

A photograph of a woman and a young girl looking at a tablet together. The woman is on the right, leaning in and pointing at the screen. The girl is on the left, looking intently at the tablet. The background is softly blurred, showing what appears to be a window with sheer curtains and some indoor plants.

MINISTRY
IMPACT
2016

July 2015 - June 2016

MhPS



MOPS International encourages and equips *moms of young children* to realize their potential as mothers, women and leaders in *relationship with Jesus* and in partnership with the local church.

MOPS IMPACT

39,000
LOCAL GROUP LEADERS

184,000
BLOG SUBSCRIBERS

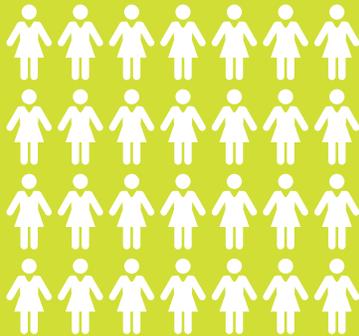


34
COUNTRIES



203

MOPS
VOLUNTEER
STAFF



98,500
MOMS SERVED

48,000
NEW MOMS SERVED



4,700

LEADERS
EQUIPPED
AT CLT
EVENTS

4,367
MOPS GROUPS



2,810

LEADERS TRAINED
AT MOMCON

FINDING HOPE THROUGH THE KINDNESS AND WONDER OF OUR SAVIOR



For 40 years, MOPS has been involved in changing the trajectory of women's lives. Whether through friendship, wise words from a mentor, a warm meal or a safe place to have honest conversations, moms have encountered profound hope by showing up at a MOPS group. And the best part, we have had the privilege of naming that hope and pointing women to Jesus, inviting each of them into his story of love and redemption.

Now, God is calling us to grow even more. In the next five years, MOPS will reach 1 million moms. What we know is that when moms are resourced, kids are healthier, families are healthier, marriages are healthier and the world is healthier, because generational impact is achieved when a mom encounters the true source of life.

In order to achieve this huge goal, we at MOPS are committed to be people who live

by faith, are a voice of hope and are known by love. We will boldly show up in places where moms are desperate and lonely because we are committed to be gutsy with the truth of Jesus.

As you read this, I hope you see the great impact your generosity has had, allowing profound things to happen for moms everywhere. We are dreaming big at MOPS and are confident that God is leading us forward. I am so grateful to be in this together.



Warmly,

mandy arioto

Mandy Arioto

CEO & President, MOPS International



ETERNAL HOPE

Gena DiMuro, MOPS Mom and Coordinator

Three months prior to my first MOPS meeting, I accepted Jesus Christ as my savior in June 2011. Accepted is probably not as accurate as “challenged” Jesus to be my savior. My exact words: “Alright Jesus, show me what you’ve got.” I was searching for the solution for my irrational fears and worries. I knew there had to be more to my everyday existence. I was married with a beautiful daughter and another baby on the way, but I finally realized “my way” was not the best answer. MOPS made Jesus real, relevant and tangible for me just by embracing three simple elements: prayer, testimony and leadership.

PRAYER

Before MOPS, my prayer life was non-existent; in rare moments I prayed for health and happiness, but that was it. Through MOPS, I was exposed to women that opened and closed each meeting in prayer, and my Group Leader who passionately prayed for each mom at our table. I also had the opportunity to submit prayer requests. The idea of other moms taking time out of their busy days to pray for me and my heart was astonishing. My MOPS meetings were the first times I’d heard and witnessed prayer used as a powerful tool.

TESTIMONY

Being vulnerable does not come naturally to me. I had never shared my entire honest, vulnerable self with another soul until MOPS. During my five years in MOPS, I heard women share their heart-wrenching testimonies that brought me to tears. These testimonies included circumstances that I had feared my whole life and believed would ruin me. But these women clearly illustrated how they rose from the ashes and thrived in spite of their circumstances. If these women could find joy through Jesus, why couldn’t I do the same?

