

THE

Spring 2017

# PERENNIAL PATH

## Now Home Through Love

Celebrating 1,000 children  
home and treasured

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*Brittany's*  
**HOPE**

[www.BrittanysHope.org](http://www.BrittanysHope.org)



# A Legacy of Love

written by our founding mother Candace Abel

I am elated, as Brittany's Mother, to see so many people rally around a mission of family and unity. To celebrate with them as we witness the 1,000th time an orphan becomes a cherished member of a family. This is truly a momentous occasion and it is a tribute to your passion for bestowing love on children in need.

Brittany's Hope began with the desire of a young woman who was once lost herself, to find homes for other lost children. Most of you know the story of Brittany and how her passing became a catalyst that helped unite so many beautiful children with loving families. At the time, I struggled to understand the senseless death of a young life.

However, one of the blessings of time is retrospection. As a child, I sat on my mother's lap and listened to her personal orphan story; a story that began with a mother's death at her birth and continued on with the death

of an adoptive mother. My mother moved from family to family, never truly belonging. She overcame her loss and became the kind of mother upon which children grow, dream, and create.

***God used her story in His wisdom to mold me for adoption.***

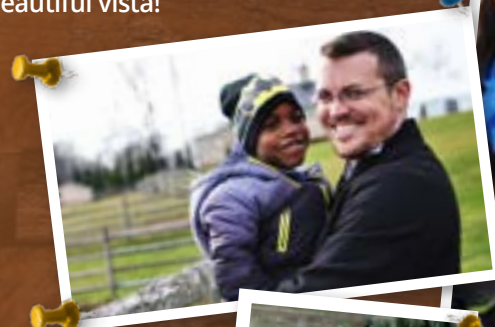
What was a tragedy became a burning desire to adopt in my heart. That desire would bring Brittany to us, and consequently, create forever families across the country. Seventeen years later, I have witnessed so many miracles that I now see only the legacy of love rather than the loss.

A new adoptive mother recently presented her child to me and said with a smile, "Now I understand why I had to go through all the infertility... so I could be her mother." In the pages before you, you will meet many of these amazing children, from some of our early placements to newer families. They all once started from a place of loss.

# 1,000 Kids Home

*When I look at the beautiful faces of the children and their families, I am eager for the future when time will give them a new perspective; when rainy days end, and the sun chases shadows and offers a grander view.*

It has been 17 years since we lost Brittany and there are a 1,000 fewer orphans in this world because of it. Such a refreshingly different perspective on loss. Oh, what a beautiful vista!





# Our First Granted Child

*"Sydney has grown into beautiful young woman who brings joy to everyone she meets. She still attends the Ohio State School for the Blind and thrives in that environment.*

*Syd needs one-on-one care around the clock because of her seizure disorder and shifts in routine. Even though she is quite delayed and has been with us for 16 years, she continues to develop every day. Her conversational skills have really taken off this past year – she constantly cracks herself and her caregivers up! She has also become quite the star at our local market, where she helps her dad shop. Everyone knows Syd and looks forward to chatting with her.*

*We couldn't be more blessed to have her in our lives and think of our time with Brittany's Hope warmly and often."*  
- Steven & Susan Ngay



*Sydney's life could have been very bleak in an orphanage – but, instead, she shares beautiful moments with her parents every day. Sydney's story is just one in a thousand. Imagine where their lives could have led. **Thank you for giving happiness to so many.***



# A Letter From Dai

*To my forever family out there,*

*I hope my letter finds you healthy and happy. We have not met yet, but I know you are out there somewhere. I want to write about my life and share it with you. My name is Dai and I am 15 years old. I was born into a poor family. My mother is deaf and mute and my grandparents are old and weak. I came into this world without a father figure in my life. Because of my family situation, the House of Love has become my home for the past six years. **I have a good life here, but I still long to have a family.***

*I want very badly to have a father to love and guide me through life. It would be a dream come true to have a father and a family to run to like many other kids my age. Being at school has been a privilege, but it also hurts my heart every time I see my friends getting out of school, throwing themselves into their parents' embrace. It is in those moments I feel the most alone and isolated.*

