Celebrating 25 Years of Serving God & Egypt’s Children
Dear Friends and Supporters of Coptic Orphans,

All that we’ve worked for during these last 25 years, serving God and the children of Egypt, brought us to a beautiful and pivotal 2014. I say beautiful because I never expected we would be blessed to meet not once, but twice, with His Holiness Pope Tawadros II. By appearing at our 25th Anniversary Gala in Canada, and by convening a special meeting with our Serve to Learn volunteers, he gifted us with a warm affirmation of the Church’s love and leadership for the fatherless and their families.

And as for pivotal — 2014’s events showed that we reached our 25th anniversary vibrant and ready to tackle even greater challenges. Our Not Alone, Valuable Girl, Bledaya, and Tamkeen projects all prospered and grew stronger, involving more families than ever before. More children than ever before secured loving relationships with sponsors, thanks to the unprecedented flood of sponsorships at our 25th Anniversary Galas in Canada, the U.S., and Australia. And for the second year running, more of our children won Egypt’s top scholarships, confirming the success of our education-centered programs.

This report describes all the milestones we reached, all the doors that swung open, and all the people and organizations who blessed us with partnership and support. One of the stories included in these pages is that of Michael. Reading about Michael, whom I’ve met many times, I am struck by the incredible blessing that we share within the Body of Christ. Michael is one of “our” kids — someone who flourished as a child in our programs, made it through his education against great odds, and is an incredible blessing that we share within the Body of Christ.

But what really moves me is the fact that Michael is now “giving back.” He’s gone from being one of our kids, to being a volunteer himself and working to improve the lives of other fatherless children. Michael’s story is extraordinary, but it’s far from unique, and it really helps me understand why we do this work. It’s about more than helping kids survive. It’s about encouraging them to be transformed — by education, by love, by faith — and to become people who love giving back to our community.

That’s the future, I believe. That’s why I share this report, and Michael’s story, with you. For all that we’ve received from God, for the guidance and support of His Holiness, Their Graces the Bishops, and the Reverend Fathers, and for our partnership with you, we are grateful beyond words.

It has been a privilege and an honor to walk with the beautiful children of Egypt, their brave mothers, and our Church-based volunteers. Thank you to them, and to everyone who has helped us touch the lives of over 30,000 children in these past 25 years.

Peace and grace,

Founder & Executive Director

About Coptic Orphans

When most people think of “orphans,” they think of children in orphanages who have no family members at all. In fact, many orphanages in Egypt are filled with children who have living family members, only because their widowed mothers cannot afford to feed them. This is an injustice.

Coptic Orphans is an award-winning international Christian development organization that works through a grassroots volunteer network to unlock the God-given potential of fatherless children and other vulnerable children in their own homes and families. We equip them to break the cycle of poverty and become change-makers in their communities. Since 1988, Coptic Orphans has touched the lives of over 30,000 children in underserved villages and urban areas throughout Egypt, from Alexandria to Aswan.

Board of Directors

US
Andrew Abdalla
Nenem Riad
Dr. Ashraf Rofail
Raouf Youseff
Australia
Debbie Armanious
Rhonda Farag
Ben Moncos
UK
Daniel Boccor
Basem Morris
Randa Shafeeg
Andrew Whiteworth
Canada
Mark G. Nakhl
Advisory Board
Julie Meawad
Dr. Robe Samanta Roy

