

a family who benefited from a "Say Yes" adoption grant

2024

Gratitude Report



Open Hearts for Orphans

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a child who benefited from sponsorship



Introduction

Our theme for 2024 was "Funding Hope, Funding Life, Funding Love" and our supporters sure stood up to that invitation! There are many good outcomes to share within these pages. We kicked off our year with something beautiful and new – our first annual #openyourheart **Day of Giving** campaign!

In 2024, we had the unique opportunity of being an official "Movement Partner" with Angel Studios for the adoption-themed film **Sound of Hope: the Story of Possum Trot**. It was an honor to represent such a powerful piece in our advocacy efforts. Also last year, I had the privilege of being featured as "City Person" in our hometown **Atlantic Ave Magazine**. Another honor! We hosted two events with our local chambers of commerce and continue to get our message out into the local community.

In 2024, we expanded our team, hiring one of our former board members, Mary Sammons, as our Director of Adoption & Advocacy Programs, and it was a very positive year of growth and development in that area of focus.

This year, our theme is **Hope Lives Here**, and we truly believe that – we see it on the daily, and we hope you recognize it too! We look forward to your partnership once again, fully acknowledging the "heavy lifting" doesn't get done without your incredible support. We are grateful for it.

Sincerely,

Lisa Murphy

Lisa Murphy, CEO & the Board of Directors:
Carrie Socha – Chairman of the Board, Julie Carr – Treasurer, Mia Anderton – Secretary, Cindy Nau, Suzanne Stillwell, Nick Calabro, Shea Studinger, Mandy Forrester



Children in Uganda who benefit from tuition sponsorship

Funding Hope



- 7 fully-furnished new homes for vulnerable families in Uganda including solar, water tank, latrine, and kitchen positively impacting 35 vulnerable children
- 70+ children in loving foster families or kinship placements
- 75 babies assisted with basic needs
- 80+ children educated through tuition assistance in Uganda
- 12 orphaned children supported through monthly sponsorship
- Emergency relief and supplies (formula, sanitizer, wipes) provided for 126 foster families in North Carolina after Hurricane Helene
- 40 vulnerable children helped in South Florida and Arizona through our role as a CarePortal Community Champion
- Gift cards provided to 90 children in local foster care who graduated from middle school, high school, or college
- School uniforms provided for over 100 at-risk children in Palm Beach County



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Funding Life



- Funded bowel surgery for a toddler, Serena, in India.
- Funded a mitral valve replacement surgery for a teenager, Maison, in India.
- Provided an integrated wall diagnostic system for Village of Hope in Guatemala.
- Shipped necessary medical supplies to the children of Little Flower, including infant iron drops, liquid ibuprofen and Tylenol, gummy vitamins, treated gauze bandages, gauze pads, and triple antibiotic first aid ointment.
- With our Uganda partners, who saw a continued surge of abandoned and malnourished babies, we provided life-saving baby formula and supplements for 28 babies, and aided 43 babies / children with medical care.
- With a partner organization, board member, Ann Bartlinski, traveled to Guatemala to assess the medical needs of vulnerable children in the Yalu region.
- We invested in a campus with one of our key partners in Uganda. The property will serve as overflow from the local hospital for orphaned and abandoned babies to receive care, nutritional supplementation, basic needs, and foster care training for prospective parents.



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Serena, who benefited from medical care donations



Funding Love



- **24** "Say Yes" adoption grants were approved in 2024.
- **25** more children came home in 2024 with the help of our grant, and we gave a "One by One" medical grant to help offset the cost of a travel nurse for a family.
- Our grants will impact children with multiple special needs from **9** countries - Bulgaria, Colombia, Ecuador, India, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Philippines, Taiwan, and the US.
- **8** of our 2024 grant families are still in process and there are still a number of families still waiting from previous years because of extended travel delays with China adoptions.

In 2024, our "Say Yes" adoption grants increased to \$4,000, and we continued to offer optional wraparound services to our grant families, including a strategic prayer partner, a complimentary copy of "The Connected Parent," quarterly trauma-informed training sessions, and welcome home packages.



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a family that benefited from our "Say Yes" grant



Advocacy



We enlisted as an official **Family-Match FRO** (Family Recruitment Organization) in Palm Beach County to connect interested families with adoptable children in our foster system. We participated in the “No More Orphans” experience, attracting many open hearts to the plight of vulnerable children and even coached some through our ARISE program. Our ARISE meetings and consultations are available to the local South Florida community, and our hope is that the mission will spread as we strive to bring authentic voices into the conversation.

We continued working with partners in Palm Beach County, providing quarterly events for adoptable children in the foster system, where prospective families could attend and participate. We celebrated local adoptions again by providing “Welcome Home” gift cards to ten children adopted from foster care on National Adoption Day in November.

Lastly, we worked as a “Movement Partner” with Angel Studios to promote the adoption-themed film **Sound of Hope: the Story of Possum Trot**, hosting a pre-screening and bringing awareness to this important subject.



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