What a year it has been! No one could have predicted all that 2021 would bring.

And yet we've seen God work in remarkable ways.

More people have heard the Gospel, responded in faith and connected with a local church than ever before. Our Connect Center teams have grown, innovated and gone “all in” to reach their people for Christ. Our church network has expanded to welcome more seekers and disciple more new believers.

It's been an incredible adventure as we've joined God in His mission to reach people across Central Asia and the Middle East with the message of Jesus. We've seen lives transformed by the Gospel—and we've been transformed by God's work in and through us.

Thank you for joining us on this grand adventure. I hope you'll see just how much the Lord is using your prayers and partnership to make a significant difference in the lives of men and women living in the most unreached region of the world. Together we're sharing Jesus with those who've never heard about Him!

Until the whole world hears,

Steve Sharp
President/CEO
Reporting Your 2021 Impact

God has used your prayers and partnership to make a significant impact on the lives of people who’ve never heard about Jesus.

In 2021 Global Heart Ministries saw unprecedented growth as more people came to faith and connected with a local church than ever before.

Over the past year, we’ve expanded our ability to walk alongside people in the discipleship process. Our new follow-up strategy allows us to track individuals from the first time they hear the Gospel all the way to connecting with a church, practicing spiritual disciplines and telling others about Jesus.

Here’s a snapshot of how we’ve seen new believers grow in their faith this past year.

We praise God for how He is growing His church all across Central Asia and the Middle East.
You Helped Dilara Find Hope

Dilara felt stuck and helpless.

Like many young women in Azerbaijan, her marriage was arranged as she turned 18 years old. Within the first few years, she welcomed two beautiful children. But as time went on, her family situation grew increasingly dark and desperate.

Her relationship with her husband was strained. And because he didn't have a job and home of his own, the young family was forced to live with her husband's parents. Unfortunately, Dilara's father-in-law is an alcoholic, and her mother-in-law treats her much like a household servant. She is expected to care for the home, her extended family and her own two children.

As Dilara and her husband struggled financially, he decided to seek work in Russia. She was left to stay with her husband's
parents, making life even more difficult. She was miserable and desperately wanted out. She asked her parents to help her. But they declined. Without a job and anyone to help or care for her, Dilara felt stuck and helpless and considered killing herself.

As much as Dilara wanted to escape, she couldn't bring herself to leave her children in such a terrible place. Then her cousin called, telling her how Jesus had completely changed her life.

At first Dilara was hesitant to embrace what she heard. Growing up in the Muslim faith, she believed that the Bible had been changed. She was also taught that Jesus was the prophet of the Russians.

She went online looking for answers. That's when she connected with a Global Heart Ministries' team member who talked with her and answered her questions about faith. Dilara also received access to online biblical resources, including a Bible in her own language.

As Dilara learned more about the Gospel and read the Bible for herself, her eyes were opened to the truth about Jesus and His Word. She trusted in Him, and her heart began to change.

“Jesus shows me the best way to live,” she said. “By living out God's Word and praying, my thoughts have changed. I do not belong to myself. And my kids also do not belong only to me. Jesus will take care of us.”

Although her circumstances are still extremely difficult, Dilara has a new perspective. “My situation is not completely changed, but I have hope,” she shared.

Currently, Dilara still lives with her husband’s parents. They mock her new faith and do not allow her to read the Bible or attend church. So she practices her faith quietly, attending online Zoom meetings, hosted by a local church, where she is learning more about Jesus and growing in her understanding of the truth.

She knows God sees and helps even when we feel stuck—and she’s praying He will change her situation. In the meantime she isn’t giving up. “I don’t lose my hope,” she said. “I believe in God's miracles.”
Alam Just Wanted to Follow the Right Path

Alam wanted Allah to show him the right path in life. As a teenager he would pray for answers, telling Allah all his problems and asking Him for help.

Growing up in a Muslim family, Alam felt pressured to adopt the religion of those around him. He tried to practice his faith, but he couldn't bring himself to pray five times a day.

“One thing I always did,” Alam said, “I asked Allah to direct me onto a righteous path. I was truly searching for an answer.”

As Alam continued his search for truth, he met his wife, a fellow Azerbaijani and believer in Jesus. She was open about her faith from the beginning, and Alam didn't object. She wasn't the first Christian he'd met. His childhood friend, Isaac, who serves in the Connect Center, often talked with him about Jesus. Despite their differences Alam and his wife enjoyed a happy marriage. Yet he knew something was missing.

“We had harmony and love, but in fact, I felt empty. I read a lot about life and was never tired of reading and searching.”

Alam saw a film about Jesus and something awoke within him. He started asking more questions, which caused problems within his family.

“I asked Allah to direct me onto a righteous path. I was truly searching for an answer.”
“It was important to me to be a free thinker, but I couldn’t free myself from under the influence of my family,” he said.

It’s common for several generations to share a home in Azerbaijan. At the time Alam, his wife and new baby lived with his parents. But when he began questioning Islam and what he’d been taught as a child, his parents strongly disapproved. They began speaking out against his wife’s Christian faith.

Eventually Alam felt he had no choice but to look for an apartment. Despite his parents’ disapproval, his young family packed up their belongings and moved. Isaac came to help them settle into their new apartment and prayed for them.

“Nobody leaves a comfortable place unless they feel that it’s impossible to live there anymore,” Alam recalled.

Despite the fresh start, life’s struggles continued. Alam experienced unemployment and worried about providing for his family. “I felt I couldn’t change anything. I was desperate, but I continued to pray,” he said.

His wife and Isaac continued to talk with him about Jesus. And slowly he started to understand. He asked God to show him the truth. He began reading the Bible. And soon he placed his faith in Jesus.

“After that we had a lot of hardships, but the difference was that we were not discouraged anymore,” he said.

Alam’s unemployment continued. His family was forced to leave their apartment because of the high rent. With just two hours left before their vacate deadline, God provided a new, more affordable apartment.

The COVID-19 lockdowns began, and Alam was forced to wait them out before finding another job. Finally, when restrictions were lifted, God provided him with a new position.

Again they hoped for a fresh start. But Alam’s parents continued to pressure him to return home. The young family was forced to change apartments several more times. Alam faced opposition to his faith at his new workplace. Despite the struggles they trusted God’s plan.

For the past year, Alam served as a volunteer in the Connect Center. The persecution at his job intensified, and he and his wife faced a difficult choice. Despite the financial sacrifices, especially after welcoming their second child, Alam decided to go all in. He joined the Connect Center team as a full-time staff member.

He is so excited to use his skills to share Jesus with even more people who’ve never heard about Him. He knows the sacrifices are worth it—He wants everyone to hear the Good News.

**THE CONNECT CENTER TEAMS ARE GROWING!**

Currently, **10 indigenous staff members and 1 volunteer** serve in the Connect Center. They’re more committed than ever to growing in their faith and reaching others with the hope of Jesus.
2021 Financial Report

**Allocation of Expenses**
- Important Satellite Time: 34%
- Professional and Contract: 25%
- Payroll: 16%
- Programming: 14%
- Facilities and Equipment: 6%
- Travel, Meetings, and Events: 2%

**Revenue Categories**
- Contributions: 59%
- In-Kind Revenue: 35%
- Revenue from COVID-19 Grant: 6%
- Other Revenue: <1%
- Office and Administration: 2%
- Missionary Support: 1%
Thank you for partnering with us to reach people living in the most unreached region of the world.

Together we're providing men and women across Central Asia and the Middle East with creative access to the message of Jesus using digital media, connection to the local church and faith-building resources—giving hope to those who’ve never heard the Gospel.