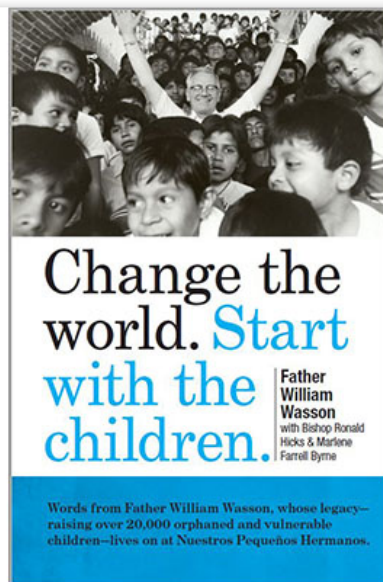




Father William Wasson's Philosophy for Raising over 20,000 Children Explored in New Book

14 years after his death, Father Wasson's own words tell the story of NPH and the nine homes that continue to care for at-risk and abandoned children.

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“Change the World. Start with the Children.”, is a new book detailing the life of our founder Father William B. Wasson, his philosophy, and how he changed the world.

Chicago, Ill.—April 24, 2020— “Change the World. Start with the Children.”, is a new book detailing the life of our founder Father William B. Wasson, his philosophy, and how he changed the world. It includes words from Father Wasson himself, his four principles of successfully raising compassionate children, and stories about those who were directly impacted by his unconditional love and support.

The book reviews Father Wasson's legacy, which began in 1953, when he was assigned to a church in Cuernavaca, Mexico called “The Church of the Poor”. One night, a 15-year-old boy stole money from the collection box to feed himself. He was jailed, but not found guilty as Father William Wasson decided not to press charges. Instead, Father Wasson went to the judge and requested custody of the child. One week later, the judge sent him eight more homeless boys.

It was the beginning of Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos (NPH), a network of homes for more than 20,000 abandoned and vulnerable children in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as the only free pediatric hospital in Haiti. Father Wasson dedicated more than 50 years to NPH, serving as a father figure, provider and teacher. He would expand the homes to nine countries, all of them guided by his principles of raising family.

NPH homes take in vulnerable children with no family or have families unable to care for them, and provide a safe home with food, love, healthcare and support, along with a quality education. Children are raised with their NPH brothers and sisters, not put up for adoption and are encouraged to gain a solid education and use their talents to become leaders in their own countries.

The writing includes excerpts from the manuscript written by Father Wasson in 1976. It showcases his philosophies for raising the children in his NPH family and how his principles can be applied to families everywhere. Emotional, inspiring, and full of lessons, “Change the World. Start with the Children.” showcases the beauty of unconditional love through the life and work of Father Wasson.

The book was a collaboration of people who work with NPH and those who knew Father Wasson. “I became a volunteer in 1989 and Father Wasson’s family was clearly living by these important principles,” said Bishop Ronald Hicks, one of the authors. “I believe everyone who is impacting a child’s life—whether parent, guardian, teacher or friend— will learn important lessons from his clear yet simple guidance.”

All proceeds from the sales of this book will be donated to NPH USA. The book, “Change the World. Start with the Children.” is available on [Amazon](#) in both print and Kindle.

About the authors:

Ronald Hicks, Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago, volunteered at NPH Mexico for one year in 1989. In July 2005, he moved to El Salvador to begin his five-year term as Regional Director of NPH in Central America. On September 17, 2018, he was ordained a Bishop by Blase Cardinal Cupich at Holy Name Cathedral, Chicago.

Marlene F. Byrne has worked her entire career in advertising and authored six books. She became involved with NPH at her parish and served on the Midwest Board of Directors for NPH USA. Her family hosted an NPH boy, named Juan, from El Salvador while he received treatment at Shriners Hospital of Chicago. She also sponsored a boy, named Samuel, who went on to study social work at Northeastern University.

Erick Nery 

Communications Officer of NPH Peru