



Coptic Orphans

Power in Every Hand

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Letter from the Founder & Executive Director



As I look back on 2025, I'm humbled by what God accomplished through your generosity. Because of you, thousands of children didn't just receive an education—they grew into leaders. They repaired damaged public spaces, used technology to help others, and uplifted entire communities.

Scripture reminds us, *"He who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully"* (2 Corinthians 9:6). You have sown seeds of hope, and the harvest is evident in every story of transformation.

In 2025 alone, our children organized service projects that impacted more than 876,000 people. Your faith and generosity created a ripple far greater than I ever imagined.

Since we began this mission together, we've transformed the lives of 100,000 children. Your support eradicated poverty for 24% of Egypt's most vulnerable children. You made this possible. But there is still a long road ahead, and thousands more children are waiting for us to step in.

I look forward to continuing this mission with you and empowering the next generation of changemakers to build a prosperous future for Egypt.

With gratitude,
Nermien Riad
Founder and Executive Director

Board of Directors

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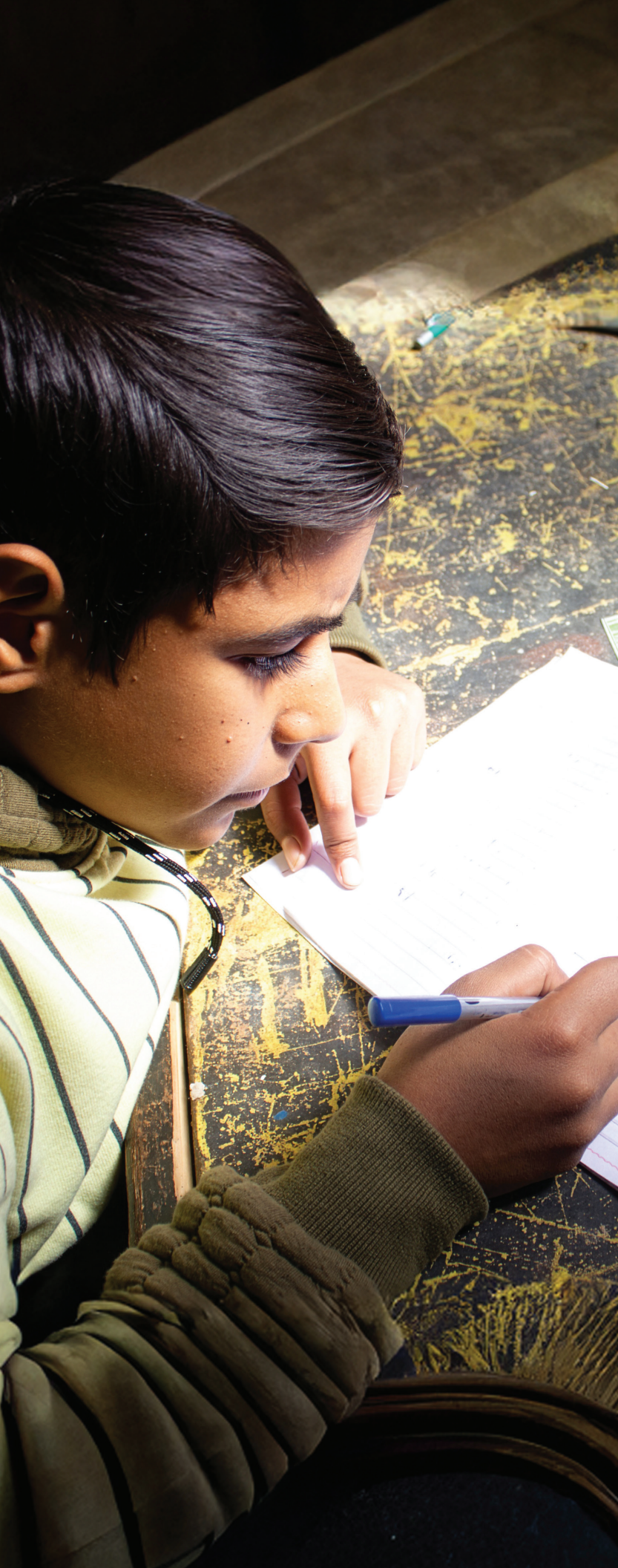


Hani Sharobim
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Mariola Marzouk
Sherif Helmy
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Who We Are

Coptic Orphans is a Christian international development organization guided by the belief that every child is created in the image of God. Our mission is to free children from poverty and help them grow into their God-given potential by investing in their education.