*I know I am luckier than many others to be at House of Love; however, at night I still dream of one day having a family. **In my dreams I get to experience the love of a family, where we gather over a meal and chat with each other about school, about work, or what's on the TV news headlines.** When I wake up, the warm feeling quickly disappears and all I have left is my hope that my dream will one day come true.*

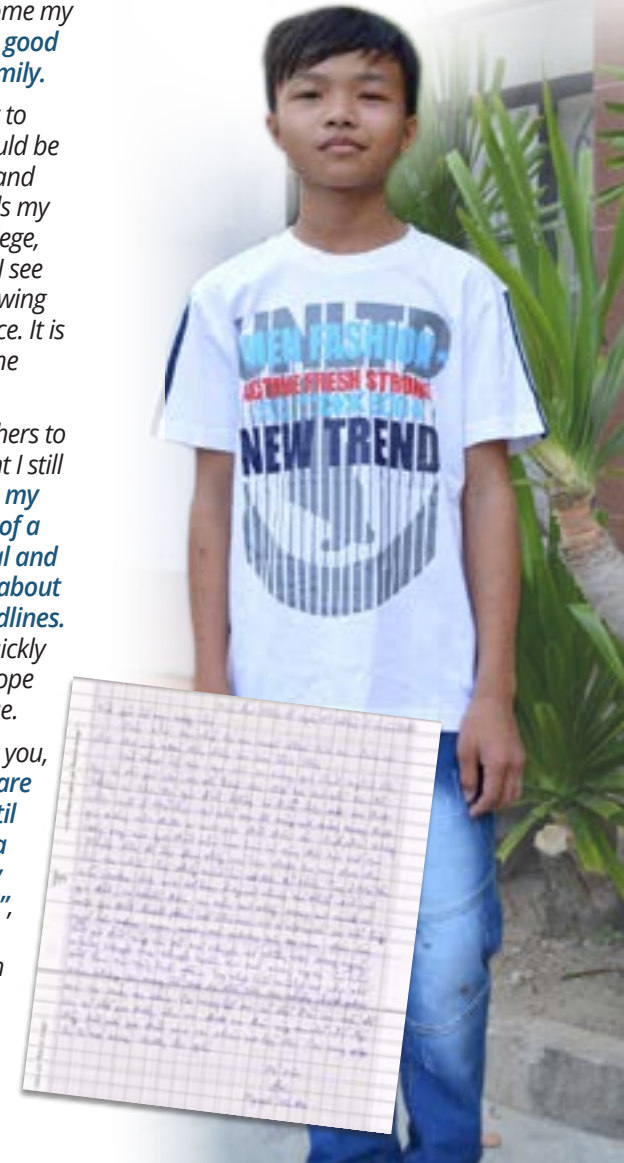
*Although I haven't gotten to know you, or see you in person yet, **I know you are out there. I will continue to pray until the day you come for me. It will be a special day, because I will get to say those sacred words — "Mom & Dad",** have fun with my siblings, and fulfill my dream of a family that I had been longing for.*

*Your son,  
Nguyen Van Dai*

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There is a special family out there somewhere, we know it. That's why Brittany's Hope has pledged a \$10,000 grant toward his adoption. If you are a qualified family, understanding and experienced with older child adoption, consider bringing Dai home, or donate to our Special Needs Adoption Grants and be part of Dai's homecoming.

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## What's Next for the Dow Children's Home?

There is no replacement for the bright smiles and squeals of delight that ring through the Dow Children's Home in Kenya every day. It clearly shows the love that Greg & Mary Rose Dow instill in all those around them. In the few short years that the home has been part of the Brittany's Hope family, they have cemented themselves as an amazing and thoughtful partner. It is a blessing to see how far they have come.