The Top 10 Highlights of 2014

1. His Holiness Pope Tawadros II blesses Coptic Orphans by coming to our Sept. 28 gala in Toronto, Canada to accept our Leading by Example Award, where he tells us, “Bravo for your service!”
2. The number of sponsor visits to their kids in Egypt soars by 70%, while the number of letters written by sponsors to their children jumps by 20%.
3. Serve to Learn reaches a high point on July 12, when His Holiness Pope Tawadros II holds a special meeting at St. Mark’s Cathedral with the program’s team of 21 volunteers from the U.S., Australia, and Canada.
4. Five Not Alone participants beat enormous odds to win prestigious LOTUS scholarships to attend some of Egypt’s finest private universities, such as the British University.
5. A comparison of new data confirms that children enrolled in Coptic Orphans programs are more than three times more likely to complete their secondary school education than their average Egyptian peers.
6. Twenty-nine widows with children in our Not Alone program complete Round II of the Bledaya microfinance initiative, achieving a 98.3% repayment rate on loans used to advance their entrepreneurial ideas and generate income.
7. Students at St. Mary and St. Minias Coptic Orthodox College in Sydney donate the funds raised at their book fair to Coptic Orphans, and another top-notch Australian supporter raises over AU$2,000 for the kids by inviting 30 women — 27 of whom had never heard of Coptic Orphans before — to a fabulous dinner.
8. Responding to an awareness-raising campaign organized by young women participating in our Tamkeen project, local leaders in Minya agree to implement several measures aimed at countering sexual harassment.
9. To bear witness for our brothers and sisters in Christ, Coptic Orphans speaks in Washington, D.C. at the Sept. 9-11 inaugural summit of In Defense of Christians, emphasizing the need to strengthen and spotlight the positive work done by Christian schools, hospitals, and aid organizations in the Middle-East.
Sinister, Sept. 28, 2014.

His Holiness Pope Tawadros II and Coptic Orphans

His Holiness appeared in person at the Sept. 28 gala in Toronto, Canada to accept the Coptic Orphans Leading by Example Award. The award honors pioneers whose character and achievements make them role models in Egypt and around the world.

His Holiness was our clear choice to receive the award because of his noble and constant efforts to realize his vision of an Egypt of tolerance and prosperity, where Christians and Muslims live alongside one another in peace.

Furthermore, His Holiness has been an incredible advocate for the children as far back as 1999, while he was a general bishop.

His Holiness has been an incredibly engaging and eloquent speaker throughout his career. He has visited more than 150 Coptic Orphans projects in all governorates of Egypt and has always been an inspiration to the children.

As always, His Holiness directed everyone's thoughts towards the right place — in this case, the joy that comes with serving the children and their families as part of One Body in Christ. As he said: "Bravo for your service! And I'm not sure who's happier, you or the children you serve — you are all happier!"

Indeed, it has been a blessing beyond words for all of us to have served for these 25 years, and for the privilege of working with our partners in development: the courageous, faithful, and unstoppable children of Egypt!

With His Holiness' words in mind, and with gratitude, we set forth for our next 25 years of service.

Sponsors and donors are the heart of Coptic Orphans. Everything we've accomplished together in these 25 years has been because of God's grace and through your prayers, love, support, and visits to the children!

...
As we celebrate Coptic Orphans’ first 25 years, it’s clear that the fruit of our flagship program, Not Alone, isn’t limited to the success and happiness of the children we serve. This may sound surprising, since that happiness and success are central to everything Coptic Orphans does. In fact, in partnership with you, we’ve spent these 25 years striving constantly for each child’s education, well-being, and joy.

But the story doesn’t end there. What we’ve come to realize is that the children’s lives are only the branches of Coptic Orphans’ work. The fruit is what they give back to others in the form of love, leadership, and volunteerism.

The story of a young Not Alone participant named Michael shows how the program can, by God’s grace, bear this fruit. His story begins, as all Not Alone stories do, with our staff and volunteers working to restore the protection, provision, and confidence that a child loses after a father’s death or abandonment.

As Michael told us: “My dad passed away in 1996. I was six years old. The financial burden was on the eldest brother, who was 12 years old. He dropped out of school so he could support us. I’ll always remember this quote: ‘You’re a smart kid, but your family can’t afford school. Therefore, we advise you not to continue your education.’ It was very depressing to hear these words. I was concerned for my family, which was trying to make ends meet. I was in 9th grade when I had to decide whether to stay in school or to drop out due to my family’s situation.”

As a dropout, Michael’s future could have been that of many Egyptians: exhausting manual labor, illiteracy, poverty, and poor health leading to death. But for Michael, something changed. He was located by a Coptic Orphans “Rep,” who enrolled him in Not Alone.