LEADERSHIP

Jesus became very real once I became a Leader in MOPS. After my first year as a participant, I was encouraged by other Leaders to apply to be a Group Leader. I became a Group Leader; although terrified every time I had to pray out loud, that was actually the best way to get over my fear of praying. At my first meeting six years ago, I was a skeptic just barely giving Jesus a chance. I would have never believed that later I would help encourage and equip moms to realize their potential as women, mothers and leaders, in relationship with Jesus. Through my experience with MOPS, I found that Jesus is real, relevant and tangible. Through him anything is possible.

“My MOPS meetings were the first times I’d heard and witnessed prayer used as a powerful tool.”



GENUINE KINDNESS

Kristie Ritter, MOPS Mom, Coach & Prison MOPS Leader

HOW DID YOU FIRST COME TO MOPS?

I hadn't been in a church since I was a little girl; probably due to the fact that I had to listen to my grandma's priest in Ukrainian. Thankfully, on my first day of MOPS it was different. I was welcomed with smiles. Not much time passed after that first meeting, I found myself sitting around my dining room table with the same women who could relate to me. I recognized that this type of community was rare. That was what kept me coming back.

WHAT HAS YOUR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY LOOKED LIKE?

I came to MOPS as an unchurched woman, unfamiliar with the Bible and I had no idea who Jesus was. As I became woven into the lives of my new mom friends, I noticed they had a joy and calm unlike anything I had ever known. I began to realize Jesus was the key, and after an epileptic scare with my daughter, I knew I could not do this life on my own. Jesus was my savior and I gave it all to him .

HOW ARE YOU CONTINUING TO MAKE AN IMPACT THROUGH MOPS TODAY?

Last September, I started a new MOPS group in our county prison. The Holy Spirit speaks into these moms' lives which are filled with desperation, loneliness and lack of self-worth. My heart breaks for them, yet I am filled with hope. They love to tell stories about their little ones and we laugh together over their silly antics. We cry together over regrets and injustices from our pasts and we find shreds of hope in our little community that we've created. I love these girls but I know that God loves them so much more.

Today, consider your fishes and loaves. Whatever amount you give to MOPS, you are making a difference in the lives of moms across the world; an eternal difference in which she is able to profoundly impact her children, her husband and future generations.

“The friendships that start at MOPS have a domino effect on how a woman parents, relates to her husband and how she comes to declare herself a daughter of the King.”



A HOLY LEGACY

Chris Moss, MOPS Mentor Mom

WELCOME TO MOPS

In January, I arrived long-faced and displaced in Michigan from California. *The Purpose Driven Life* had recently inspired me to serve more and the women's ministry pastor at my new church had asked me to be a mentor at MOPS. Unsure of what that was, I decided to give it a try.

I arrived early that Tuesday morning at the church so I could pray for the moms. Then I plugged in the coffee and waited for someone to arrive. Soon the minivans barreled into the parking lot. Little people bundled in snow gear tumbled out of car seats and moms with dark circles under their eyes balancing egg casseroles and babies, streamed into the church.

I schlepped bags. I rocked babies. I listened. I prayed.

Since that first meeting over ten years ago, I've served in

four churches in three states: Michigan, California and Arizona. Every time my husband was relocated, my home base became MOPS.

Currently I lead a team of nine Mentor Moms at Sun Valley Community Church in Gilbert, Arizona, where we have two MOPS groups and a dynamic leadership team that we support.

MENTORING IS A PRIVILEGE

When I raised my own kids, I hadn't heard of MOPS yet. I wish I would have had a MOPS experience as a young mom; it would have made a huge difference in my confidence as a mom. So today, I mentor younger moms to encourage them through the exhaustion and the thankless tasks. I support their need for affirmation, encourage them in their faith, and reflect as much Jesus as I can in situations that need a little extra love. I help them recognize their own potential to grow and to serve. I am a trusted filter of information and a resource for local needs. I am a prayer warrior and a recruiter of moms.

I AM HONORED TO SUPPORT MOPS INTERNATIONAL

My husband's job moved us multiple times and some of those years I wasn't plugged into a church with a MOPS group. During those years, instead of losing touch with MOPS, I chose to give a monthly donation to MOPS International.

