

# Annual Report

2021 / 2022

08 2021 IMPACT STORY: ARTURO & HEATHER MOLINA

12 2021 IMPACT STORY: NOE & GABRIELLA'S STORY

14 2021 HIGHLIGHTS & FINANCIAL UPDATE

**06** REMEMBERING TRISH WIENS

10 HOUSE OF REFUGE

15 GOALS FOR 2022

16 LOOKING AHEAD

17 OTHER UPDATES

19 PRAY WITH US

18 I LOVE SAN QUINTIN

# Board of Directors



PARTNERING WITH PEOPLE TO TRANSFORM COMMUNITIES FOR THE GLORY OF GOD

#### **ROB & BRENDA WALL** Founders

The Walls operate a construction company and have served together in Christian ministry from early in their marriage. They are the founders of One Life.

#### **RANDY STARK** Chair

Randy has been involved in the construction and development industry for over 30 years and has extensive Christian leadership experience. He has served on the One Life board since 2007.

#### **CHRIS CLIMIE**

Chris is the Operations Manager at Camp Imadene in Mesachie Lake, BC and has served on the One Life board since 2018

#### **JOHN FREDE**

John has worked in the construction industry for over 30 years and is General Manager at Patterson Whittaker Architectural Profiles. He has served on the One Life board since 2007.

#### DANIELLE GAGNER

Danielle is the founder and CEO of Anchor Marketing Inc. in Tsawwassen, BC. She has served on the One Life board since 2021.

#### **PHILIP HILLS**

Philip is the Western Canada Executive Director for ACSI (Association of Christian Schools International). He has served on the One Life board since 2007.

#### TONY RAHNBORN

Tony is the owner of Kelton Contracting and has served on the One Life board since 2019.

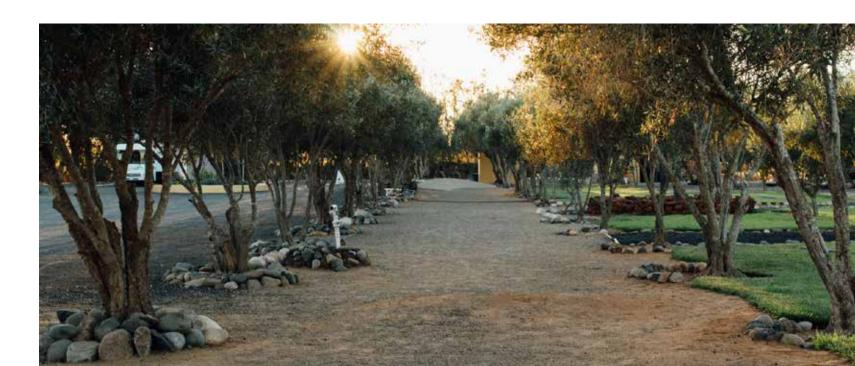
### One Life Mission & Vision

Partnering with people to transform communities for the glory of God. One Life, One Community, One Kingdom.

### Sustainable Impact

We are a non-profit organization committed to building unity and bringing dignity to the forgotten people of the San Quintin Valley through education and practical humanitarian care.

We believe that the best and most sustainable way to effect change is to come alongside indigenous leaders, communities, and churches and partner with them. This provides One Life with a better pulse on the local community and a clearer understanding of how to address the needs of its people.



4 // ONE LIFE ONE CHANCE - ANNUAL REPORT 2021 // 5



# Greetings from One Life

RANDY STARK, BOARD CHAIR

It is always inspiring to look back and reflect on what God accomplished through the ministry of One Life.

In our last annual report, I reflected on the wisdom that God had given us and how we were getting better at leaning into perseverance through the difficulties associated with COVID-19. As we closed out 2021, we once again came to a place where we humbly recognized God's faithfulness and amazing grace!

COVID-19 did not change the great and timely need for housing in the San Quintin Valley. And although we were not able to send any teams to Mexico, we exceeded our goal of 10 house builds with the completion of 13 in 2021! God provided the funds through faithful donors like you to make this possible, and by using the resourcefulness of our staff in Mexico to get them built.

