



Embrace Relief  
**Group Fundraising**  
2023



# WHAT IS GROUP FUNDRAISING?



Changing the world starts with one person, one idea, one spark of initiative.

That's why, in addition to our own humanitarian aid programs that operate continuously, Embrace Relief also offers people and organizations of all sizes and scope the opportunity to make an impact through a program we call **Group FUNdraising**.

Unique among Embrace Relief's humanitarian programs, Group FUNdraising allows people to choose a cause they are passionate about, organize a fundraiser to support that cause, and engage with their community to raise money for people in need. After successfully completing this fundraiser, Embrace Relief enables Group FUNdraisers to travel abroad for a once-in-a-lifetime experience seeing firsthand the impact they've made.

Creating a charity fundraising project requires an urge to help vulnerable people and ease suffering around the world. Successfully executing a charity fundraiser requires creativity, hard work, person-to-person communication skills, and perseverance, among other skills. And when it is done in conjunction with an organization like Embrace Relief with a proven track record of providing aid in dozens of countries, Group FUNdraising is a hands-on, community-building approach to making positive change in the world.



# A SUMMER OF ACHIEVEMENT

Group FUNdraising is a growing initiative that continues to result in positive outcomes for more people. During the summer of 2023 alone, a record seven groups completed fundraising projects that have helped tens of thousands of people across four countries. All of the following groups have either already visited the countries supported by their Group FUNdraisers, or plan to in the near future. The following details the impact of each group's recent work:

## Blossom Together

- Location: **Tanzania** May/June
- Project: **2 water wells** 2023

College students from Blossom Together **raised money to open two water wells** in villages dealing with water scarcity. These wells will provide much-needed clean water to villages, boosting food production and helping to reduce the chances of contracting waterborne diseases. Additionally, the wells will reduce the time and distance traveled each day by women and girls fetching water; this promotes gender equality by creating more opportunities for women to be educated, to participate in the economy, or to take care of their families.

While they visited Tanzania and engaged the local population and culture, the students also **learned about local and global issues by joining workshops covering topics including human rights, cultural understanding, and education.**





## Bright Choice Foundation

- Location: **Uganda** June 2023
- Projects:
  - Free medical camp**
  - Opened a water well**
  - Delivered food packages**
  - Community dinner for orphans**

An educational nonprofit organization based in Texas, Bright Choice Foundation provides educational and mentorship programs for its students, with a focus on community service and universal values. Bright Choice's Group FUNdraiser with Embrace Relief proved to be a very successful engagement, and after reaching their fundraising goal and **exceeding \$13,000 raised**, a group of students visited Uganda in early June.

The money raised by Bright Choice students supported four critical humanitarian projects in and around the eastern Ugandan city of Jinja. First, part of Bright Choice's fundraising went to support the operation of a **free medical camp providing health checkups, medicine, and medical care to more than 1,000 people** over the weekend of June 10-11. Next, the students' fundraiser helped to **open a water well**, providing an **essential supply of clean water for more than 1,000 residents** of a nearby village. Third, the students helped **deliver 150 nutritious food packages to families in need**. Finally, funds raised helped to organize a **community dinner for 250 orphaned children**.

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We were very grateful for the services of the students who came here from Texas. And we thank Embrace Relief so much for the generous support to Uganda and other countries. It is needed very greatly, and will continue to be needed greatly. It is about helping humanity.

–Kazibwe Muzamiru,  
Nile Humanitarian Development Agency

## Volunteers

- Location: **Kenya** June 2023
- Projects:
  - 2 water wells**
  - Food packages**
  - Battery-powered solar panel kits**
  - Cataract surgeries**
  - Repaired 10 classrooms**
  - Provided sewing machines**

A series of projects supported by a Group FUNdraiser were launched in Mombasa County, Kenya during the month of June. First, volunteers attended the **opening of water wells at two primary schools**, which will provide clean water **daily to nearly 2,200 students**. Then, volunteers distributed and **delivered 100 food packages**, each weighing approximately 14 kilograms and packed with nutritious food items including corn flour, rice and beans. **These food packages can feed a family of five for more than two weeks.**

Next, this Group FUNdraiser supported the distribution of **battery-powered solar panel kits to 40 families** in the rural village of Muyu Wa Kae, allowing them to have **in-home electricity for up to 10 hours** after charging.

Continuing on, the fundraiser covered the costs of **40 cataract surgeries** for people living in villages in the Tana River region. The patients ranged in age from 30 to 70, and some had lived with blindness caused by cataracts for many months and years.

Additionally, this Group FUNdraiser helped to **repair 10 classrooms at a primary school serving 1,700 students**, with volunteers from the group taking part in the repairs and adding fresh coats of paint to the wall.

The group then also **provided sewing machines to 12 women** who had just completed a sewing training course in the village of Githurai. With this gift, these women will now have the opportunity to open their own small businesses and to serve their community as seamstresses making and repairing clothing.