From then on, Michael’s Rep, George, nurtured his desire to learn and his eagerness to “give back.” In this, George was like any of Not Alone’s more than 400 Church-based Reps. After being nominated by their local bishop, the Reps work with each of the nearly 10,000 fatherless kids in Not Alone, in some of the most impoverished communities all across Egypt. Day after day, often for years, each Rep builds a long-term relationship with each of the 15-20 children they serve, bonding with them through regular home visits, life-skills workshops, and community activities. As they encourage the child’s talents and nurture a well-rounded character, they arrange for whatever support is needed — tutoring, tuition, transport — to improve their education.

In short, Not Alone addresses both immediate and long-term needs so that children develop academically, socially, and emotionally for success. The changes in Michael’s life show how, in Not Alone, all of this support aims to reach the goals of improving the child’s well-being and education, while nurturing a well-rounded character.

“God sent Coptic Orphans my way at the right time,” Michael said. “They told me, ‘We’ll take care of your educational costs and we’ll stay the course until the end.’ Thank God, during my senior year I scored 93.5% on the national exams. Then I enrolled in a mechanical engineering program in college.”

Today, Michael has a good job working for a mechanical company. By itself, this would qualify as a success. But if Not Alone supported children with only education and a job in mind, Michael’s story would have ended before it bore fruit.

Fortunately, Not Alone aims higher. Reps like George encourage each child to have a well-rounded personality, thinking of others first, valuing volunteerism, and behaving as leaders in their community.

The results of this mentoring are visible in Michael’s life. “I’m paying it forward,” he told us. “I want to bring joy and happiness to another family in Not Alone. Currently, I make regular visits to a mother with two kids, Beshoy and Dalia. I fell in love with these kids when I first met them. They’re full of ambition and joy despite their difficult circumstances.”

That’s the story of Not Alone, and the story of Michael. And, we hope, it will someday be the story of Egypt. For, as Michael said, Coptic Orphans “has started a historic change in Egypt. The simple people and poor people have the ability to do great things for Egypt.”

This is the promise of Not Alone — one we aim to fulfill, with you as our partner, in Coptic Orphans’ next 25 years.

---

**Here are the highlights of Not Alone’s impact in 2014:**

560 participants exited the program along educational routes: 430 graduated from high school, 39 completed their studies at secondary school, and 91 graduated from university.

125 children overcame their educational shortcomings to become literate through Not Alone’s Rosetta six-month remedial reading initiative.

29 participants passed an exacting screening process, and 15 successfully renewed, to be awarded iNPower scholarships, our “in-house” grants aimed at allowing Not Alone’s highest academic achievers to attend higher-tier universities including Ain Shams, Cairo University, and Alexandria University.

6 other Not Alone participants earned ACCESS scholarships, which, by supporting intensive English tutoring, help them qualify for external scholarships to Egypt’s most prestigious institutions of higher education, such as the British University.

5 Not Alone participants were selected to receive the acclaimed LOTUS scholarship awarded by the U.S. Government to only 50 students in all of Egypt each year.

Not Alone Bears Fruit for the Children and Egypt

Through workshops, tutoring, and other encouragement to stay in school, Not Alone improves the education and well-being of the child and their family.

---

*Names and images in this report have been changed to protect the privacy and dignity of the children.*
In 2014, five young men and women in our Not Alone program won prestigious LOTUS scholarships to attend some of Egypt’s finest private universities. This means that for two years in a row, Coptic Orphans participants — a tiny fraction of a huge number of students — beat enormous odds to win 10% of the entire year’s worth of LOTUS scholarships awarded in all of Egypt.

What lies behind this achievement, which is all the more meaningful in the year of our 25th anniversary? Naturally, the winners’ own intelligence and determination play a decisive role. But an equally important factor in determining their success is Coptic Orphans’ core strategy of using education to break the cycle of poverty.

