



#### Featured in This Issue

Since The Hope Venture began in 2009, we've been bringing you a catalog of opportunities for the toothless third grader, the retired hotel owner, the soccer mom, and the broke college student to get involved. Yep, these opportunities are for anyone, anywhere. You'll see over 20 education and health projects that need funding as well as other ways to get involved scattered throughout this catalog. On most pages you'll see QR codes to read more info on our website and to donate, you'll also find project names, countries, and even donuts (can you find all 25 of them?!). We even hope you'll experience motaj—moments of turn-around joy—by being a part of all this. It's quite incredible.



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OUR BACKPACK PROCESS

See how a project works from start to finish



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MALNUTRITION CLINIC

Learn about our newest project that is saving lives.





MEET CAROL

One person's journey to make a difference.





YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Don't believe ANYONE can make a difference? Check it out!





EXTREME POVERTY

Where it is and why we work to empower people out of it.





OUR HUB

Want community? So do we. Check out what we're doing.





SMART GIVING

Cheerful generosity paired with wise choices? Yes, please.







#### FUN FACT: OVER 1/4 MILLION NOTEBOOKS HAVE BEEN GIVEN IN BACKPACKS SINCE WE Recipients and Workers Identified STARTED IN For the Backpack Project, Charlie has a huge **Donations Given and Sent** network of pastors he knows who are working all 2009! throughout India. While they get to know their com-Our projects really couldn't be done without your help. 100% of what you give to our projects goes munities, they see children on the streets or out of 03 straight to that need (see p. 38). After we collect it school or going home hungry. These pastors make a from you, we work with our partner as to when is the list of children in need and get it to Charlie. best time to get the money into their hands, which can be different for every project. 04 Supplies Purchased and Assembled Behind the scenes, our partners work hard to go around to various shops to get hundreds of pencils, notebooks, calculators... 05 the list goes on. Then they sort it with volunteers and package Collaboration it on top of motorcycles and in boats (yes, basically planes, For each project, we collabotrains and automobiles!) to get it to each location. rate with our overseas partners MEO on the ground; we believe locals know best how to help their people. At the same 02 Distribution Day time, there's a lot of commu-Recipients are gathered and given their backpack filled 06 nication that needs to happen with a year's worth of school supplies one by one. It's to make sure we're aligning on an exciting day for them. This can be worth about a what will be accomplished. half-month's wage for some of these families! 01 Follow Up Overseas Partner Identifies a Need The distribution is really just the beginning. Pastors get to know recipients and their families and seek to get them in schools if need be. The love they extend often is so refreshing and In India, Charlie Abro asked us to help with a deslife-giving that many have come to Christ and new churches have begun. But the education perate need he saw among children in poverty. All itself is important to help empower these children to overcome some of the very real obstaour partners are local to the region, help support the cles they face. As our pastors keep in touch, we've been able to see several students go on to local community, and have earned our trust through colleges and universities. years of work and meals together.



#### 2023 Motaj Award Winner Moments of turn-around joy

O HOMEOFHOPEXOSA

Sylvia Schneider was the first recipient of our Motaj Award in October 2023. We're pumped that she heard about us from her friend Naomi and from one of our catalogs in their church. She got involved with The Hope Venture through Naomi's art sales in her garage and with her youth group. After Naomi moved away, Sylvia couldn't help but start some of her own ideas and spread HV to others. She did a bake sale for HV this year, but on top of that we learned that after seeing how even she could make a difference, she started doing all kinds of fundraisers, not only for us but also for other organizations and causes. Her heart has found the joy in giving, and she's spreading it to others. Way to go Sylvia!