With great happiness, I can tell you that we are starting to host teams in Mexico again this year! We are looking forward to working alongside many of you again soon.

It was another fruitful year in regard to other One Life programs. We had a very meaningful pastor's retreat, where pastors and their wives enjoyed a weekend of rest and refreshment at Los Olivos. We were able to continue our food delivery and community meals programs to many families in need, and we completed our Back to School project by providing backpacks and school supplies to 100 children.

We welcomed new team members in both Mexico and Canada in 2021, while also sharing some emotional farewells with others, including the passing of our long-time friend and Canadian Operations Manager, Trish Wiens, and Arturo and Heather Molina from our Mexico team, as they felt called to a new chapter of their lives. One of our hopes for One Life is to expand our ministry staff in 2022/23 as funding allows.

This has been a challenging year for many nonprofits to-date who are facing a new set of challenges impacting donations. In particular, the myriad of problems caused by the war in the Ukraine and significant inflation. One Life has been no exception. We are currently sitting \$36,000 behind in our annual budgeted operation needs and are praying for God's wisdom and provision as we steward the work and resources of this ministry.

If God lays it on your heart, would you prayerfully consider increasing your monthly partnership or making an additional one time donation?

Thank you for your partnership and encouragement. Please join with us in giving thanks as we continue to follow God's calling of transforming communities for His glory!



## A Note From the Executive Director

MANUEL DE JESUS MORALES

Last year was full of mystery and uncertainty for the whole world. We didn't know what the future held, many people died, and many experienced other consequences of COVID-19. As a ministry we were also uncertain of what was going to happen, or if we would make it through that season to continue serving the community.

Everything that we do is through donations, and in the middle of the pandemic, we were struggling financially. It was a very hard and sad time for us – many families were left without employment, without food on their tables. The government also ordered the closure of all non-essential establishments, which was the livelihood of many.

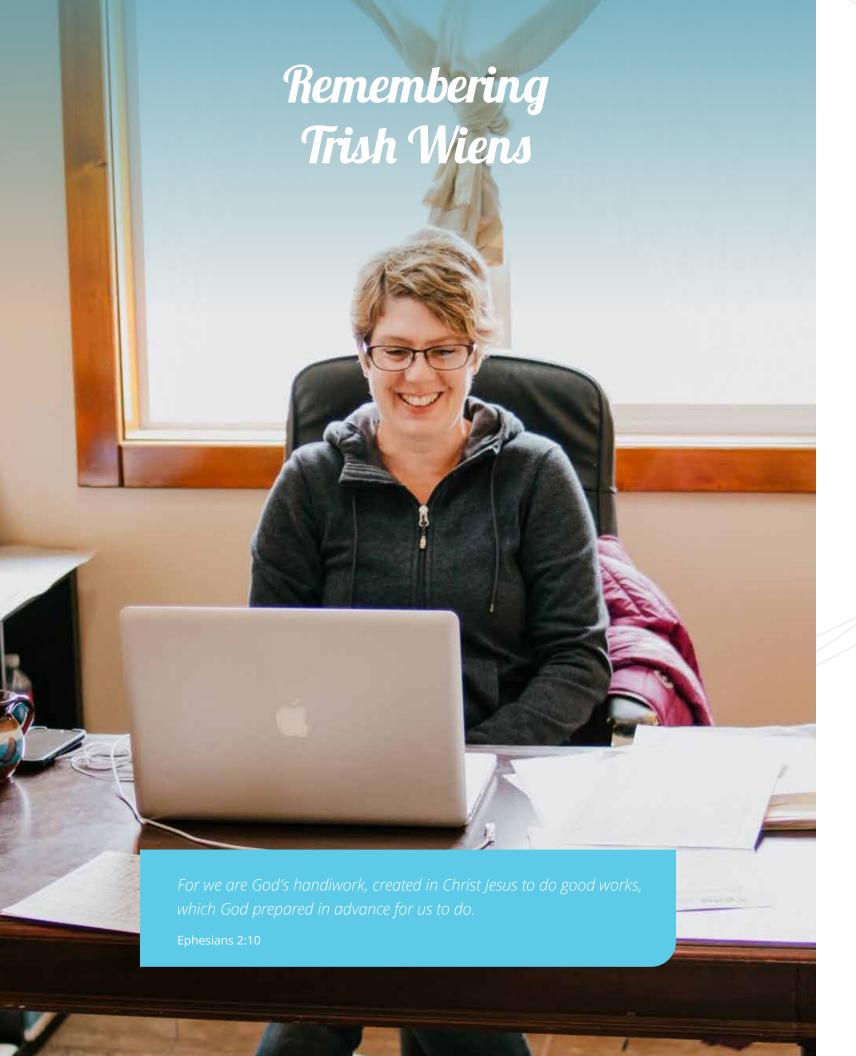
But we are thankful that we have an amazing God, who touched the hearts of so many people who were willing to give despite everything going on. Thanks to that support, great things happened in this Valley. Many families with few resources received a home. Many people in our surrounding communities were blessed with food. And many people gave thanks to God and were moved by how He continued to provide for His children.

