

The Story of Child Help International

The Founding of a Mission to Children

Nate Banta created CHI in 2001 as a vehicle to evangelize underprivileged children. The focus was on short-term mission trips to put on evangelistic programs for children near Tijuana, Mexico. Apart from that program, CHI started another spectrum, orphan care evangelism (taking care of orphans in a home that emphasizes faith in Christ, love for the church, and service.) In 2002, Nate was able to oversee the start of a children's home near Kitale, Kenya that exists today as the Haven Family.

In 2003, Nate resigned from CHI to enter church ministry full-time, but the organization survived as solely a board-run organization. The children's home in Kenya was the only project they oversaw, though a few other endeavors were attempted.

In 2012, "The Rebirth of Child Help International" began when Nate and Stacy Banta resigned their positions in Kentucky and renewed their positions with CHI. The board undertook a complete revisioning of the organization to focus on a reproducible orphan care model that Nate and his father, Larry Banta, conceived: To assist the local church to initiate an orphan care project that is modeled after a Christian family. CHI is the empowering force to begin the work and sustain it in a way that helps the children succeed eternally, the US partners are the catalyst that drives the ministry, and God is the provider of the wisdom and guidance to direct the ministry advancement.

The Founder and Executive Director, Nate Banta

Nate was raised on and off the mission field, accompanying his parents to Kenya and Mexico, with short stints in India and many visits to Haiti. The poverty and spiritual need Nate saw impacted him greatly and by the time he was 14 years-old he had dedicated his life to serving Christ full-time by serving needy children.

At the age of 15 Nate started a club for latch-key boys. 16 he had a weekly Bible study for kids in Texcoco Mexico. By 17 he was leading a children's ministry of 50 kids in San Vicente, Mexico as well as helping teach in a children's home's Christian school.

Nate attended college at Boise Bible College, during which he served as dorm dad at Hope House Home for Kids in Nampa, Children's Minister at Eagle Christian Church, as well as working at the Boys and Girls Club of Nampa. After college, Nate taught fifth and sixth grade at a Christian school in Caldwell and served as Children's Minister. Later, Nate moved his family to Kentucky where he served six years as Children's Minister.

Nate's greatest passion is reaching kids with the gospel and helping them grow to have Rock-Solid faith in Christ. His second greatest passion is for the street kids and the fatherless. It seemed like a natural progression in his life to marry those two great passions. He and his wife, Stacy knew God was leading them to the mission field before they were married. They were actually more shocked to find God leading them into Church ministry and away from the mission field. Both are very happy to now be serving in missions with their three children. When not on assignment, they reside in Caldwell, Idaho.