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Mary Rose shared, *"Brittany's Hope is an important part of our daily lives and truly helps to provide the framework of our greater goal of enriching the children's lives."*

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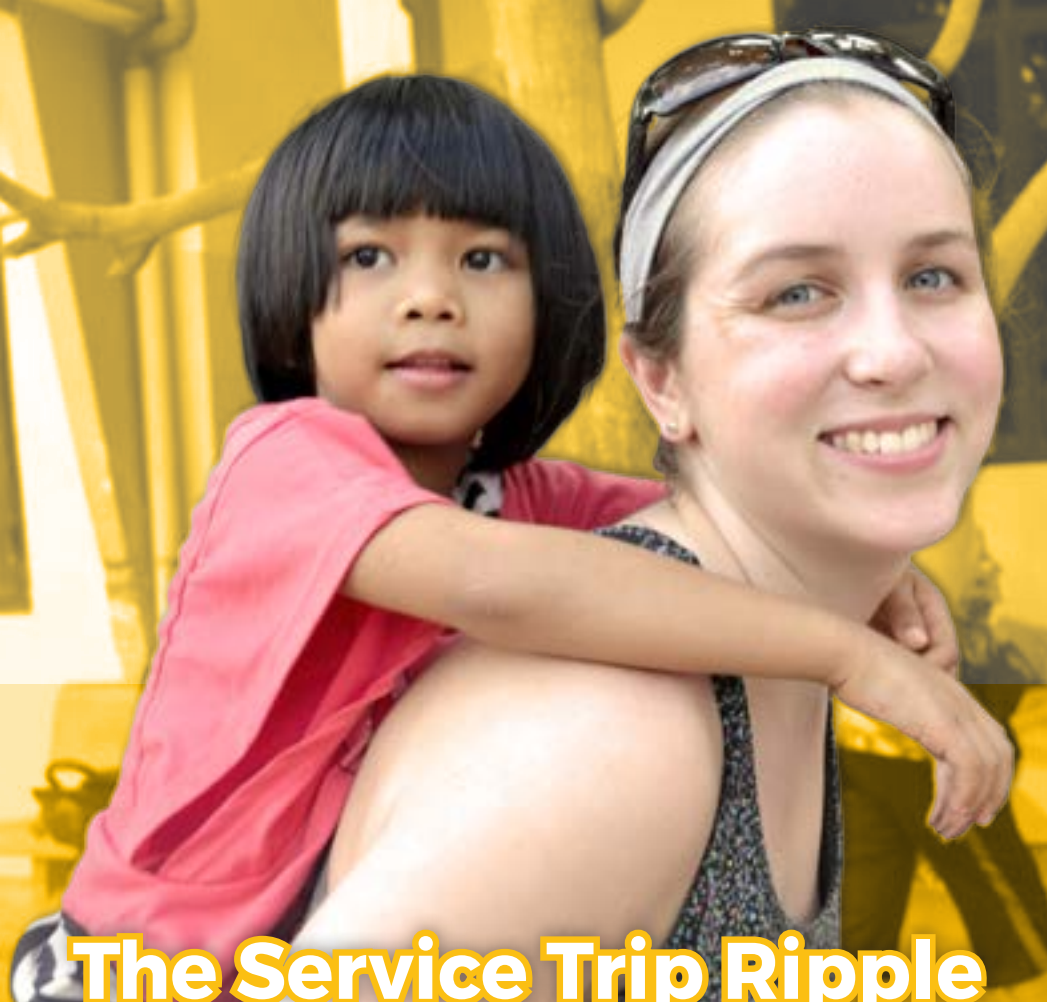
In the four years since this committed partnership began, there has been an incredible transformation at the Dow Children's Home. No longer are they solely focused on survival, but now they can also focus on spiritual nourishment for their

bodies & minds through music, laughter, and love. It is only because of you that the home now boasts brand new cozy beds, clean toilets, a water filtration system, a fence to keep them safe, and a reliable van. A brand new building, now a fun space for having family time, good meals, and a reprieve from the elements, has given this faithful family the tools to touch these precious souls. You have helped over 80 children feel the true comforts of home.

