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OVER THE LAST 9 YEARS YOU HAVE

Helped 117,325 through the New Hope Center

Assisted 607 homeowners

Provided 32,161 kids with school supplies
VISION
The vision of 6 Stones is to be a catalyst of hope that transforms lives, homes and communities.

VALUES
In all we do, we will be:
- Christ-centered
- Unified
- Honorable
- Respectful
- Compassionate
- Service Oriented

MISSION
6 Stones is building a coalition of churches, businesses and others that provides solutions to meet the needs of our community.

YEARS YOU HAVE
Blessed
26,485
kids with Christmas gifts

Volunteered over
315,170
hours

Invested
$10,686,918
in our community
CHIDI:
HOPE FOR NEWCOMERS
In 2010, Chidinma followed her husband and sons across the ocean from Nigeria to Texas. Beginning in October of that year, the family of seven — two boys, three girls, and two parents — spent a few months with in-laws before finding a home in Euless, Texas. They lived within a mile of 6 Stones and depended on the New Hope Center as they settled into their new lives.

Seven years later, Chidinma is an archetypal 6 Stones success story. Not because she escaped poverty (although she did). Not because she landed a job as a nurse here in Texas (although she did). Chidinma represents the pinnacle of our lofty goals here because she learned something even more valuable than job skills. She learned about Community.

“We came, and it was nothing we were used to. Back home, I did the charity. Kind of. I gave to people. I served people. They knew who was giving them stuff. But look at this place!” Chidinma said, gesturing around at the New Hope Center during our interview. “These are all donations, right? People you don’t know.

“We came and they told us to write everything [we needed]. Everything… I cried the first day. Because I didn’t know I was going to be found in that situation.”

Her first few months in America were intimidating. Although the family knew English, they hadn’t practiced listening at the speed — or with the accents — with which people spoke it here. The job market proved more difficult to navigate than expected. She had no license to practice medicine as a nurse in America, even though it had been her profession in Nigeria.

“I thought I was going to just come in for a job and start up from where I stopped. Coming here as a nurse and finding that I can’t practice gave me a blow, honestly. But it was a good blow.”

She worked 16 hour days, splitting her time between a job as a Certified Nurse Aide and the cold glare of study guides that would help her to become a Licensed Practical Nurse. She rocketed past more tenured employees at the retirement home where she worked in the meantime, inciting jealousy for her sterling success.

But she never forgot the path that took her there. Even now, Chidinma keeps prizes from her first year here. She has long since obtained her license to practice as a nurse in the States, but she still cooks in the pots and pans she got from the New Hope Center. Still wears clothes given to her by strangers. Because to her, these things aren’t signs of weakness. They’re proof of strength.

As Chidinma and her family settled in, they looked for ways to embrace and extend the generous spirit that had helped them find their way in the early years. Those same church goers who supported them became their allies in supporting others. 6 Stones became a platform for them to give back to the community that had provided for them. They are now regular volunteers at Community Powered Revitalization and Night of Hope.

“We had gotten comfortable here, and we stopped coming to shop at 6 Stones. But then, we are now the giving back ones. Not to the people that gave to us, but to the people that opened our eyes to another kind of giving,” she said. “This is community giving… Anybody in their right mind should know that there is something in it.

“That’s family. Family is all about giving and receiving. If a community like HEB is everywhere, what do you think will happen to America? There will be peace. There will be oneness. One voice. And that voice is service… people want to belong, and they find different ways of belonging. This is the best way to belong, honestly. Giving.”
COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