When I finally landed in a spot where I could mentor again, I realized MOPS had become much more important than a monthly donation. It was more than a hobby or a volunteer opportunity. I knew I never wanted to be without MOPS again. So I decided to do something bigger.

Even though MOPS had always made me a part of their family, I decided to make MOPS a part of mine; I decided that a portion of my estate will go to MOPS International to transform families, long after I've gone home to be with Jesus. I made a planned gift. Best decision ever.



FULLY KNOWN IN CHRIST

Taryn Fuchs, Teen MOPS Coordinator

HOW DID YOU FIRST BECOME INVOLVED WITH MOPS?

When I had my daughter, I was 17 years old. I was invited to MOPS by a stranger; it was a Teen MOPS group integrated with a classic MOPS group. The group of women were wonderful, but all the “teens” were in their twenties. Because of the gap in our experiences, that group wasn’t what I needed at the time. However, God kept speaking to me to start a Teen MOPS group at my church – and I listened! The need was great and the group continues to grow. Originally I served as a Discussion Leader and I am currently serving in my second year as Coordinator.

HOW HAS MOPS CHANGED YOUR LIFE?

MOPS has been my anchor, not only in building friendships and relating to other young moms, but in challenging my vulnerability with others and with God. At MOPS, I am able to fully and unabashedly embrace who I am: a flawed woman, an imperfect mother, a

thirsty soul, and a girl who yearns for connection and seeks advice without fear of looking unqualified. Before MOPS, I deemed it necessary to put the label “teen” in front of the word mother. My entire identity was built around being “just a teen mom.” The women at MOPS propelled me toward God’s truth that I am more than those labels. I am an intentional mom, a proud mom and a beautiful mom. I am so filled by my Leadership team and especially by our Mentor Mom. She speaks into my life and provides perspective for my circumstances. Vulnerability. Friendship. Mentor. A new identity in Christ. That is the essence of how MOPS has worked in my life.

HOW HAS MOPS STRENGTHENED YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS?

I can feel the presence of the Holy Spirit during each meeting. By fostering a space for God to join us and compassionately move, I am able to witness his goodness; not just at meetings, but every single day in the lives of these mothers. He reminds me that I am not in MOPS to lead, rather I am there to walk alongside while sharing my failures, hurts and healing.

MOPS has also challenged my prayer life; as there is so much need for prayer in the lives of these moms. It is here that God teaches me that MOPS is not a one-time fix, and it refocuses me on the truth: he is the one true healer. God meets me and reveals himself when he answers prayer.

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO SOMEONE WHO IS CONSIDERING COMING TO MOPS?

Having mom friends who are in the same phase of life is imperative when you have a child at a young age. As a young mom, fitting in is complicated and scary, but there is always a seat open at our MOPS table. We believe in relationships and community. We are your people. Everyone wants to feel heard and be fully known. When you fear you are the only one, come to MOPS and hear all the women say, “me too.”



Once I made a decision to give monthly, I realize I give more during the year than I could possibly give in a one-time gift – and I hardly notice it! I love knowing my monthly commitment is making a difference. I elevate MOPS above other great causes because it so closely aligns with my passions and values: supporting moms and families!

– Chris Moss, MOPS Mentor



HELP US REACH 1 MILLION MOMS



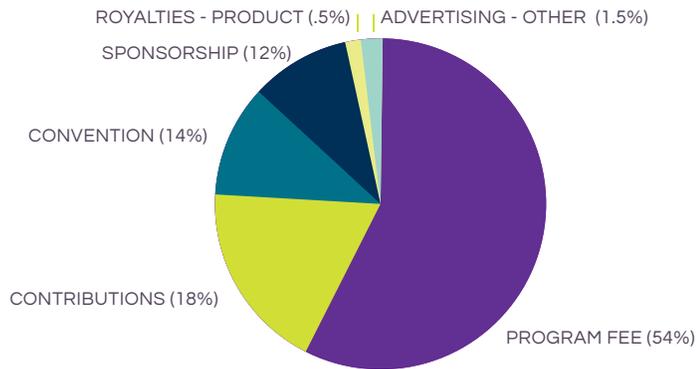
Pray for MOPS



Donate to MOPS

[mops.org/donate.](https://mops.org/donate)

