

THE

Spring 2016

PERENNIAL PATH



Finally, A Place To Call Home

Boys from one of the
harshest slums in
Kenya will finally
have a refuge!

More on page 2>>

Brittany's
HOPE

www.BrittanysHope.org



A Place to Build Lives

Imagine having your family separated due to post-election violence, and ending up on the street, far from your village in the city of Nairobi. This was a reality for Martin, and many other children.

The Kibera slum is a harsh reality, even for the most streetwise adults. Growing up in Kibera, children like Joseph lived among discarded trash, violence



Joseph enjoying a meal at the Home of Hope

and illegal activity. They were often subject to police brutality, simply because they were street children. Taking turns sleeping, with one standing guard, these children faced insurmountable obstacles.

Enter the Home of Hope, run by loving Catholic Sisters. By working with the boys within Kibera, and eventually resettling outside of the city center, they have truly offered them something many never had: a home.

In 2005, temporary structures were built out of corrugated iron sheets to make a place to feed, shelter, educate, and rehabilitate these hurting children. The boys see education as a chance to escape this life, so they work hard to do well. Despite the negative attitude toward their pasts, these boys often outperform and

outshine classmates in both good character and education.

What was meant to be temporary has long withstood expectations, and 10 years later, still stands as the housing for these children. Although additions and improvements have been made, the drafty walls, metal beds, and dim lighting doesn't foster a cozy environment. While Joseph and the other boys are happy, they dream of warm beds, sun gleaming through the windows, and a proper kitchen where they can enjoy meals together.

With the purchase of land already secured, we hope to provide these boys who have suffered through unimaginable challenges, with all of the comforts of home that they deserve.

This Summer, we will build a new 14,833 sq ft facility complete with living quarters, classrooms and everything else the boys will need in order to grow and feel the safety and comfort of a true home.

Donate today and unleash their potential!



"We are very happy to have such beautiful people like you bless us. We assure you that we will study hard to make you proud."

Martin Mutisya

"I take this opportunity to appreciate you good people for doing us a great favor. Thank you so much and may God bless you abundantly."

NICHOLAS KULLOL



"May I take this golden chance to pass my heartfelt gratitude to you. We appreciate you so much for showing us that you care."

Stanely Jumba

Freedom for Anh

Written by Dr. Judy Ericksen,
Brittany's Hope Board Member

Picture that you are an eight-year-old boy living in an orphanage in Viet Nam. You cannot speak and your movements are constrained by muscles that are weak and tight. You are loved and cared for, but because of your disabilities you spend most of the time lying in a bed, waiting for your friends to come and visit. This is the life of Anh.

I met Anh at the House of Love last May while traveling in Viet Nam with a group of Elizabethtown College students and Brittany's Hope supporters. As I sat by his bedside, children regularly ran into his room. Every time the door opened, he

brightened and smiled. When there was a noise outside his door, he strained to turn and look.

Knowing some of the limitations of rehabilitative healthcare in Viet Nam, the Elizabethtown College students were determined to do something to help Anh. It seemed as though a wheelchair might have a positive impact on Anh's quality of life and the well-being of his caregivers.

This spring, through the advocacy of Brittany's Hope, the orphanage was able to obtain a new wheelchair for Anh! Now, he is able to sit upright and leave his room, where he can finally be with his friends.



Donate today, and give more kids like Anh the freedom of a wheelchair!



A Family's Love Is Forever

From the very beginning, something special stood out about Lana.

Having Down Syndrome, she faced a difficult life in an orphanage, but her smile was captivating and gave a glimpse into this spunky little girl's heart. She needed a family and to help her find one, Brittany's Hope offered a special grant, called the SunnyMay Memorial Grant.

This grant is in honor of the beautiful & vibrant SunnyMay, who was a vivid reminder of the uniting force of love. Sadly, SunnyMay was called home to heaven shortly after her homecoming, but in the embrace of parents and siblings who adored her. She continues to live on in the hearts of the Young family. Like Lana, she had Down Syndrome, a contagious smile and a huge heart.

After the \$5,000 grant was placed on Lana, the Young family reached out. As soon as they laid eyes upon her, they knew she was meant to be their daughter.

"You see, February 2015 was the second anniversary of SunnyMay's passing and our hearts were broken, but in His loving fashion, the Lord brought us Lana by way of the SunnyMay Memorial grant."

Now, the Young family is cuddling their adorable daughter and watching her grow. *"When I play with our sweet Lana, see her smile, and hear her laugh, I shiver to think of her spending another day in an orphanage without parents and siblings who treasure her."*

Thank you for your gifts that helped to bring Lana home!

Granted Children Home

July 2015 to Present

Through your continued generosity, **this year** we will reach a total of **1,000 kids** united with families through adoption grants. Thank you for removing financial barriers and giving kids families!