Our Story

Coptic Orphans was founded in 1988 by Nermien Riad after she witnessed severe poverty in a Cairo orphanage. Recognizing that many children in orphanages had living parents but were separated by poverty, the organization built its mission around keeping children at home—where they belong.

How We Work

Through church-based volunteers, grassroots partnerships, and the support of the global Coptic diaspora, we extend our reach to uplift entire communities and strengthen the bond between the diaspora and Egypt. Our programs—Not Alone, Valuable Girl, and Diaspora Engagement—deliver education, mentorship, and a lifelong sense of belonging to children and their mothers.

Our donors are the heroes—helping transform children's lives while experiencing their own personal transformation as they witness the impact of their generosity.

Your Impact

- Eradicated poverty for 24% of the most vulnerable orphans in Egypt.
- Empowered 100,000 children through education.
- Served 900 villages with more than 1,000 local volunteers.
- Children in our programs are 2.5 times more likely to attend and graduate university.
- 345 scholarships awarded to attend Egypt's top universities.
- Harnessed the goodwill of 26,500 donors in the diaspora to support their homeland.
- Granted UN ECOSOC Consultative Status, the highest ranking for NGOs.

A Year of Impact Multiplied

In 2025, our children used what they learned to give back to others, uplifting 876,000 people with their own acts of service. This is the power of an empowered child.



11,410

children volunteered



13,150

service projects
completed



876,000

community
members benefited



2025
in Review

100,000

children
served over
37 years

4,260

children newly
enrolled in our
programs

92%

of high school
graduates enrolled
in university

198,470

visits completed
to support
children at home

1,690

housing and
medical requests
fulfilled

27,155

letters exchanged
between sponsors
and children

Voices of Our Supporters

“Playing Jesus in *The Chosen* has led me here to the banks of the Nile in Egypt, embarking on a journey with Coptic Orphans, exploring this ancient land, my own roots, and the resilience of the Coptic people, especially the 21 Martyrs of Libya.

Along this journey, I've gotten to experience testimonies of faith that will stay with me forever. I've seen Coptic Orphans' impact firsthand. This is not just support; it's transformation in action.”

Jonathan Roumie

Lead Actor in The Chosen

A reflection from his trip to Egypt with Coptic Orphans



“My most memorable moment was visiting my sponsored family in Shoubra El Khema. I left their home thinking, yes, they are poor, but indeed, they are rich.

I am deeply grateful to Coptic Orphans for faithfully fulfilling their mission to serve widows and orphans, and for inspiring hope, love, and change within us, urging us to fulfill our own duty toward God's children.”



Father David Hanna

St. Mary Coptic Orthodox Church, Illinois, USA

A reflection from his recent visit to the Coptic Orphans sites in Egypt



“Sustainable impact is not measured solely in educational outcomes or economic indicators, but in trust. The simple question from a girl, ‘Will you come back?’ carried the weight of a profound plea not to be forgotten. This is the immense emotional labor Coptic Orphans performs daily: entering lives with constancy and care, dismantling shame through dignity, and transforming charity into empowerment.”

Mariola Marzouk

Coptic Orphans Board of Directors, United Kingdom

A reflection from the 2025 Board of Directors Trip to Egypt

Creating a Ripple Effect

Empowerment begins with knowledge. This year, we focused on equipping children, mothers, and the broader community with the skills needed to drive positive change.

