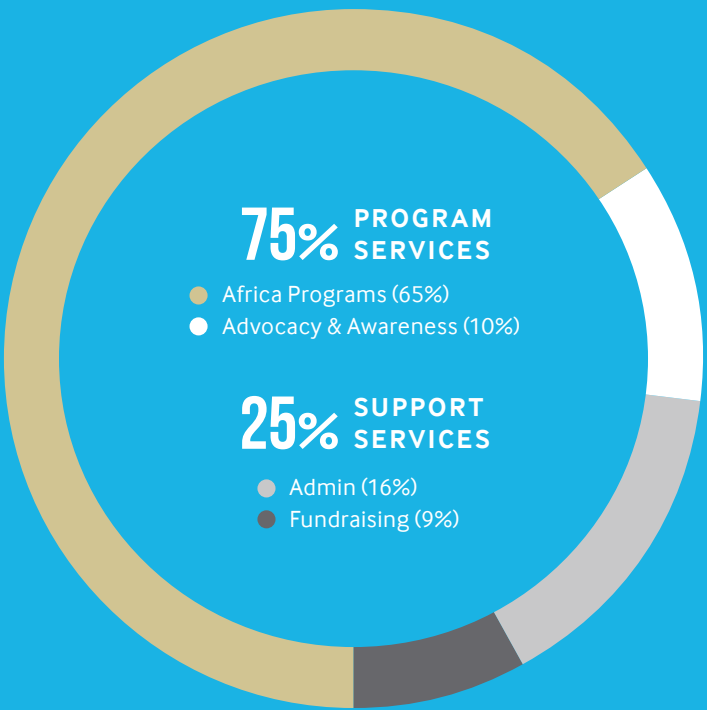
Year over year — more children are healing from the wounds of trauma & more child survivors of war are empowered to thrive!

Thank you for restoring rescued child soldiers and children orphaned by war to become leaders for peace through art-focused trauma care and holistic rehabilitation.

## EXILE INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL REVENUE



## BREAKDOWN OF EXPENSES



EXILEINTERNATIONAL.ORG





**HEALING SPIRITS**  
Art-Focused Trauma  
Care, Discipleship &  
Peacebuilding



**HEALING MINDS**  
Education, Professional  
Skills & Leadership  
Development



**HEALING BODIES**  
Safety, Food,  
Medical & Other  
Basic Needs

Accredited Commitment to Stewardship & Mission Success



Member of the Trauma Healing Alliance

3534 West End Ave.  
Nashville, TN 37205

[EXILEINTERNATIONAL.ORG](https://www.exileinternational.org)

Exile International is a 501(c)(3) Christ-centered nonprofit organization