Gabriella from India

"We always had a heart for adoption. Thank you for helping us adopt Gabriella."



Hua Yi from China

"He just needed a loving family and access to medical care to unlock his potential."



Boaz from China

"Boaz has been out of the hospital for 6 weeks now. He is doing wonderful."



Kristin from China

"She has helped us see life in a different way and she was truly meant for us."



Ivan from Bulgaria

"He has found his place in our family, and he is more comfortable every day."



EnQiang from China

"We can't thank you enough for the joy and hope our son gained through adoption."



Dottie from China

"It has been wonderful seeing her learn, grow and achieve new things so quickly."



Maisie from China

"Our world is much brighter now that she's in it and truly, we are the blessed ones."



Always Together: From Sponsor to Adoption

Written by Dr. Bobbi Barends

As Mother's Day approaches and I prepare for my third journey to Viet Nam, it feels right to share with you how sponsorship has personally touched my life. Nine years ago this May, my mother, a few college students, and I embarked on a service trip with Brittany's Hope. Unaware of the joys and love that awaited us, we were excited for the opportunity to help children who were so desperately in need.

As the resident Occupational Therapist on the trip, I worked alongside my students to deliver care to children who faced significant challenges. We tended to the children and introduced techniques to better equip the caretakers. In the meantime, my mother devoted her time to holding and loving a baby girl who had recently been abandoned at the gate of the House of Love Orphanage, a home fully supported by Brittany's Hope.

I was deeply moved by the stories my mother shared of the baby girl, and I felt called to play a larger role in her precious

life. It was then that I decided to become Thien Thanh's sponsor mother.

Sponsorship through Brittany's Hope has been a meaningful experience. Through the exchange of letters, pictures, care packages, and even Skype, our family saw Thien Thanh blossom right in front of our eyes.

As we watched her grow, our love for Thien Thanh deepened each day. She had truly become a part of our family.



My husband and I had a strong desire to formally adopt Thien Thanh. In September 2014, we received word that Viet Nam would resume facilitating adoptions to American citizens. Filled with hope, I knew this was our chance to have Thien Thanh—not only home in my heart, but forever in my arms.

As we begin the adoption

A New Bridge To Bring More Families Together

When Viet Nam reopened for adoption last year, we immediately reached out to one of our partner agencies who was on the forefront of facilitating the adoptions. We wanted to do everything we could to help.

Through our partnership with Holt International, we have already begun to place grants on several of the more severely disabled children in our care. Children that would have struggled for the rest of their lives in institutions are now in loving families as a result.

There are still kids awaiting adoption, and you can help them by funding a grant. **Donate today, and help a child like Thalia find the family she needs.**

journey and a new chapter in my family's story, I am forever grateful to Brittany's Hope for serving as a bridge to connect me with my daughter and preserving her story.

This year, I will travel to Viet Nam again with Brittany's Hope. It seems so fitting that as Mother's Day approaches, I'll be able to wrap my daughter in my arms.



Thalia

Birthdate: 6/27/2012

\$10,000 Grant Available

Thalia is a lively little girl with severe special needs. She eagerly awaits a loving family with access to the medical and developmental resources she needs.

Brittany's Hope SUPER SALE

April 16, 2016 :: 8am to 1pm



School Supplies, Tools, Electronics, Blankets, Rope & More!



* Actual items may vary in color, pattern and style.

Make Mother's Day Special

This Mother's Day, make a lasting impression by honoring your mom or another special woman with a one-of-a-kind gift. By sending a personalized card and handmade Kenyan craft through Brittany's Hope, your donation will send a message of love and generosity not only to your loved one, but also to children without one.

Order by mail or online at www.BrittanysHope.org/MothersDay

LACE UP FOR ORPHANS



www.WalkOfLove.org

CROSS COUNTRY

5K
& FUN WALK

8:30a
Sept. 17th
Etown, PA

A Big Thanks To 2015 Walk of Love Sponsors

ABEL
& SON
ROOFING • SIDING



Mother's Day Gift Order Form

Choose Your Gift

\$30 - Card and Small Kenyan Bowl or Heart

\$50 - Card and Bracelet from Viet Nam

\$70 - Card and Handmade Silk Scarf from Viet Nam

Additional Donation: _____ Color Preference: _____

Recipient's Information

Recipient's Name: _____ Include Gift Amount: Y N

Recipient's Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Personal Message: _____

Billing Information

Name: _____ Email: _____

Phone: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____



Aiding Abandoned Children Worldwide

1160 North Market Street

Elizabethtown, PA 17022

www.BrittanyHope.org

717.367.9614

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Today could be the day
a child finally gets the
support they need.
BrittanyHope.org/sponsor