We loved this text we got this year: "Yesterday I came home through the back side of my neighborhood. There were two boys, I'd guess ages 10-12. One was the lookout for potential customers. When he saw me he began to run and wave his arms to get me to follow him to the stand. I noticed they were collecting donations for "hope venter". Of course I knew what it was. I began to quiz them and they understood and communicated EVERYTHING about why they were collecting money. They told me the best was if they could raise \$50, someone else would also donate \$50. Their enthusiasm was incredible! I had a \$100 bill in my billfold that I've been asking God to show me how to use it for Him. Wow!! GOD moment for me!!! I gave them the \$100 bill. When they realized what it was, they were jumping and hollering. I told them I had been wanting to give some money to Hope Venture, and their service allowed me to do my part (something like that). So so so so cool to be a part of a very big thing at a little lemonade stand."





less than \$2.15/day

Extreme Poverty is a global metric established by the UN to identify areas with the most concerning poverty. It is currently measured by the number of people making less

# Poverty

Roughly **87% of the world's poorest poor live in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.** This is a big reason why our health and education projects are currently in India, Bangladesh, Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda.

THE POOREST IN THE WORLD ARE OFTEN

UNDERNOURISHED, WITHOUT ACCESS TO BASIC

SERVICES SUCH AS ELECTRICITY AND SAFE DRINKING

WATER; THEY HAVE LESS ACCESS TO EDUCATION, AND

SUFFER FROM MUCH POORER HEALTH."

ourworldindata.org

Where It Is and Why We Work to Empower People Out of It.

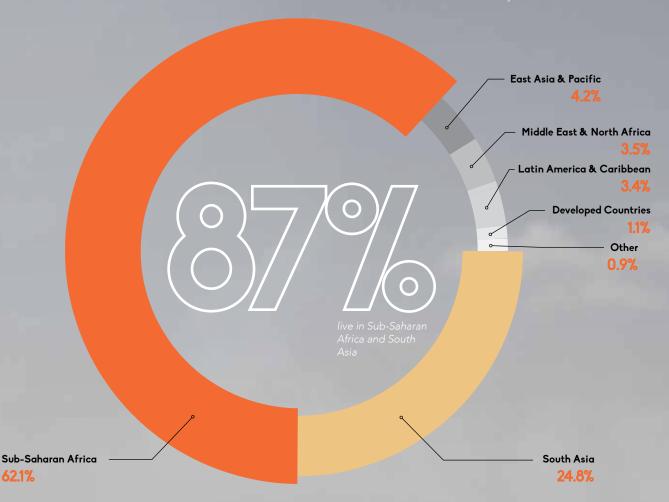
When you are lacking the means to cover even basic needs, life can begin to feel really hopeless. You feel powerless and unable. At The Hope Venture we do education and health projects to empower and lift up the hurting and broken around us.

2020 SAW THE BIGGEST SETBACK TO GLOBAL

POVERTY IN DECADES, AND THE RECOVERY

HAS BEEN HIGHLY UNEVEN."

The World Ra



## Less than 1% of the world's poorest poor live in the US

If God calls us to help the poor, and we believe He does, how can we do that if most of the desperate needs are not on our soil?

If someone has enough money to live well and sees: — brother or sister in need but shows no compassion "'how can God's love be in that person

1 John 3:17

"Now this was the sin of your sister Sodom: She and her daughters were arrogant, overfed and "concerned; they did not help the poor and needy."

Ezekiel 16:49

When I started The Hope Venture, I had been noticing so many places in the Bible that talk about how God cares for the poor and needy. I am still learning how amazingly compassionate He is! I want to be like that. Today I feel called both to share God's heart for the poor with people in my hometown and eyond as well as to urge us to live and love generously

Cynci Petersen







I sat on the cold tile floor with Sylivia and her two daughters: Shafic and Salim. We were in Uganda on the top floor of the malnutrition clinic that our brilliant partner, Dr. Emma, had started. In the room outside rang the wails of aching and hungry children, but Sylivia remained...still. Peaceful.