Why have we chosen education as our focus for ending poverty? The best research available, which is the foundation of our work, shows a strong link between educational attainment and financial independence. In a study carried out by the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics, high poverty rates and low education had a significant correlation in Egypt. In fact, a college education reduced the chances of poverty by almost 30%.

The fundamental link between education and success is what drives Coptic Orphans’ core strategy, which in practical terms means coordinating all of our efforts to ensure our participants’ high academic achievement. This means that, while we champion success in school above all, we do so in a comprehensive way that encompasses all other aspects of our children’s lives. Housing, health, and basic life skills are essential to academic success, and cannot be neglected. We ensure that the basic needs of our children are met so that they’re in the best position possible to succeed in school, and then in life.

What lies behind this achievement, which is all the more meaningful in the year of our 25th anniversary? Naturally, the winners’ own intelligence and determination play a decisive role. But an equally important factor in determining their success is Coptic Orphans’ core strategy of using education to break the cycle of poverty.

Why have we chosen education as our focus for ending poverty? The best research available, which is the foundation of our work, shows a strong link between educational attainment and financial independence. In a study carried out by the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics, high poverty rates and low education had a significant correlation in Egypt. In fact, a college education reduced the chances of poverty by almost 30%.

The fundamental link between education and success is what drives Coptic Orphans’ core strategy, which in practical terms means coordinating all of our efforts to ensure our participants’ high academic achievement. This means that, while we champion success in school above all, we do so in a comprehensive way that encompasses all other aspects of our children’s lives. Housing, health, and basic life skills are essential to academic success, and cannot be neglected. We ensure that the basic needs of our children are met so that they’re in the best position possible to succeed in school, and then in life.
Among people who might otherwise never cross community lines, Little Sister relationships formed through the project build trust. The most innovative aspect of the Valuable Girl Project is that it empowers young women with skills-building activities. Young women in secondary school are trained to be “Big Sisters,” who befriend and teach them new skills as part of the Valuable Girl Project.

The Valuable Girl Project marked 10 years of work to promote the academic and personal development of young women. In 2014, by God’s grace and with your partnership, the Valuable Girl Project achieved incredible things in 2014, tackling issues ranging from “child brides” to urban blight, from illiteracy to sexual harassment. Tamkeen, a Coptic Orphans project that nurtures female voices, especially in rural Egypt. Tamkeen’s former “shy girls” did some incredible things in 2014, tackling issues ranging from “child brides” to urban blight, from illiteracy to sexual harassment. B’edaya succeeds for many reasons, especially the resilience of Egypt’s widows. But it also succeeds because it doesn’t focus on these women’s weaknesses — instead, it harnesses their strengths. That’s the key to success.

### Valuable Girl Project

It’s no small thing to break — or even bend — the cycles of violence and poverty that afflict families in Egypt. Imagine, then, a project that tackles those cycles by equipping young women with leadership skills and a better education. Now imagine that this project also effectively promotes tolerance among Christians and Muslims, and you’ve got the Valuable Girl Project.

In 2014, by God’s grace and with your partnership, the Valuable Girl Project marked 10 years of work to promote the academic retention, education, and literacy tutoring of girls and young women in high-poverty areas of Egypt. In these areas, young women are in constant danger of marrying early and dropping out of school. The Valuable Girl Project uses one-on-one mentorship to support young women ages 7-22 in their efforts to stay in school and gain dignity at home, in the classroom, and in the community.

Young women in secondary school are trained to be “Big Sisters,” and role models for their “Little Sisters” in primary school. Local coordinators based in our community-level partner organizations oversee the project’s regular mentorship meetings and leadership skills-building activities. The most innovative aspect of the Valuable Girl Project is that it serves both Christian and Muslim young women. The Big Sister-Little Sister relationships formed through the project build trust among people who might otherwise never cross community divides. “We’re one family,” one Big Sister said. “Last July, we celebrated the Apostles Feast together with our Muslim sisters, who were fasting for Ramadan. We planned an iftar potluck, and everyone shared her favorite dish with her sisters.”