I give thanks to God for all of this, and for each person who made these things possible. You helped make 2021 a little bit easier for many people, letting them know that there is still a hope, that they are not alone, and that we have a good God.

Thank you, and we pray for the blessing of God over your lives.

"How precious is your unfailing love, O God! All humanity finds shelter in the shadow of your wings." Psalm 36:7







Our dearly loved friend, sister in Christ, and co-worker, Trish Wiens, passed into the arms of Jesus on January 20, 2022 after a battle with ALS.

She had served with One Life since 2010, beginning as a volunteer, later joining our Board of Directors, then becoming the anchor of our Canadian staff as Operations Manager.

Trish was an example for us all. She had a passion for One Life's vision in San Quintin, a deep care for each of our staff members, and an unwavering faith. The One Life family sends our love and prayers to her family in this difficult time, and we thank God for the eternal impact that Trish has left on this ministry and our lives.



There was anticipation in the air as the pastors began to Pastor Bonifacio greeted everyone with a fist bump, and arrive one by one. The sounds of the morning were birds chirping, pastors chatting, and the occasional cow lowing from the nearby field. The morning air was still crisp, the sky was still filled with clouds, giving us a much-appreciated cover as we prepared to get to work on what would be the ninth Project Unity build since 2015. This day was going to be a good day.

The pastors continued to arrive. Pastor Ruben stepped out of the car, ready with his sombrero and gloves, knowing that we had come to count on him taking charge of the measuring and cutting. He is one of the few that had supported us in every house build since the start of the pandemic, his experience making him an indispensable part of our construction crew.



it's one of the rare times he is seen in anything other than dress pants and a button-up shirt - today he is in jeans and a T-shirt with a brown fedora, and the pastors start to tease that Indiana Jones has arrived on the scene. Pastor Bonifacio rolls with the jokes, knowing that when he has the opportunity, he will surely dish out some of his own.

Pastora Rosa never arrives with her hands empty, and this morning she came bearing a thermos of coffee and burritos to share with everyone. She is feisty in the best way, straight up, strong, as she has had to be working in ministry on her own for many years. She is a spiritual warrior with a beautiful touch of tenderness when it comes to loving God and loving people.

Pastor Ricardo strapped on a tool belt and put his hammer in place. He too has helped us on nearly every house build since the pandemic began and doesn't need instructions anymore; he knows the drill. He takes the initiative in arranging materials and getting things ready to go before we start. His easy-going nature makes everyone feel relaxed, like they are among friends.

The most meaningful thing One Life can impart in this community is unity. It is a simple concept, but often so complicated to see put in practice, especially among a group of leaders with different backgrounds, practices, and personalities. But the goal of fostering unity among the pastors of San Quintin became the heart of the ministry and as the years have gone by, it has become the heart of these pastors too.