Spreading Protection Awareness

The Training and Development Team provided comprehensive training to Not Alone Program (NAP) staff on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and positive parenting practices.

The team also delivered a PSEA session to 80 members of the Holy Synod's Women's Committee, helping expand protection awareness into the wider community. In appreciation of these efforts, the committee presented the team with a commemorative plaque (see picture below).

NAP staff cascaded the training to 837 Volunteer Representatives (Reps), who shared the knowledge with 28,900 mothers and children, supporting widespread transfer of these skills.

After the positive parenting training, Mohreal's relationship with her mother improved: *"I used to fear telling my mom things because of her temper, but now she understands me and has become my friend."*



Establishing Foundations for Learning

In response to data showing gaps in numeracy and literacy skills, the Valuable Girl Project piloted a new educational kit in six Minya communities.

The kit uses interactive card sets to transform abstract mathematical concepts into engaging, visual exercises, while reinforcing life values. By mastering these foundational skills, girls gain the confidence and tools to excel academically.



Opening Doors to Higher Education

In 2025, 766 children supported through the Not Alone Program successfully graduated from university with degrees in fields such as Engineering, Medicine, Fine Arts, and Trade and Commerce.

"If it weren't for my Rep's persistence, my siblings and I would not have completed any education. My family used to say that girls don't need school. But now, I've graduated from the Faculty of Commerce and my sister graduated from the Faculty of Arts," said one graduate.

We distributed 236 laptops to support current university students who are excelling academically and demonstrating strong leadership potential.

Additionally, this year we welcomed our largest group of new scholars into our university scholarship program, bringing the total number of higher education scholarships offered through Coptic Orphans to 48.

Not Alone Program

Our flagship Not Alone Program empowers children in Egypt through education and mentorship. Through nearly 200,000 home visits by Volunteer Reps, children received guidance in their studies and support for their family needs, while widowed mothers gained skills to better provide for their families. This personalized care ensures every child can grow into a confident changemaker.

Fostering a Spirit of Volunteerism

The “Make a Difference” Initiative empowers youth from Grade 5 through university to lead community service projects with a 300 EGP stipend. Guided by Reps, children choose from a variety of activities including visiting the sick and distributing meals to the elderly.

“I felt like giving changed me before it even changed the people I was helping,” said one child.

In Minya, a group learned the Oncology Institute urgently needed an IV stand and wheelchair. The children pooled their stipends and rallied friends until they raised 10,000 EGP—fully funding the equipment.

Stories like this multiplied across Egypt. More than 10,000 children participated in the initiative, completing service activities that touched the lives of nearly 110,000 community members.



Inspiring a Generation of Tech Innovators

In Minya’s villages, opportunities in technology are rare but, for Mariam, opportunity became reality. Mariam was accepted into the Digital Egypt Cubs Initiative, a highly selective national program for Egypt’s top students. There, she mastered programming languages like Python, C++, and Dart.

Her talent earned her a role as a youth trainer, teaching tech fundamentals to younger students and inspiring her community.

Recently, Mariam joined STEAM Academy, where she and her team designed a smart robot simulating rocket launch and re-entry using Arduino programming—a leap from village life to cutting-edge innovation.



Valuable Girl Project

In partnership with local Community Development Associations (CDAs), the Valuable Girl Project connects girls in a powerful cycle of learning and leadership across five governorates. University-aged Big Sisters mentor Little Sisters through tutoring and skill-building sessions, while gaining tools to lead and transform their communities.

Empowering Young Girls as Changemakers

In 2025, 1,400 Big Sisters launched 150 initiatives that benefited 766,000 community members—but one stood out.

Luxor's Salah Salem Train Tunnel was so dark and unsafe that women and girls avoided it, taking longer, costlier routes. That changed when Rola and 16 of her peers repaired the tunnel, installed lights, and painted murals.

Today, 1,000 women cross safely each day.

At the grand opening, the Governor of Luxor praised their work: *"The girls turned a neglected tunnel into a beautiful landmark that honors Luxor's heritage."*

Today, the Luxor Salah Salem Tunnel stands as a vibrant landmark, its murals telling a story of young women transforming their communities.