Why are these shared actions so important? In today’s world, Coptic Orphans has to do more than empower individual young women. Each girl’s individual success, and the progress of society as a whole, depends on raising the overall level of Christian-Muslim tolerance and understanding. The Valuable Girl Project, with its emphasis on education and bridge-building, is a step towards vitally important change.

Here are some of the 2014 highlights of the Valuable Girl Project:

- Muslim and Christian sisters at different sites exchanged home visits for the first time, particularly during religious holiday seasons.
- Several Big Sisters in Armant promised to visit their Little Sisters at home during exams to offer extra tutoring. They also committed to continuing their mentoring relationships beyond the project lifecycle, citing their pride in making a difference in another person’s life.
- Local coordinators for the Quos site overcame a great deal of initial reluctance on the part of parents to let their daughters take part. As a result of the spreading “word on the street” about the project’s positive impact, parents began coming to the site to ask if their daughters could join.
- In Sohag, the change in the Big Sisters and Little Sisters over the past year was so remarkable that their mothers asked if they could do anything to help perpetuate the project.

2014 Valuable Girl Project Sites

**Lower Egypt:** El Amr Tadros Social Center, Port Said

**Upper Egypt:** Al Masyr for Development and Training, Armant (IDAM, Watay)

Association of Love and Peace for Development, Sohag

The Christian Peace Association, Quos

B’edaya

Every day in Egypt, smart women — aspiring entrepreneurs — face challenges that would shred most people like a dry leaf in a wood chipper. For starters, most women there contend with crushing sexism and soaring inflation.

But Egypt’s widows face even huger challenges. Traditions severely restrict them. Often, they can’t leave the house to work and put bread on the table. That’s even if their children are malnourished.

B’edaya is a microfinance initiative designed to handle exactly these hostile conditions. It takes small loans for mothers of orphans in our Not Alone program, allowing them to start a business in anything from animal husbandry to selling groceries. The aim is to help them secure an income, more ability to feed their children, and more control of their lives.

Of the 30 mothers in Sohag, Minya, Alexandria, Monufiya, and Cairo in B’edaya in 2014, only one was unable to make her loan repayments. In Egypt’s harsh climate, how is that possible?

First of all, in B’edaya, the widow herself must bring to the table positive qualities, such as creativity and perseverance. In turn, Coptic Orphans must provide coaching in everything from planning to budgeting.

This aimed-for transformation from helpless, house-bound widow to self-sufficient businesswoman is the opposite of traditional charity, which (even if well-intentioned) creates a dependency on handouts.

B’edaya’s results speak for themselves. All 29 mothers now run their own businesses, which range from a photo studio to a hair salon.

### Tamkeen

“We used to be shy girls who withdrew from participating in community activities and didn’t face our problems — in fact, we were never even aware of our own community’s problems.”

That’s a quote from one of the young women participating in Tamkeen, a Coptic Orphans project that nurtures female voices, especially in rural Egypt. Tamkeen’s former “shy girls” did some incredible things in 2014, tackling issues ranging from “child brides” to urban blight, from illiteracy to sexual harassment.

Tamkeen, which is funded by USAID, operates at three governorates in Minya, Sohag, and Assiut. Many parts of these governorates have incredible things in 2014, tackling issues ranging from “child brides” to urban blight, from illiteracy to sexual harassment. Tamkeen also focuses on building participants’ leadership skills, enabling them to create broad-based civic education campaigns in their communities. A final key component of Tamkeen is building the institutional capacities of the community development associations with which we partner.

Now that the foundations have been laid for these young women to participate in public life, Coptic Orphans is looking forward to working even more closely with our partner organizations. As for the young women themselves, they are the real heroes — the “shy girls” who are speaking up for a better future for themselves, their communities, and Egypt!

Here are Tamkeen’s key 2014 accomplishments:

- 40 community development associations, all partners of Coptic Orphans, came together in Assiut to exchange experience and lessons learned during Tamkeen’s initial phase.
- Tamkeen coordinators and external capacity-building consultants trained the staff of these 40 partner associations, building their institutional capacity to engage nearly 3,000 young women in a series of civic education and women’s empowerment activities.

