



SUNDAY, APRIL 6

For where your treasure is,
there your heart will be also.

—Matthew 6:21

When I was a kid, my mom and I moved into a small apartment. The complex had a pool and a boatload of kids. We were poor, but I had no idea. I was happy. My mom had only a high school education, and though she worked multiple jobs, money was scarce.

A few months after moving, she got a call from a friend who wanted to know if she could stop by with a housewarming gift. My mother's friend delivered six boxes of food. My mom began to cry.

Years later, I learned we only had 29¢ in the bank that night. We had a partial loaf of bread and a mostly empty jar of peanut butter to last two weeks. Mom hadn't told anyone, only prayed that God would provide. It was a pivotal time in my mother's faith, not only in Jesus, but in herself as well.

It was a small investment, supplying food to our family, but it became the catalytic action that changed our lives forever.

Feeling secure that our needs were met gave my mother confidence—a resource she used to go back and earn multiple degrees. She then opened a school to help dropouts complete their education and go on to higher learning.

In this same way, Episcopal Relief & Development helps communities meet their own needs, building confidence and creating opportunities to move from scarcity to security.

How can we be that kind of catalyst for another?

—Chad Brinkman