Girls Leverage Artificial Intelligence for Good



To prepare girls for a rapidly evolving world, we equip them with 21st-century skills—transforming them from technology consumers into confident digital creators. In 2025, the Big Sisters learned to use AI tools like ChatGPT, HeyGen, Gamma, and Adobe Express.

One Big Sister turned this training into impact by creating an Arabic literacy app for her Little Sister. For the first time, the Little Sister could interact with letters and words, helping her grasp new concepts with greater confidence.

In addition, Big Sisters began using a new Virtual Reality headset provided by a CDA to teach more complex topics. One girl shared: *"The first time I tried it, my Little Sister was very engaged, as if she was inside the lesson itself, and that helped solidify the information."*

Diaspora Engagement

The 21 and Serve to Learn are three-week service trips that bring Copts from the diaspora back to Egypt to serve children. Volunteers teach English to young students, visit families in their homes, and rediscover their heritage through service.

Families Embrace Better Nutrition Habits

In 2025, alongside their regular English lessons and home visits, the Fellows of *The 21* and *Serve to Learn* volunteers carried out a one-time nutrition education initiative to help address Egypt's long-standing child malnutrition challenges. Through hands-on lessons with mothers and children, they taught balanced eating, the dangers of ultra-processed foods, and how to prepare affordable, nutritious meals.

Mothers' nutrition knowledge increased by 25%, and households saw a one-third reduction in ultra-processed food consumption. Fellows also witnessed meaningful behavior shifts—children choosing healthier snacks, bringing less junk food to class, and even teaching their parents.

One mother shared that her son came home after class and immediately began teaching her what he learned: *"Our whole home changed. We stopped buying those cheap, highly processed sandwich meats."*



Fellows Make a Lasting Commitment

In 2025, *The 21* trip welcomed its largest cohort—130 Fellows—expanding into new villages. Fellows returned home inspired, stepping into leadership roles at Coptic Orphans events and organizing church gatherings to share what they learned.

By the end of the trip, they reported feeling 98% more connected to Copts in Egypt. Most importantly, their outlook and values were transformed.

"A whole journal won't fit the impact this had on me. I saw saints and heaven on earth. Nothing worldly can look the same after that!" shared one Fellow.

Most inspiring of all, 18 Fellows became sponsors, choosing to support the very children they served.

Events

In 2025, Coptic Orphans hosted 32 events across the USA, Canada, Australia, the UK, and Egypt. From church presentations and fundraising dinners to 5K runs and concerts, these gatherings brought together 6,000 attendees to celebrate the transformative power of education.

Each event featured powerful testimonies that inspired generosity and enabled us to provide 260 children with additional support through fundraising efforts.

Rejoice: One Love. 100,000 Lives Changed.



The Rejoice Candlelit Concert series celebrated a major milestone: transforming 100,000 children’s lives through education.

Held in six cities—New York, Toronto, Montreal, Sydney, Melbourne, and Brisbane—these concerts blended inspiring performances with powerful storytelling. NAP graduates, sponsors, and Fellows of *The 21* shared testimonies of resilience and achievement, bringing our mission to life.

From Mina Edward’s remarks in New York to Barbara Adeeab’s in Canada and Semon Hanna’s in Australia, each story reflects

the impact of your generosity.

“We have always known about you, but we have now experienced you,” said one guest.