12 GROUPS

11 FOLLOW UP TEAMS

61 PARTNERING CHURCHES

1,551 FOLLOW UPS
OPERATION BACK 2 SCHOOL

- **2009**
  - Elementary: 1,099
  - Secondary: 0
  - Total: 1,099

- **2010**
  - Elementary: 3,640
  - Secondary: 0
  - Total: 3,640

- **2011**
  - Elementary: 2,640
  - Secondary: 628
  - Total: 3,268

- **2012**
  - Elementary: 2,132
  - Secondary: 1,850
  - Total: 3,982

- **2013**
  - Elementary: 2,512
  - Secondary: 2,604
  - Total: 5,116

- **2014**
  - Elementary: 1,744
  - Secondary: 1,375
  - Total: 3,119

- **2015**
  - Elementary: 2,610
  - Secondary: 2,831
  - Total: 5,441

- **2016**
  - Elementary: 2,820
  - Secondary: 3,119
  - Total: 5,939

- **2017**
  - Elementary: 3,676
  - Secondary: 3,119
  - Total: 6,835

- **2018**
  - Elementary: 2,512
  - Secondary: 2,604
  - Total: 5,116

- **2019**
  - Elementary: 1,744
  - Secondary: 1,375
  - Total: 3,119
Charlie Sisk had the American Dream. He was born poor and learned a trade that brought him wealth. As a mechanic, he toured the United States setting up, repairing, and monitoring industrial cranes. His work saved companies hundreds of thousands of dollars in accident prevention and training, and he made a tidy salary that should have set him up for life.

Then his wife was diagnosed with cancer.

They fought the disease for five years, spending almost everything they had saved on medication, only to lose their battle. It was the second time Charlie lost a wife; his first having divorced him after he lost his thumb in an accident. After thirty-four years of marriage, his soulmate’s passing left him with a single direct relative:
a daughter who now lives in Jacksonville, Mississippi. But he’s far from alone. Now in his seventies, Charlie has raised six children and three generations over the last fifty years.

The latest additions to the Sisk family arrived recently: a pair of boys brought to his home by Child Protective Services. He took them in without hesitation, even though they technically aren’t related to him by blood. Both boys are descendants of Charlie’s first wife, who brought two children into their marriage.

“I’m a blessed man. Blessed to be able to take care of the ones who couldn’t take care of themselves,” he said. “And CPR took care of me when I was down.”

Forced into retirement by a series of back surgeries, Charlie is the quintessential homeowner served by the Community Powered Revitalization program. He can’t bend his back anymore. His resources dissolved with the pills that failed to save his second wife. But despite his limitations, he and his third wife, Susan, have soldiered on.

“I was born and raised in a real poor family, and I didn’t want none of my friends to come to my house,” Charlie said. “I didn’t want my babies to do that.”

Over the years, he’s had to part with plenty of memories. The hot rods that he built from scratch and the professional tools that he used to build them are all gone. The latter were sold to make ends meet. As difficult as it is for him to say it, Charlie’s working years are well behind him.

“It brings a tear to your eye when you think about it,” he said. “I sold some of my tools that I used on the big cranes and I cried for three days. It’s just a chapter of my life that closed. I love working. I would have done all of [the work that needed to be done on my house], but when you have all these medical problems and you can’t even draw a straight line, let alone cut one, it’s kind of hard to do it.”

Charlie constantly worried that his wife would slip on the uneven concrete at their front door. The garage—his last refuge as a working man—was so beaten down that he couldn’t open the rolling door without help from a neighbor. One final hot rod sat, unfinished, in the middle of an impressive and underutilized collection of tools. So the help he received through CPR meant more to him than a fresh coat of paint.

“It changes people’s lives,” he said of the program. “When you’re living in a home and you’re so depressed about the condition it’s in, to have y’all give it a facelift puts a lot of pride back into a person.”

Because of the incredible investment of this community—from governments down to individual volunteers—Charlie and his non-traditional family have one less reason to worry; one less fear to wrestle with. They can move forward into a challenging but full life.
COMMUNITY WIDE IMPACT

Over the last 9 years we have partnered with local churches, engaged in apartment communities, revitalized homes and made a difference in schools. Each one is marked on the map below.
## Community Powered Revitalization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Volunteers</th>
<th>Homes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1,116</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
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<td>1,632</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>3,336</td>
<td>106</td>
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Mikayla is not your typical 8-year-old. Her bedroom may be bright pink and stuffed with plush toys. Her personality might match the decor. But she’s driven by something bigger. She wants to build a world in which there is no sadness; just joy. And she’s willing to do it one small act of kindness — and one business venture — at a time.