Each pastor who has come to integrate themselves into this beautiful motley crew comes with everything that makes them who they are. They are very different, and that could mean conflict, sometimes it does - but they all come looking for the same thing. They know that here, unity is our heart and mutual trust is our goal.

The pastors know that this group is more like a family. When there is conflict, they make an effort to work it out. When there is sorrow, they surround each other with words of comfort and acts of care. When there is a victory, they celebrate, and they celebrate big.

Like any family, this group that has come together is not perfect. But we see how every time they come together, they affirm the goal - unity. They have taken the vision of One Life and made it their own because they know that working together as the body of Christ is the way we will reach the community of San Quintin and have a lasting impact in





#### UPDATE ON ARTURO & HEATHER MOLINA

You may have already heard that in April 2022, the Molinas followed God's lead to another ministry. Ten years ago, Heather joined the One Life family with a passion to serve and a deep love for God that is so evident to all those around her. Along the way, she found an amazing husband in Arturo and together, they poured their passion for Jesus into action.

As the Molinas move into this next chapter, the One Life team wants to bless them on their journey. Words can't adequately express our love for them and our gratitude for their years of faithful service to One Life and the people of San Quintin.

We already have local staff continuing the work they have been doing. In addition, we are grateful for the excellent leadership that Manuel is giving our ministry and the staff

that he is developing for the purpose of supporting pastors and their local church families. We are deeply thankful for the people that God has led to work with us.

Thank you for your ongoing support of One Life's work and our staff in Mexico. Our dream is to continue to see this ministry grow, so more and more families can be shown God's love and mercy through building homes and equipping local pastors to be able to provide physical and spiritual support when it's needed most.

Love and prayers to the Molinas as they transition into this new stage of their life!



The concept for House of Refuge has been on our hearts for many years and thanks to a group of passionate supporters, we obtained a beautiful building with rooms for up to 20 people to use.



Our original vision was to open a shelter for children who were victims of abuse and violence. However, as we explored this idea we encountered many delays, obstacles, and government red tape. Over the years, God has given us a new vision for this space.

When groups were temporarily unable to come to Los Olivos due to the pandemic, we had a unique opportunity to work alongside our local pastors in a deeper way. The past two years have reminded us anew of just how important they are to the fabric and spiritual health of this area.

In 2021, some of our team members attended an interministry conference where they met with other local representatives. From this meeting, they realized most ministries were already serving single mothers and children, but there was a gap when it came to pastors. A new question emerged, What if the House of Refuge became a place of refuge for pastors?

Ever since, we have felt a call to focus more intentionally on the empowering and equipping of our pastors and lay leaders as this aligns closely with our mission—partnering with people to transform communities for the glory of God.

# The Casa

Healthy leaders lead to healthy churches. Healthy churches can bring transformation to communities.

The Casa is currently used for:

Pastoral Events

Educational and ministry training

Space for pastoral mentorship, meetings, rest

Resource library stocked with Bibles, Bible dictionaries, Bible concordances and more

Retreats

Conferences

Accommodation for Canadian groups

And more.

We look forward to seeing how God uses the House of Refuge to further develop our pastoral ministry in San Quintin. This is only the beginning!





\*names changed for privacy

After searching for a place to live, we found a very small room to rent close to our church. Thank God one of the brothers from the church offered us a different place to stay. It was still a little tight, just a kitchen and an area to sleep, so we couldn't have many things. But we were there, and we were happy.

In 2020, our pastor saw our situation and how we were living and asked if we wanted to submit an application for a house build to see what might happen. We prayed about it and decided to submit an application.

When we weren't selected that year we said, "God knows, He knows His reasons, His timing, He knows everything," and we left it at that. Around a year and a half later, our pastor called us, wanting to talk.

We wondered what he wanted to talk about, and if we were in trouble for something. But we agreed to meet and the next morning he came over.



When our pastor arrived he gave us the news that we never expected. He said, "We just had a pastor's meeting where the pastors could present candidates in need, and I presented you as candidates. And another pastor coincidentally also presented your family's needs. And do you know what? You were chosen!" It never crossed our minds that this is what he was going to say to us that morning!

