

2021 - 2022 hopes/dreams/vision

# Please join us...

We aim high envisioning many more home builds that provide help and hope for families along with our Abide Experience program that create unique routes to explore and grow.

## Go ahead and share our story

We happily want you to share our mission, our goals and in the process send people our way. We will gladly say hello.

[oliviasbasket.org](http://oliviasbasket.org)    [abidecollective.org](http://abidecollective.org)

## Consider a life-changing donation

Every Olivia's Basket home happens through generous giving. Please consider being an integral part in helping a family in their future along with providing students the ability to help as well. We speak from experience, it is always amazing.

Go directly to: [abidecollective.org](http://abidecollective.org)  
Checks can be directed to:  
**ABIDE COLLECTIVE**  
Box 891, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72702



Please use our QR code to easily donate right now online

[abidecollective@gmail.com](mailto:abidecollective@gmail.com)



ABIDE COLLECTIVE  
ANNUAL UPDATE 2020- 2021



### From the Executive Director, Abide Collective

The Abide Collective's "year" runs from the first of April to the end of March. We do this for a number of reasons, primarily so we're not having to rush through the typical year end things in December, a time that's demanding enough as it is. Little did we know when setting this schedule we would also be "framing" twelve of the most difficult months many people and countries have ever experienced, April of 2020 - March of 2021. I admit things suddenly didn't get better April 1st of this year. But I think about all that changed in those twelve months, all the ways our lives were suddenly and lastingly altered. By God's grace and the sacrificial generosity of so many of you, the Abide Collective was able to adjust, continue to serve in significant ways, and I really believe, come out stronger.

#### Some highlights:

- ▶ We were able to fund a house build with our partners, Homes of Hope in Mexico, helping them keep building when foreign teams couldn't enter the country.
- ▶ We helped with the settlement of a refugee family from The Congo who arrived at the height of the shutdown.
- ▶ We pulled off a small and careful Colorado outdoor retreat.
- ▶ We safely hosted a number of people in our home for rest and spiritual direction.
- ▶ We were able to scout new locations for future outdoor retreats.
- ▶ We led a number of events and studies via Zoom that connected people from all over the US and other countries.

Even in the midst of this time of significant grief and adjustment, these good things happened. We wouldn't be here without each of you and we are sobered, but more hopeful than ever for what comes next.

Grace and peace y'all, John Ray



**John Ray**  
Executive Director, Abide Collective



abidecollective.org

*"What an amazing year 2019/20 was! Thanks to the hard work and fabulous generosity of so many, this was one of our most impactful years to date. While we raised about the same amount of money as last year, we were able to send significantly more dollars and significantly more volunteers to the field, thereby changing many more lives. There were also so many significant milestones – our third all women's Las Chulas build, our first special needs home build, a meaningful and engaging student adventure and so much more.*

*As we brace to navigate the ongoing challenges and impacts of Covid-19, we thank you for your support and love. Just as we are restructuring our lives and our social gatherings around the challenges of this pandemic, so too will we need to restructure our programs and our outreach. Our commitment to helping families and individuals in critical need, to offering hope and to sharing the anchor of God's love remains steadfast.*

*Without each of our sponsors and partners none of this would be possible, and so we look forward to continuing our work throughout 2020 with all of you by our side."*

**Monique Herman**  
President, Abide Collective



### Financial Report April 2020 - March 31, 2021

Abide Collective is a 501 C3 non-profit. Our seven member Board of Directors meet at least three times a year and are actively involved in various Abide Collective programs as well as other non-profit and community organizations.

We carry no debt and use a Board approved budgetary system to oversee and manage all our financial resources. We have a small margin goal on all our programs. If this margin is met, the excess funds are used to further develop Abide Collective and its programs. Contributions to Abide Collective are used for staff support, student scholarships, Olivia's Basket, and equipment for Student Adventure trips.

2020 - 2021 Income: \$97,460.00  
2020 - 2021 Expenses: \$101,645.00



Generous donations helped provide a new refrigerator and counter for Sonora, Leo and Flora's kitchen. This is the first time we have been able to provide a refrigerator to a family.



Scan the QR code to view our Guidestar profile or go to: [guidestar.org/profile/83-2191014](https://www.guidestar.org/profile/83-2191014)

We believe in transparency. Please contact us if you have any questions.  
[abidecollective@gmail.com](mailto:abidecollective@gmail.com)



# Amazing what you can do with two shovels & hope...

Flora, her four year old son Leo and Flora's sister Sonora, were all sitting on the single bed they shared in their small home. Pointing beneath it they told us a story...



The property they saved so hard to purchase consisted of a steep slope of dirt and large rocks with a few chiseled steps at the bottom. Flora told us she and Sonora personally removed all the dirt and moved many of the rocks to make the foundation for their new home. She said men in the area watched as they worked. They laughed and called the sisters names saying no one would ever be able to live on this property.

This went on for a solid six weeks. She then told us their tools were under the bed. We were in awe when all they pulled out were two very well used shovels. I looked at these two strong women who have two shovels and a mountain of hope for a home. Add to this a team of thirteen strong ladies who said "yes" to build a home for a family in need. And then there is the loving generosity from you to make this home a reality.

I told Flora there are many wonderful people she will never meet who helped build her home because they care for her and her family. Thank YOU for caring. And thank you for being an amazing part of this amazing story.

Jane Ray, Executive Director Olivia's Basket

### An amazing impact:

- Children who grow up in a home the family owns are three times more likely to attend and succeed at school.
- A debt free home helps leverage families out of chronic poverty.
- A home with a cement floor increases overall health by 78%.
- The homes we build effect a family in positive ways for generations.

### 2022 vision

To build two to four new homes for families being joined by students as well as volunteers ready and willing to help.

25 new homes built in Tijuana, Ensenada and Honduras  
100+ individual lives impacted  
500+ volunteers participated



Pictured here, Flora and Sonora just prior to opening the door to their own home in 2020, built by our third Las Chulas all ladies housebuild team.



## Formation in the coming year

"What does formation look like in the age of COVID lockdowns, distancing requirements and societal upheaval?" This question has been at the forefront of our planning and efforts this past year.

Most of our in person activities and trips were canceled or postponed. Like so many others, we learned the ins and outs of Zoom and other technology connecting people over long distances. We've also responded in person to the escalating number of people in crisis situations brought on by intense pressures.

Honestly it caused us to look deeper than we may have ever looked into where our roots are, what we believe and what does it mean to "abide"?

In reality we still have many questions. But the things we do know keep us moving forward with renewed commitment and enthusiasm.

The coming year, we are planning more home builds and in person and group events. Some beginning as soon as March. Be on the look out for specifics on our trips and amazing opportunities.

Grace and peace y'all,