As an elementary school student, Mikayla doesn’t have any formal training in economics. But she’s no stranger to business; it’s her favorite game. While other kids are collecting toys and trading cards, the precocious third-grader busies herself with keyboards, calculators, and simulated customer service calls. Her Christmas lists feature requests for typewriters and ten key adding machines.

“I think her coming home and it being this constant thing of seeing me working at home — on a computer typing and on a phone talking to people — she’s started to mimic that,” said Craig Rydzeski, Mikayla’s father. “I guess there’s some pros and cons to that, but obvi-
ously the pro is that at eight years old, she’s very entre-
preneurial-minded. I think she’s just starting to run with
it. It’s really cool to see that blossom in her.”

Neither Craig nor Mikayla’s mother, Shari, was sur-
prised when their daughter asked permission to open a
lemonade stand in front of their house. It was the next
logical step in her play. But her goal was a little less
predictable. While she and her father were laying out a
business plan, she asked that every dollar raised at the
stand go to 6 Stones. The request caught both parents
off guard. They had heard of the nonprofit through
Church of the Cross in Grapevine, but they knew al-
much nothing about it.

The more they researched online, the more they liked
the idea. All of the money raised would be used locally,
and with Operation Back 2 School on the horizon, Mi-
Kayla had the opportunity to support kids her own age.
Plus, she’d get to pick up a few real-world skills while
she did it.

“I really wanted to learn the language of selling things;
to get money and donate it. Because I had never really
done that before, by myself,” Mikayla said.

“Some people out there don’t have the things they
need… my dream was to help other people. I want zero
kids to be starving out there. I want to help them. That’s
my purpose here on Earth: I want to help other people.”

Buoyed by the Rydzeskis’ contagious enthusiasm, the
lemonade stand took off. Friends and strangers alike
chipped in to bring the idea to life, donating everything
from hand-painted signs to pop-up tents. Michaeldae
Reinhardt, a local State Farm agent, even offered to
match every donation up to $300. No one thought
they’d raise that much. Mikayla thought she’d be lucky
to break $25.

Instead, she and her mother raised $1,073 in a single
afternoon with the help of a few longtime family friends.
Mikayla funded school supplies and a backpack for 36
of her peers through Operation Back 2 School, becom-
ing the youngest major donor in 6 Stones history in the
process.

“I think 6 Stones is the best charity of all in the world.
Because they love other people, they care for other
people. And that’s what I like to do… [they] were the
best I could find on the internet,” Mikayla said.

“This place is exciting to me because I’m helping other
people right now… When my mom told me that I was
considered a major donor — one of the youngest major
donors here — I was just thanking God. I was amazed
and I was thankful that I have done that.”

Here’s hoping that Mikayla — and others like her — are
still just warming up.
NIGHT OF HOPE

- **2009**
  - 263 families
  - 1,166 kids

- **2010**
  - 667 families
  - 2,218 kids

- **2011**
  - 673 families
  - 2,911 kids

- **2012**
  - 753 families
  - 2,915 kids

- **2013**
  - 1021 families
  - 3,002 kids
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<td>1,542</td>
<td>3,776</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>1,642</td>
<td>4,242</td>
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</table>
For Wael, life is divided into two parts: “Saddam Time,” and the journey that followed the dictator’s death. His childhood memories are as carefree as anyone’s: school, mischief with friends, and soccer in the streets. He had no idea that his life in Baghdad had been carefully constructed by an oppressive regime. No one in his generation could remember life before Saddam. Naturally, the arrival of American troops in his hometown shattered his worldview.