I want to thank my pastors, and all the other pastors who were part of this team, everyone who pounded a nail, who worked hard, who even left their jobs to come help here. May God continue to bless you greatly. This is truly a huge blessing for us. Our dream has always been to have a home, a home of our own. We are so thankful and pray that God would keep blessing and prospering your lives, and giving you more so that you can help other families like ours.



# 44

## First Hand Account

Over 25 years ago I was working at Pioneer Building Supplies in Chilliwack, when a young contractor I knew came in and said he needed to purchase a new tool belt and all new hand tools. I asked him why. He said he just got back from a mission trip, where he was part of a team that built a house for a family in need. He then left all of his tools behind for them to use. I thought this was amazing. A seed was planted....

Twenty years later I had the opportunity to go on my first mission trip to Mexico through One Life with Tony Rahnborn, who just happens to be the contractor that planted that seed all those years ago. The experience was everything I had thought and hoped it would be.

Each trip since has been very special to me. I always feel like I come back with more than I gave. I feel a real connection to the people of San Quintin and look forward to the next opportunity to go work alongside them.

I am grateful for the opportunity that One Life has provided for me to be part of the amazing work they are doing in the San Quintin Valley. I hope to be a partner of theirs for many years to come.

#### PAUL THOMPSON

ONE LIFE ONE CHANCE - ANNUAL REPORT 2021 // 15

# 2021 Highlights



13 HOMES BUILT Over 50 people housed



2500 PEOPLE

Through 15 community meals



+60 GROCERY CARE PACKS

Delivered to families



EVENING MINI-RETREAT

Hosted for pastors' wives



**50** PASTORS LEADERS

Hosted at a pastoral training weekend



+500 PEOPLE GATHERED

At Unity San Quintin at Los Olivos, a multi-church gathering of 13 churches



100 KIDS HELPED With school supplies

## Financial Update

	2021 (ACTUAL)	2022 (GOAL)
EVANGELISM & EQUIPPING	\$14,228.45	\$24,000
EDUCATION FUND	\$3,837.50	\$3,000
COMMUNITY OUTREACH	\$37,272.12	\$36,000
MORE THAN A ROOF	\$116,525.60	\$100,000

# Goals for 2022

#### FUELED BY DONATIONS FROM OUR VALUED SUPPORTERS



Encourage 30 pastors in monthly gatherings



Equip 60 pastors and leaders with training and events



Support 25 churches participating in One Life ministry activities



Encourage 600 people at annual event Unity San Quintin



Provide 150 children backpacks with school supplies



Provide 150 people to receive blankets & warm clothing in cold season



Gifts and celebrations on Children's Day for 300 kids



Provide 150 San Quintin families with care packages of groceries and necessities



Serve 24 communities with meals, approximately 3000 people served



Partner with teams and churchs locally and from abroad to build homes for 7 families in need





The past two years have looked different for One Life in many ways, yet despite the challenges, by God's grace, we were able to continue our work in San Quintin.

We are very excited to be planning for volunteer teams to serve with us again in 2022! With regulations still in flux for international travel, we are hopeful that whatever is mandated will give many an opportunity to once again join us in transforming lives in the San Quintin Valley.

We are looking forward to welcoming many of you back to Los Olivos, and hope that you will gather a group of friends, family, co-workers, business partners or church family to join us in San Quintin! You can send a message to hola@ onelifeonechance.ca to get the conversation started. We'd love to hear from you!

With new challenges such as the Ukraine war and global inflation rates on the rise, and their ensuing impact on finances and giving, One Life currently finds itself with a deficit of \$36,000 to-date for the 2022 budget. In Mexico particularly, inflation has more than doubled from the beginning of 2021, with the material cost of a house-build alone increasing by 10%.

## Other Updates



We want to extend our thanks for the support you have provided to our More than a Roof Campaign in 2021. Your gifts have made a true difference in the lives of the families in San Quintin! Gracias! Our goal for the year was to build 10 houses for families in need.

Thanks to you, our supporters and partners, we raised enough funds for 13! Our team in Mexico built homes for these 13 families in partnership with local pastors.