Moreover, this impact goes beyond material things. It encourages greater self-worth. A B’edaya participant whose daughter is enrolled in our Not Alone program told us:

“Being involved with Coptic Orphans has meant this to me: Now I’m proud of my daughter as never before, and it’s made my daughter proud of me.”
Forging Friendships, Moving Forward

Old friends and new allies were key in 2014, the year Coptic Orphans stepped forward decisively into a widening network of relationships around the globe.

With the aim of better serving God and the children, we deepened our ties with the clergy, leaders in Christian development organizations, artists with Christian and Egyptian roots, thought leaders in academia, advocates for persecuted religious minorities, and officials in Egypt’s diplomatic community.

In 2014, as in all years, our staff spent weeks on the road, presenting at churches. So many clergymen blessed us with gracious hospitality that it was wonderful to be able to welcome them ourselves. Our headquarters near Washington, D.C. was honored to receive visits from H.G. Bishop Biemen, H.G. Bishop Benyamin, H.G. Bishop Dawoud, H.G. Bishop Marcellious, Fr. Maurtious Anba Bishoy, Fr. Domadious Rizk, Fr. Athanasius Mahrous, Fr. Mark Aiz, Fr. Abraham Azmy, Fr. John Paul Abdelsayed, and Fr. Anthony Messeh.

In the realm of academia, Coptic Orphans took part in The Global Diaspora Media Forum, which was co-sponsored by IdEA, The George Washington University School of Business, and AudioNow. Coptic Orphans’ contributions were to the Oct. 14 panel “Conversing with the Diaspora: Transnational Socio-Cultural Engagement through Media,” which was moderated by Dr. Jennifer Brinkerhoff. We were also proud to present our Leading by Example Award to renowned former NASA scientist Dr. Farouk El-Baz, a member of President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi’s Advisory Council, who is strongly influential in academic and scientific circles.

2014 was also a year for deepening ties with other Christian organizations. Besides cooperating with Care 4 Needy Copts to meet the needs of our brothers and sisters in Egypt, Coptic Orphans responded to Compassion International’s invitation to take part in a conference in the United Kingdom. The conference marked the start of many productive relationships and allowed us to learn from Compassion’s decades of experience as a Christian child-sponsorship organization.

To show our pride in our rich Christian and Egyptian cultural heritage, Coptic Orphans took an active role in the Ana Maayy concert in Washington, D.C., and the Better Life concert series in New York City, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, and Toronto. All six concerts were wonderful reminders of how our community comes together around music, and we’re grateful that so many concert-goers decided to sponsor children.

Lastly, 2014 was a year of increasing connections between Coptic Orphans and Egypt’s diplomatic corps. The most heartening manifestation of that connection came at our galas. In Canada, we were honored to have a speech by His Excellency Amin Meleika, Egypt’s Consul General in Montreal. In the United States, we were similarly honored by Mr. Ayman Aldesouky Youssef, the Consul General in Washington, D.C. In Australia, the gala hosted no fewer than three diplomats: Mr. Youssef Hassan Shawk, Consul General in Sydney, Mr. Ahmed Farid Morsy, Vice Consul in Sydney, and His Excellency Mahmoud Zayed, Egypt’s Ambassador to New Zealand. We were also honored that His Excellency Mahmoud Zayed invited Coptic Orphans to visit New Zealand, where he offered insights on how to work together more closely to benefit the children of Egypt.

It’s been said before, and it bears repeating: Coptic Orphans does nothing on its own. Everything we accomplish takes place within a web of relationships. As we move forward, behind the leadership of the Church and with your generous support, we share the vision of an Egypt where children will thrive. The stronger friendships and alliances that we forged in 2014 are a sign that our next 25 years — God willing — will be a period of even greater service to Him and the children.

With that vision in mind, we look forward to celebrating our 50th anniversary with you, our valued partners!
Serve to Learn: 2014 Marks Year of Firsts

His Holiness’ words were especially energizing because Serve to Learn was founded on the belief that a strong and vibrant spirit of volunteerism can connect all Copts, benefiting communities, families, and the Church in Egypt and all over the world.