Finally, this group wrapped up their humanitarian visit to Kenya by **delivering gifts, including much-needed clothing and shoes, to 159 children at two orphanages** in the capital city of Nairobi. These gifts came during the time of Eid al-Adha and produced an unforgettable day for children and volunteers alike.



## California high school students

- Location: **Indonesia** July 2023
- Projects:
  - Provided school/cooking supplies**
  - Furnished a new orphanage**
  - Held a reading camp**
  - Distributed Qurbani meat packages**

For this group fundraiser, two groups of high school-aged students – one from the San Francisco area, another from near Los Angeles – joined together to form a Group FUNdraiser to support three orphanages in Jakarta, Indonesia. Money raised by the students **provided school supplies, food and cooking materials for the children**, as well as **furnishing a newly opened orphanage**.

During their 2.5-week trip to Indonesia, the California group also **held a reading camp with children**, and helped to **distribute Qurbani meat packages** to vulnerable people in need.

“

It was a great experience for me and my son, and I think all of the other parents and kids on the trip were glad to have been a part of it. This entire experience will definitely be something our kids think about, and something that I hope will impact the decisions they make in the future in a positive way.”

–Mustafa Sahin,  
parent of a Group FUNdraiser and chaperone



### Chicago volunteers

- Location: **Tanzania** July 2023
- Projects:  
**Distributed meat packages**

A Group FUNdraiser to help feed needy families in Tanzania was able to visit the country during the Qurbani season. There, they **helped to package and distribute meat to families**, while also taking part in a cultural exchange with the local population.

### Maryland Turkish American Inhabitants (MARTI) Youth

- Location: **Tanzania** July 2023
- Projects:  
**Constructed a bathroom facility**

A resourceful group of students from MARTI Youth completed their fundraising project this summer, leading to the **construction of a much-needed modern bathroom facility at Mavurunza Primary School**. This project will **provide an enormous improvement in hygiene and sanitation for the students**, leading to greater levels of safety for the student population. This will also result in a positive impact for the students' educational outcome.

MARTI is planning its group trip to Tanzania for the summer of 2024. To reach their fundraising goal, the **12 students involved in this project** came up with a diverse array of fundraising goals, taking advantage of each others' natural strengths. These included the selling of eggs from a student's family's chicken farm; crafted wooden objects made with machinery in another student's garage; baked goods sold by talented bakers; and more.



**"We can't be fulfilled if we're just trying to help ourselves. With this project, potentially thousands of students in Tanzania are going to be in a better place. This is a high-impact project, and that's what motivated us ... everyone brought their experience and skills to the table to make this happen. It was definitely a team effort."**

—Tarik Metin, MARTI Youth

## Brooklyn Amity School, Youth Island NY

- Location: **Tanzania**
- Projects:
  - Aid students**
  - Opened a washroom facility**
  - Distributed sanitary pads**

August 2023

Students from the Brooklyn Amity School and Youth Island New York launched and completed a fundraising campaign to **aid students at Mbagala High Secondary School** in Tanzania's capital, Dar es Salaam. The groups' visit coincided with the **opening of the washroom facility**, which will improve sanitation and hygiene for the students.

The Amity School and Youth Island students also **distributed sanitary pads to the female students of the school**, an important point of emphasis in promoting sanitation and good hygiene. According to UNICEF, one in 10 school-aged girls either do not attend school during their menstruation, or drop out of school entirely when they reach puberty, most frequently because they lack sanitary conditions and materials.







# MAKE YOUR OWN IMPACT WITH GROUP FUNDRAISING

Each and every one of these groups started with a simple concept: the desire to help people in need. By partnering with Embrace Relief to create a project of their own, each group managed to turn their ideas into reality – with the help of hard work, communication, and the generosity of their surrounding communities. In each case, this work is already making life easier for hundreds, if not thousands, of people.

Group FUNdraising is not limited to any age, group size, location, or humanitarian cause. No matter whether you're a high school student seeking to gain life experience and boost a college application, or a corporation aiming to demonstrate social responsibility; whether you live in New York, Texas, California, or anywhere in between; or whether you're an individual seeking to change the world or part of a group of like-minded people: Group FUNdraising with Embrace Relief has something for everyone.

To start your own Group FUNdraiser, simply visit [www.embracerelief.org/group-fundraising](http://www.embracerelief.org/group-fundraising) and fill out the application form. Once your application is approved by Embrace Relief, we will begin to work with you on making your humanitarian project a reality, offering you marketing materials, fundraising ideas, and any other support you require. Once you've reached your fundraising goal, we will then plan out the logistics of your trip to visit the people benefitting from your project, a life-changing experience that we hope will encourage you to continue helping vulnerable people wherever they exist.

It can all start with you, right now. Fill out an application and start your Group FUNdraiser today!

**For more information, email [groupfundraising@embracerelief.org](mailto:groupfundraising@embracerelief.org).**



## **Connect With Us**

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