If you would like to learn more about the campaign or invite others to join in and support these projects in 2022, please follow the link below:

https://onelifeonechance.ca/giving/more-than-a-roof/

Follow our Facebook and Instagram social feeds to see how these projects are progressing.



Everything One Life does in San Quintin is in partnership with local pastors. We highly value the relationships we have with these faithful men and women, many of whom do not receive any support from a denominational organization.

One Life plans several training events and day retreats each year to build up these pastors and their supporting leaders. This year, due to a lack of funds, we had to cancel several of these life-giving events.

When one of our supporters learned of this, they created an online birthday fundraiser and invited family and friends to donate. The fundraiser raised more than \$5,500 towards One Life's Evangelism and Equipping fund! We are grateful to all who gave! Because of these gifts, we are now able to host several events this fall that will build up leaders and the churches of San Quintin.



### First Hand Account

We support One Life because we see how God is working in the San Quintin Valley through OLOC and we are delighted to join Him. Having participated in several summer mission trips, we have witnessed firsthand the impact OL is having on the people of San Quintin as they partner with local churches to care for families and individuals in need. One Life's desire to come alongside local churches and their pastors with support and encouragement is a ministry model we have come to appreciate as a healthy approach to long-term transformation. **God is at work in the San Quintin valley and He is using One Life to accomplish his purpose.** We are honoured to be able to play a small part in God's big plan for restoration.

**CHARLES & TERESA DE BOER** 

# — 1 San Quintin



When you support One Life, you make beautiful moments of connection and blessing possible. Our team is empowered to provide practical assistance for those experiencing hardship. It also allows us to support local pastors and ministries in sharing the love of Jesus in San Quintin communities.

If you'd like to make a difference on an ongoing basis, then we invite you to consider becoming a monthly donor.

Monthly support provides One Life with stability, allowing us to plan and budget with confidence. For example, if we had 100 new monthly donors, each giving \$30 per month, this would allow us to recoup the current deficit for 2022 and give us \$36,000 over 12 months that we can count on in our ministry planning for 2023. These consistent, faithful acts of generosity add up fast!

Will you consider joining our "I Love San Quintin" program with a monthly donation? Your support makes it possible to coordinate house builds, organize events like community meals and prepare for the unexpected, such as church repairs and emergency supplies.

### GETTING STARTED IS EASY. YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE IN ONE OF TWO WAYS

### 1. Donate Online

Visit our webs and donate online at: https://onelifeonechance.ca/donate

### 2. Donate Via Mail

Print off our donation form at: https://onelifeonechance.ca/donation-form



Together, we're working to transform communities for the glory of God.



### 1. Donors -

Additional "I <3 San Quintin" monthly donors to fuel the daily work of the ministry.

### 3. Families

Strength and protection for the San Quintin pastors and their families.

### 2. Resources

Creativity and resourcefulness as we serve in the midst of the pandemic.

### 4. Salvation

That many would come to know Jesus in San Quintin as the local church is built up.

We know that the work of One Life would not be possible without the faithful support and prayer from our community members like you. Thank you for continuing to lift us up in prayer!



At One Life, our mission is to help bring dignity and unity to the forgotten people within the San Quintin Valley of Baja California, Mexico (6 hour drive south of San Diego, CA). We work diligently to support local leaders and pastors in San Quintin through education, humanitarian support and training programs. Most importantly, we believe that the San Quintin Valley can become a community where all people are housed, fed, educated and spiritually cared for.

"It is tough to see families living in their homes made of cardboard or plastic, sleeping in terrible conditions. The groups come and build, bless, and now little boys and girls can say, 'I have a bedroom, a bed, a blanket.' This ministry has a significant impact, and families would live in critical conditions if One Life wasn't here. This ministry offers us opportunities for fellowship and friendship, and I believe that if it wasn't here, there would be a big difference in this Valley." - Pastor Ricardo Naverrate

We want to connect with you and invite you to be a part of the transformational work that is taking place in the San Quintin Valley.







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