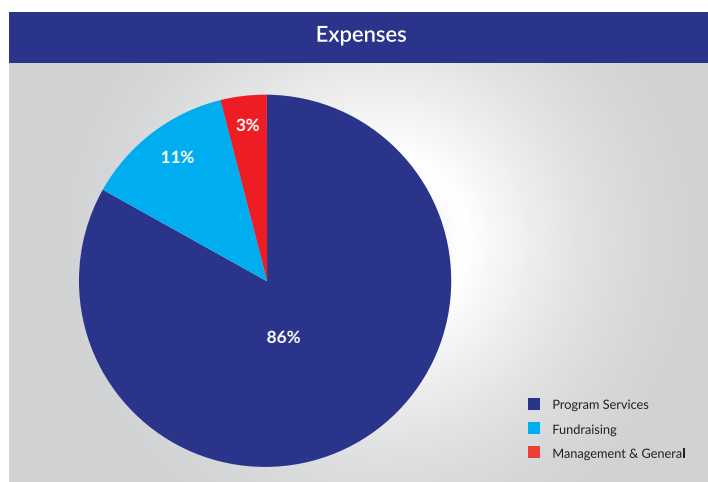
A highlight came when Semon became the first NAP graduate to visit Australia. She traveled all the way from Russia, where she is pursuing her PhD, to share her remarkable journey. Semon is a symbol of the global reach of our programs and the bright future we envision for every child.

Statement of Activities

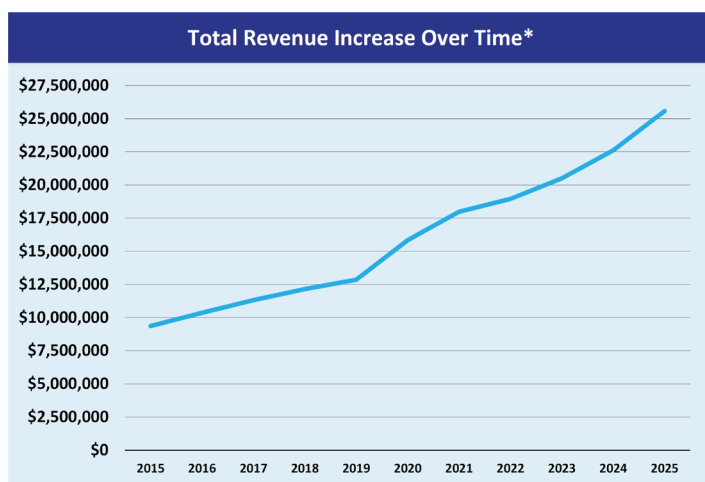
For the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024

	2025	2024
Revenue and Support		
Contributions	\$ 24,406,738	\$ 21,636,398
Net Investment and Other Income	1,167,845	983,858
Total Revenue and Support	25,574,583	22,620,256
Expenses		
Program Services		
Child Development	17,123,364	14,016,947
Community Development	2,366,543	1,946,296
Total Program Services	19,489,907	15,963,243
Support Services		
Management and General	775,012	773,638
Fundraising	2,500,636	2,194,242
Total Support Services	3,275,648	2,967,880
Total Expenses	22,765,555	18,931,123
Non-Operating Income		
Net unrealized and realized gain (loss) on investments	7,656,370	7,821,831
Change on foreign currency valuation and other gains	66,913	(539,234)
Total Non-Operating Income	7,723,283	7,282,597
Net Assets		
Change in Net Assets	10,532,311	10,971,730
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	63,617,917	52,646,187
Net Assets End of Year	\$ 74,150,228	\$ 63,617,917

* Serving children is our highest priority. To stay prepared for any crisis, we maintain at least 18 months of operating costs in our net assets. Net assets include invested reserves, donor-restricted gifts, endowment assets, land, and property that protect long-term care across countries, currencies, and changing economies. This ensures we will be there for the children no matter what.



Out of every dollar spent, 86 cents went to programs serving the children in Egypt. Only 3 cents went to management and administration, while 11 cents were used for fundraising.



While Coptic Orphans' revenue has shown tremendous growth, we have never lost focus on maintaining responsible stewardship over the resources entrusted to us. Our financial accountability and reporting processes have been praised consistently over the years.

*Per IRS Form 990

Audited financial statements are public and available upon request.



"But this I say: He who sows sparingly will
also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully
will also reap bountifully."

2 Corinthians 9:6

Your support made 2025 extraordinary—let's create even greater change in 2026!



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