The 2014 volunteers reported that the trip made them feel more connected to Egypt, stirred their spirit of service, and deepened their dedication to their cultural roots.

“I thought the trip covered many great aspects. It helped me appreciate my Coptic Church more than ever, even though I grew up in Egypt. It helped me feel the importance of service. I also felt extremely loved by the kids, and I also learned how to function with love with a group of other servants,” said John Eskandar, a 2014 volunteer who also took part in three previous Serve to Learn trips.

We are committed to connecting Copts living abroad to Egypt, and 2014 was further evidence that Serve to Learn offers life-changing experiences that build lasting relationships. In fact, using the success of the 2014 trip as a springboard, preparations are well under way for two Serve to Learn sessions in 2015.

Serve to Learn’s 2014 trip reminded us how, in the words of His Holiness Pope Tawadros II, “you won’t find anything more beautiful than young people serving their brothers and sisters in Christ in Egypt.

This unique program, through which young Copts living abroad benefit Egypt’s communities by volunteering in the motherland, ties the youth more strongly to their Church and cultural heritage.

Over Serve to Learn’s 11 years of existence, nearly 190 volunteers have served by teaching English skills and providing character-building mentoring to more than 5,800 young Egyptians. Volunteers on the July 5-24, 2014 trip hailed from Canada, Australia, and the United States. Together, they taught almost 500 children.

In fact, 2014 was a year of firsts for Serve to Learn. One of the most exciting was Abouna Dawood Lamey delivered a beautiful spiritual orientation for the volunteers. The biggest milestone, however, was that the volunteers were even blessed with a special meeting called by His Holiness.

“Pope Tawadros was incredibly warm and kind to us,” said Mirelle Barros, one of the volunteers who met with His Holiness in St. Mark’s Cathedral on July 12. “It was exciting to hear him encourage us and other Copts around the world to visit Egypt and serve the children.”

Serve to Learn 2014 ‘In Our Own Words’

“So many people are trying to help trying to help the children in Egypt. And it’s a wonderful thing to see how you can help in such a big way. When I came over here, I actually thought about the children here, I was doing different things, but now I feel that I have a mission to give back in the way I have seen this group give back.” — Veronika Tadross

Statements of Activities

Years Ended December 31, 2014 and 2013

Key Financial Information

1. For every dollar you donate, we use only 7 cents for fundraising and 93 cents for management and administration. As part of our commitment to accountability, 90 cents goes directly to serving the children in Egypt.

2. Unrestricted revenue increased by $3,054,000, or 12% over FY 2013.

3. Program-related expenses increased by $1,216,327, or 3% over FY 2013.

**Coptic Orphans Contribution Chart**

**Expenses**

90% Total Program Services
3% Management & General
2% Fundraising

**Audited Financial Statements are public and available upon request.**

- Most of our “temporarily restricted assets” are related to a USAID grant to serve our children in Egypt.

- Because Coptic Orphans places the highest value on serving the children despite any crisis that might strike Egypt or the countries of the Coptic Diaspora, we maintain a 12-month reserve of operating expenses (listed under “Net Assets”). This ensures we will be there for the children no matter what.
His Holiness Pope Tawadros II meets with the Serve to Learn team and Coptic Orphans staff at St. Mark’s Cathedral, July 12, 2014.

United States | EIN: 54-1637257
P.O. Box 2881
Merrifield, VA 22116
703-641-8910

Australia | ABN: 92 753 235 136
P.O. Box 469
Belmore, NSW 2192
02-9787-9777

Canada | Tax ID: 879517712RR0001
P.O. Box 52033
Laval, QC H7P 5S1
450-736-0975

United Kingdom | Charity No.: 1133307
*Use United States Address
0203-372-4475

Egypt
3 Rafik Salah El-Din St.
Heliopolis, Cairo
02-2638-9227

Coptic Orphans

WWW.COPTICORPHANS.ORG