APRIL 23, 1979 – That date marks the beginning of Outreach International by founders Charles Neff, Bill Higdon, and Roy Schaefer, whose vision of “a united community with resources for everyone” has grown into the independent non-profit you know with a focus on alleviating poverty through participatory community development. You have played a vital part in the success of that mission, and we literally couldn’t have done it without you!

As we receive your gifts throughout the year, I remain humbled and inspired by the dedication you have for our shared mission. Many of you have supported Outreach for 25 years or more, partnering with us to empower tens of thousands of children, adults and families through our unique methodology and foundational values. YOU are a vital component of Outreach’s past, present and future, and have made every moment of our 40 years together matter.

Together, for the world,

Marshia

Volunteer Manager
Outreach International
CELEBRATE!

Mark your calendar and join us in celebrating our 40th Anniversary with a variety of activities in April:

**ATTEND THE OUTREACH VOLUNTEER CONFERENCE** from 8:00 AM – noon on Friday, April 5, 2019 at Graceland University in Independence, MO for a half-day of useful information, insights, discussions and camaraderie.

**VISIT OUR BOOTH** in the Community of Christ lower Auditorium during the World Conference, April 6-12.

**COME TO OUR BIRTHDAY PARTY AT CHICKEN N PICKLE** on April 30, from 6:00-8:30 PM for dinner and an evening of fun next to the pickleball courts! Tickets available for sale in March.

Mark your birthday celebration by creating a **FACEBOOK FUNDRAISER** for Outreach. Birthday fundraisers for Outreach raised more than $6,000 last year! Flex your social media skills to create tangible results and engage others in our work.
Thanks to your incredible efforts last quarter, we raised over $200,000 between #GivingTuesday, our Sustainable Gifts Catalog, Christmas card and Advent Stable initiatives to support empowerment throughout our field programs worldwide!

Highlighted below are some of our favorite posts:

**The Northview Community of Christ** in Grand Rapids, MI, which was destroyed by fire last November, still contributed nearly $800 to Outreach for their Thanksgiving offering. Their dedication to our cause despite their own circumstances touched our hearts.

**The Shawnee Drive Community of Christ** in Kansas, whose organizers, Paul and Rina DeBarthe, helped their congregation reach an impressive annual fundraising total of $11,702.25 this year!

**The Davenport, IA Community of Christ**, whose small congregation purchased a goat and 12 ducks, and sent us a photo of their Christmas tree, featuring their ornaments of Love, Hope, Joy and Peace.

**The Council Bluffs, IA Community of Christ**, who used the Advent Stable ornaments to entice congregational members to place catalog orders, then placed additional ornaments on the tree to get more orders. Then, two families matched the total orders, and a kids’ activity raised their total even higher!

**The Michigan Community of Christ Mission center**, who raised funds by selling a handmade quilt, star globes, and Yardzee games of recycled wood to help bring joy to others in need.

Those who Raised the Roof for Bolivia: The **Eugene, OR congregation**, and the **Rocky Mountain Mission Center**, whose creative displays helped generate interest and donations to add roofs to greenhouses in Bolivia, giving them access to crops year-round.

Thanks to all involved, whose generosity and kindness continue to change lives! We can’t wait to see how much we can change the world together in the next 40 years!
HELP MAKE THIS OUR BEST YEAR EVER!

• **Give us your email address!** Rather than spending money on ever-higher postal costs, we’d love to email you copies of our publications, instead. If you have an email address that you haven’t shared with us, please let us know! We will continue our transition to email throughout the year ahead to save postage and paper.

• **Sign up for a group Partnership**, using your school, congregation or workplace connections. Contact me for more information or to enroll in this program.

• **Support OI through the Combined Federal Campaign** – If you work for the Federal or State Government, you can find us at CFC#11470.

• **Get your gifts matched by your employer!** See this new tool on our website to help you find out if your employer will match your donation: outreach-international.org/resources/match-madness

• **Set up a Corporate Partnership** – Do you own a business? How about donating a percentage of your profits to Outreach and boost the good you can do! Contact c.belshe@outreachmail.org for more information.

• **Leave a Legacy** – Put your donations to work today or benefit us after your lifetime - making life better for those in poverty for the next 40 years: outreachinternational.planmylegacy.org