“It was chaos. Some Iraqis were fighting Americans, some threw flowers. You don’t know which side you want to take,” he remembered. “I was one of the people that didn’t like Americans... After the war, things happened and we didn’t know if they were better for Iraq or not. But step by step, we started talking to Americans. We found out they were just human. They were no different from us.”
Over the next few years, Wael would serve as an interpreter for the United States Military. He helped them train Iraqi troops, install local fire departments, and build hospitals. Eventually, he worked on the U.S. Army’s Humvee Fielding Initiative, overseeing the transfer of American vehicles into Iraqi service.

Then, insurgents set fire to his house and bombed his car. Wael knew he had to move his family. They planned on relocating to Houston, where he could secure a job in the oilfields of South Texas. At the last minute, for reasons he still can’t explain, he changed his mind. The family came to DFW instead. It took two years — 6 months in Turkey and 18 in Egypt — for them to undergo the necessary background checks.

The first thing he saw in the airport was a crowd of people with an unexpected sign: “Welcome to America.” He later found out that three families from 121 Community Church had partnered with World Relief to help his family settle into their new lives. Finally, his search for a place to call home — with all of its uncertainty and mistrust — was nearing its end.

“The Joneses, Jolleys, and Sanders showed us all kinds of love. That’s what you need. Money, as a parent, you can do that. You can work hard and you can do it. A house? You can find it. But love that makes you feel like you belong? That’s different. That’s a feeling that we were missing for a long time,” he said.

When Wael’s family ran into needs their hosts couldn’t cover, their friends referred them to 6 Stones. In the last two years, the refugees have been part of both Operation Back 2 School and Night of Hope. For a family on a tight income, those resources were invaluable. The money they saved helped them to stabilize, but the events themselves did more than stretch dollars.

“We got two big bags when we went back home, full of supplies,” Wael said. “But we got 1,000 bags of love. That’s what I told my wife... I found the right path with big help from 6 Stones. It’s not about all the supplies they gave me. It’s the kindness and the meaning behind it.”

Two years after arriving in Texas, Wael is actively involved in his community. He’s taken home Employee of the Month awards, volunteered to repair homes through Community-Powered Revitalization, and helped to coach junior high soccer players in Liga HEB, an intramural soccer program run by 6 Stones on behalf of HEB ISD. For the first time in a long time, he feels not only safe, but loved.

“My understanding of how 6 Stones works is that they give you an opportunity... you feel like you are not alone,” he said. Then, thinking of the people who connected his family to the nonprofit, he added: “We learned that it was inside of them. Those three families are Jesus followers. Their religion is to help others, and it’s genuine inside them, to help others.”

“They show you what Jesus tells them. I call it The Walk. It’s not just talk; they walk the Jesus Walk. They want everyone to walk this way... that pushed us, from inside us. It took us inside out. We started helping others. Nobody told you that, but you felt inside you: this is the responsibility... this love should not stop here, with me.”
NORTH TEXAS GIVING DAY

2013: $10,906
2014: $30,076
2015: $42,714
2016: $76,100
2017: $109,377
BLACK & BLUE FOOD DRIVE

69,434 FOOD ITEMS DONATED BY HEB ISD STUDENTS
Kelly doesn’t look like a woman who hit the end of her rope. Not anymore. In fact, a cursory glance at the Hurst-Euless-Bedford Independent School District employee would reveal nothing out of the ordinary. She’s a bright, charismatic, and altogether capable person. You’d never guess that she spent an evening weeping on her kitchen floor, surrounded by Tupperware and elementary school lesson plans.

Years removed from a dangerous prior marriage and an equally intimidating period as a single mother of two, Kelly has dedicated her life to teaching students and their families. She currently serves in the school district’s main office. It’s part of her job to make sure that no one here in HEB ever feels alone and powerless when confronted by basic and academic needs. She loves every second of it.