Despite all these upgrades, the bedrooms remain cramped as the children continue to grow. In a time where, traditionally, the teenage boys would transition to a different room, there is nowhere for them to go. However, with the recent purchase of new land brings opportunities to make this happen through the construction of two new dormitories.

***We are excited to work with you on their next stage of success.***





## The Service Trip Ripple

*"Sitting in a classroom, one can only imagine how their work will someday impact the lives of others. But, in Viet Nam, this imagination turns into a reality and both our lives and those of hundreds of children are forever changed."*

Liz Acampora,  
2015 college trip participant.

This May, 24 invigorated college students and volunteers will share in Liz's intense sentiment. They are eager to utilize the skills they've learned and excited to bring joy, love, and a caring touch to hurting kids.

We are asking you to be a part of this crucial and rewarding trip. Your donation will ensure that children stay in school, improve the quality of life for kids with disabilities, and provide struggling community members access to clean water and food. Every penny received, will change a child's story forever and transform their community. Make your gift today and plant the seeds of Hope in Viet Nam.

Visit [www.brittanyshope.org/trip](http://www.brittanyshope.org/trip) to learn more on how **YOU can make a difference.**

# House Of Love Flood Crisis

Our House of Love located in Cam Ranh, Viet Nam, is a peaceful, safe community surrounded by rice patties and mountains, serving as a home to over 93 children. Even with its unique beauty, this particular region is known for its flooding and its most recent disaster is by far the worse this area has ever seen.

Your gifts in the past provided a sense of security, but now that feeling is being swept away by these intense flood waters. Your donation will deliver the strength to get through their days without concerns of how the kids will be protected.

**Give today, and keep them safe.**

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***Ten years ago, you built a retaining wall to fend off and repel these raging flood waters, strong enough to overpower and carry away our youngest toddlers.***

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With each passing year of these furious waves repeatedly crashing upon this barricade, it has rapidly deteriorated its barrier of safety.

The Sisters have been losing sleep from their worries, as their fears overwhelm them about how they will continue to protect the children. **The cost is just over \$8,000 to rebuild the damaged sections of the wall** and have it fortified to withstand the constant barrage of these torrential waters.







# Home of Hope Progress

April 22nd can't come soon enough. It's the day 32 boys in Kenya have been dreaming of.

The Home of Hope that you believed in and championed will finally open its doors. The boys will be safe and on a path to create a positive future for themselves. It won't be easy, but these boys have overcome difficulty throughout their entire lives and are ready for the challenge.

They still need you. Sponsorship changes everything; it provides food, water, and shelter – but it also provides confidence,

self-worth and empowerment, too. By choosing them, they know you care. It's one of the most powerful gifts a sponsor can give.

*Sponsor today and lend your strength.*

## They Need Sponsors

By going onto [www.brittanyshope.org/sponsor](http://www.brittanyshope.org/sponsor)

For just \$35/month, you can provide essentials for kids at the Home of Hope, like:



Food & Water



Shelter & Clothing



Medical Care



Sustainable Future

**Anthony Ngige, 14** is a fun & friendly boy. Rescued from the Dadora Dumping site, he was born to an HIV+ single mother, however he is healthy. Anthony lived on the street, doing what he needed to survive. Now, he is excelling in school & thriving in the care of the center.



Anthony



Kennedy

**Kennedy Mwaura, 15** is an artistic & active child. Growing up on the streets, Kennedy's parents were impoverished and could not care for him. Now, living at the Home of Hope, his love of art is nurtured as he knows he has all the basic needs to help him thrive

**Osman Abdurahimu, 7** is a sweet & intelligent little boy. Rescued from a place called 'Eastleigh Town' he was at another center before coming to the Home of Hope, after a terrorist group raided his home village. Always imitating the older boys, Osman is beginning to blossom.



Osman

*Over 1,000 kids home & over 2,000 supported because of You!*



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Brittany's Hope

## SUPER SALE

April 8th, 2017 :: 8am to 1pm

1160 N Market St, Elizabethtown, PA



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