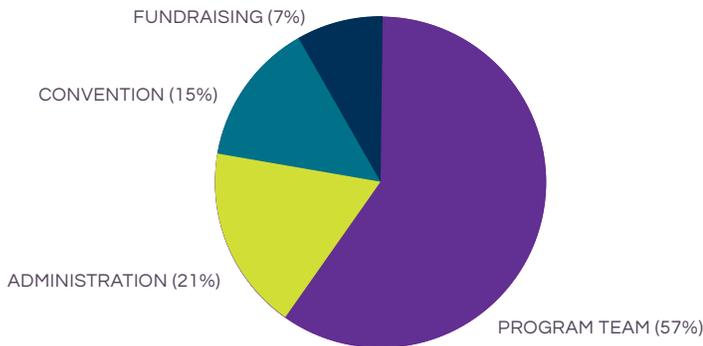
FINANCIAL REPORT 2015-16



REVENUE

PROGRAM FEE	\$2,853,411
CONVENTION	\$731,269
CONTRIBUTIONS	\$931,263
SPONSORSHIP	\$636,383
ADVERTISING AND OTHER	\$82,776
ROYALTIES FROM	\$30,996
PRODUCT SALES	

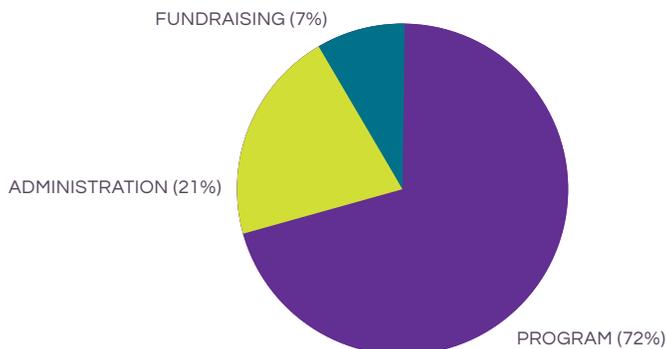
TOTAL \$5,266,098



EXPENSES

FUNDRAISING	\$336,793
CONVENTION	\$727,619
PROGRAM TEAM	\$2,866,028
ADMINISTRATION	\$1,043,202

TOTAL \$4,973,642



FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

PROGRAM	\$3,593,647
FUNDRAISING	\$336,793
ADMINISTRATION	\$1,043,202

TOTAL \$4,973,642

ETERNAL IMPACT



Dear MOPS Family,

Thank you for participating in another successful year at MOPS International. With your generous support, we have helped churches establish supportive communities for mothers of preschoolers, seen many moms begin a relationship with Jesus, and provided tools to strengthen families as they face the challenges of parenting.

As a board, we believe that the ripple effect of a mother's influence is immeasurable in its reach, and when we introduce a mom to Jesus she is better equipped to impact her family and community in a positive way. Through our partnership with churches, we provide support for both her spiritual growth and her parenting questions.

As we look ahead to the coming years, we're excited to support even more moms and churches with the tools needed to thrive. With the realization that there are nearly 40 million mothers of young children in the U.S. alone, MOPS has set a goal to reach 1 million moms in the next five years – imagine the lives that

will be transformed through this powerful work! We believe God has called upon our organization to be a light in the name of Jesus in even more communities, and we are hard at work to answer that call.

Once again, on behalf of the board of directors, thank you for all you do for MOPS International. Your confidence, financial contributions, volunteerism and prayer support allow us to touch the lives of moms across the world and bring them one step closer to the heart of Jesus. We are blessed to have you as part of our MOPS family!



In His service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Catherine K. Penshorn, M.Ed.".

Catherine K. Penshorn, M.Ed.
Chair, MOPS International
Board of Directors

MOPS



2370 SOUTH TRENTON WAY
DENVER, CO 80231

303.733.5353 MOPS.ORG

 [mops.int](https://www.facebook.com/mops.int)  [@mops_international](https://www.instagram.com/mops_international)  [@mops_int](https://twitter.com/mops_int)

© COPYRIGHT 2016, MOPS INTERNATIONAL, INC