She is also acutely aware that parents who struggle to supply their families with necessities will also struggle to be engaged in their children’s education. Her personal experience with poverty has led her to a unique appreciation of the value of her work. An understanding that had another unforeseen side effect: a special love for 6 Stones.

Kelly is a monthly donor.

When Kelly started in HEB, there was no 6 Stones. In fact, she was one of the major players in some of our earliest programs. With a specialty in reading and literacy, she was ideally suited to help organize a volunteer reading program for us in the late 2000s. Now, 6 Stones is her first and favorite resource referral for families in need. And there are plenty of them.

"In HEB, we have a lot of mobility amongst our families, across our school district. We have families that move from apartment complex to apartment complex because they are following the sales specials. It’s sad, but I know why they do it," she said. "I might have had to do that if my church hadn’t stepped in and helped me."

Over half of our district qualifies as economically disadvantaged. Roughly one in four children here in HEB is raised in poverty. But very few of our residents find themselves in the kind of desperate need most of us associate with the word “poor.” Most are living paycheck-to-paycheck. For those families, a penny saved is more than a penny earned.

“When you think about building a budget when you don’t have enough money for everything you need to support your family, it beats you up emotionally. It makes you worry at night. You lose sleep, and when you wake up you are tired,” Kelly said, recalling her own experience.

“I came through all of my storms. I have a roof over my head and my basic necessities are never in question today,” she added. “It’s not just about surviving. When I was a single mom, I survived. I survived every day. My kids survived. But what we want to see happen is for our kids to thrive. To grow. To feel confident and to be able to go out in the community and spread positive and compassionate acts. We want them to be able to be a light that shines to other people.”

She and her husband contribute to our General Fund on a monthly basis because she can’t imagine this community without 6 Stones. Which is funny, really. Because we can’t imagine 6 Stones without this community.
2017 AWARDS

2017 GAME CHANGERS

CPR | Republic Services
Operation Back 2 School | Wingmen
Night of Hope | First Baptist Hurst
New Hope Center | A.J. Molina
Community Garden | Marty Geer
Board of Directors | Tim Stewart
Community Ministries | Chris Foy
Liga HEB | FC Dallas Foundation

Corporate Sponsor of 2017 | Spring Creek Companies
Corporate Volunteer of 2017 | Paul Baccus / Bank of America
Civic Partner of 2017 | Hurst, Euless and Bedford Police Departments
Faith Based Organization of 2017 | Pantego Bible Church
School Based Advocate of 2017 | Chick-fil-A Towne Crossing
Partnering Non-profit of 2017 | Hands of Hope
Next Gen Award of 2017 | THS Interact Club
Inkind Sponsor of 2017 | QuikTrip

2017 COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

Operation Back 2 School
David Von Luckner
Miki Von Luckner
Chasin Von Luckner
Mary Lou Dillon
Rebecca Hesilow
Jim Gotcher
Jesus “Chuy” Segura
Gale Wagner

Community Ministries
John Bitar
Brian Considine
Chris Foy
Dorothy Noote

Night of Hope
Stephanie Thames
Karen Stewart
Kathie Jackson
Kathy Lehrmann
Nidia Segura
David Henrietta
Tami Emry
Drew Washington

New Hope Center
Carolyn Keeling
Karen Powell
Jerry Bullari
Steve Lineweaver
James Dooley
Lyn Crepeau

CPR
Crimson Building Company-Eric Little
Smith Lawn and Tree-David Yonis-Russell Simpler
BB&T-Jobin Kuruvilla
Todd Allen-Home Depot
Russell Shelley (Fire Chief)-Richland Hills
Dee & Calvin Plowman

Community Garden
Gary Jones
Annette Lee
Christina Preston
John Moody
Mark Vera
Gary Jones
Todd Boutte
Bob Lundin
LORD, IS THIS OF YOU?

WHAT IS MY PART?

BLESS YOUR COMMUNITY, SO THEY MAY GIVE GENEROUSLY.