



ABIDE COLLECTIVE

BOX 891
FAYETTEVILLE, AR 72702

cover photo by Elizabet Flores



**ABIDE COLLECTIVE
ANNUAL UPDATE**
2018 - 2019

From the Executive Director, Abide Collective

As I write this, 2019 feels decades ago. All the momentum we gained in the last year, the incredible mix of teaching, trips, builds and interactions seemed to come to a screeching, gut-wrenching halt before 2020 could even get going.

So why even take the time to look back and give a recap of 2019 now, in the middle of a global pandemic, societal upheaval, and economic quaking?

It's pretty simple, really: to remember. To remember for the purpose of giving thanks and strengthening our hope going forward. We remember what we're about, who sustains and guides us, and why we do what we do in the first place.

In so many ways, the Abide Collective hit our stride in 2019. The summer student adventure exceeded even our eager expectations. We taught YWAM staff and students in both Costa Rica and Ensenada, Mexico, and engaged with numerous individuals one-on-one throughout the year. I taught for the Perspectives on the World Christian Movement course in Texas and led a mountain biking retreat in Colorado. Perhaps most importantly, with help from you and so many others we built three homes for families in critical need.

For all this we are incredibly grateful. Grateful to our board of directors and supporters, grateful to everyone who joined with us on an adventure or build, grateful for all our partners doing sacrificial work in really challenging places and, ultimately, grateful to God for sustaining it all.

It's in this looking back we also find our hope renewed. the Abide Collective is uniquely positioned not just to get through current situations, but to find more and deeper ways to flourish. Our motto is "venture, serve, reflect." These three practices prepare us to come alive even in the most challenging circumstances and the most trying situations.

Like many others, in the short run our calendar has been dramatically affected. Yet, we are more committed than ever to the purpose of strengthening and offering hope to families, leading student adventures, and continuing to encourage, teach and provide life-changing formation trips. Thanks for journeying with us,


John Ray, Executive Director,
Abide Collective

Our cover photo is supergirl Ruth who said when we were leaving, "I'm crying because I will miss you." Housebuild #20



"What an amazing year 2018/19 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 second 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 the Abide Collective's programs and our outreach. Through it all, our commitment to helping families and individuals in critical need, offering hope and 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. Thank you for your unwavering generosity and trust. You are deeply appreciated!"

Monique Herman
President, Abide Collective

FINANCIAL REPORT

April 2018 - March 31, 2019

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.

2018 - 2019 INCOME: \$211,120.00

2018 - 2019 EXPENSES: \$135,044.00



We believe in transparency. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions. abidecollective@gmail.com



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 GIVE FAMILIES HOPE



The route to Edgar and Omar's new home was a hard one as our vans struggled through hills and deep ruts in the road. Though after over 20 housebuilds, this wasn't anything new. As we approached the build site, seeing Edgar in his wheelchair and Omar standing next to him with his arm around his son's shoulder, well, that was new. It created a new determination to build an incredible home for this family with special needs always knowing the van parked not far from their new home was where they had been living for a very long time.

Note - this home was lovingly donated and built with the help of EKKO Church. Thank you all.

"It was just really incredible to be part of handing the keys to this father and son knowing they will have a place that was for them, a place where some element of independence could be given to the son experiencing disability. It was really remarkable and we absolutely loved being a part of it, our family did, and we cannot wait to join Olivia's Basket again." Ginny Mooney, Co-Founder 99 Balloons 99balloons.org

"I continue to come back to build because the urgent need for safe housing still exists. As a team, we have the ability to make an immediate difference in a family's life. It absolutely is one of the most rewarding projects I have ever been part of. Jesus' hands and feet in action." Michele Sears has helped build six homes with Olivia's Basket

"When our friends John & Jane Ray invited us to join them on our 1st home build we didn't know what a profound effect it would have on our lives. We hammered, painted, ate, laughed & cried along with that family as we worked to put up 4 walls, a roof, a lock on the front door & hand them the keys in just 2 days! What surprised me most was the level of gratitude I felt, to be allowed into such an intimate time & the giving of such an extraordinary gift, it is the power of God's love, not just for the family but for the entire team. Thank you for asking Ray family! Forever changed, forever grateful." Kelly Foster

"I can't wait to help build another one." Hazel Mooney (12)

Please head to oliviasbasket.org to be encouraged and see all the beautiful homes.



2 new homes built in Ensenada

2018 - 2019



8 individual lives impacted



56 volunteers participated



23 new homes built in Tijuana, Ensenada and Honduras

2010 - 2019



89 individual lives impacted



492 volunteers participated



- The 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.
 - Families who receive a home can use their limited income in other areas of their family life such as education, food, clothing and healthcare.

Pictured here, Betzie, Alyssa and Arely opened the door to their own home in 2019, built by our second Las Chulas all ladies housebuild team.

Olivia's Basket works with Homes of Hope, a ministry of Youth With A Mission San Diego/Baja. We are intensely grateful for their organization and all the people who serve there.

ABIDE STUDENT ADVENTURES

Student adventures and formation trips build self-awareness, teamwork skills, wilderness abilities and stewardship responsibility.

"The 2019 Student Abide Trip, I had the time of my life meeting new people. After a stressful year, this trip helped me to let loose and be myself, I learned how to make peace with issues that I spent way too much time thinking about, I learned how to be comfortable in my own skin and love myself, I learned how to face my fears head on and overcome them. During this trip I was handed a lot of obstacles and after second guessing myself a million times I finally convinced myself to take a leap of faith and just do it.

Even though I loved every part of the trip, my favorite part was building a home with Olivia's Basket. Building with Olivia's Basket is always so enjoyable because we all have the same mindset to let God guide our minds and hearts to serve the families and make his love known. Walking away at the end of the trip always leaves me in tears because the knowingness that God used me to help someone else's life is just so beautifully overwhelming. Again, I would definitely do it all over again a million times without hesitation." Kelisha Harris



12 adventurers, 2500 miles, breathtaking campgrounds, epic hikes, deep conversations, heart opening serving and life-long friendships.



MTB formation trip: lung busting climbs, white knuckle descents, late night discussions, renewed outlooks.

"The days spent mountain biking in Colorado were a highlight of my last year. But outside of saddle time, it was the right pace. It was true respite, but obviously not the lazy kind. I'm looking forward to going back, I find it hard to imagine it won't be just as constructive for the soul if not more so this next time around." Ryan Jackson

FORMATION TRIPS



2020 - 2021 hopes/dreams/vision

THREE AMAZING WAYS TO CHANGE LIVES FOREVER

JOIN US

We are aiming high this coming year: more builds, another formation trip and Student Adventure...consider being part.

SHARE OUR STORY

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

abidecollective@gmail.com
abidecollective.org

DONATE

Every 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 amazing.

Go directly to: abidecollective.org
or checks to: **ABIDE COLLECTIVE**
Box 891, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72702

"First of all I want to thank the entire group. It's been easier to go on with this quarantine. It would have been really hard for me and my son especially if we did not have the house, having to be in quarantine. God and you guys have made it easier to spend this time, and I try to think more of the positive things and how this house has been a refuge and will continue to do good. Thank you."

Omar and his son live in Ensenada, Mexico in our first, hopefully of many, homes built for a family with disabilities. Note - we have big dreams.

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