Shafic had cerebral palsy, which led to her being malnourished. They were from a village six hours away and were brought in by the clinic staff on one of their outreach visits. Sylivia had a total of five children and an abusive ex-husband. He had recently visited Sylivia, and she got pregnant with Salim... then he left her again with another mouth to feed

Holding back tears I thought, "It wasn't supposed to be this way. It was never supposed to be this way." Then another thought: "But Dr. Emma and his team are doing something about it. And that gives me hope."

It's been 14 months since that day, and we're excited to announce that we are furthering our partnership with Dr. Emma to help support his malnutrition clinic! This project will aid in funding the existing clinic and outreach program and hopes to impact 24,000 patients per year and prevent over 500 deaths per year—INCREDIBLE!

An incubator for babies who need intensive care. Dr. Emma and his team do everything they can to provide the most comprehensive care for their patients. *Photo by: Victoria Petersen* 

Dr. Emma's team rescues and cares for children with severe malnutrition from surrounding villages who will die within 24 hours if not helped. They're treated for everything from hypoglycemia to dehydration to infection. Most kids are just trying to survive here, but some who are able are encouraged to play to stimulate brain activity. Moms receive coun-

seling and are educated on what to grow in

their gardens to continue feeding their kids.

Dr. Emma interacting with the moms in the clinic.

Photo by: Victoria Petersen

Sylivia shared that she had seen improvement in Shafic since arriving at the clinic, and although she was nervous to return to her home situation, she also felt equipped to continue feeding Shafic from the produce in her garden. Sylivia even accepted Christ while at the clinic!

I asked Cynci why she wants to do this project, and she said, "It's the real deal. The babies are in such terrible need. I say babies because they were small, but some were several years old. One boy I was with looked like he had deep, raw burns all over his body, but they said it looked like that from the malnutrition, not from any burn. Oh my word, we have to do this project."

Oh my word, we ARE DOING this project!

Written by: Carli Huston // September 5, 2023





'I ENJOY THE FUN THINGS THEY DO OR THE DONORS, LIKE THE BASKET-BALL BRACKET AND 5K RUN." opportunities

custom to your ability

"THEY REACH OUT PERSONALLY EVERY YEAR."

I FEEL LIKE THEY'RE TELLING ME THE TRUTH AND WILL DO WHAT THEY SAY. THEY WANT US TO FEEL ENGAGED SO THEY COMMUNICATE LIKE WE REALLY ARE PART OF THE TEAM."

> EACH PIECE OF MAIL IS A FUN (BUT ALSO INFORMATIVE!) GIFT. IT'S ONE OF MY FAVORITE THINGS IN MY INBOX."

LOVE THE DONUT EMAILS FROM CYNCI AND THE ANNUAL GALA. ALSO LOVE THE VIDEO MESSAGE WITH MY SPONSORED STUDENT."

impact

direct to a real and extreme need

motaj

guaranteed to give you joy in the process

At The Hope Venture we believe people want to know they can make a real difference in someone's life. We all want to know that we can make an impact, no matter our skills, age, finances, or background.

HV is here to help you do that. We can help ANYONE

- direct to a real and extreme need, and
- guaranteed to give you joy in the process.

THEY MAKE YOU FEEL LIKE YOU ARE A PART OF THE TEAM AND NOT JUST A NUMBER."

VERY OPEN AND HONEST, BOTH ABOUT NEEDS AND SUCCESSES. WE DO FEEL CARED FOR."

We call it our Proven Process. This is our desire for anyone on the journey with us.

Why not try it? Find a way to support one of our projects that works for you, follow the impact as you watch your dollars translate to tangible help, experience what we call motaj (moments of turn-around joy), and by golly try it again! We need your help! Join us today.

Photo by: Kacie Heidbrir

I FEEL CARED FOR JUST BY READING THE EMAILS BECAUSE YOU CAN FEEL THE LOVE AND HOPE LEAPING OFF OF THE PAGES THROUGH THE WORDS OF EACH EMAIL. I TRULY APPRECIATE THEIR COMMITMENT TO THEIR MISSION AND THEIR WISDOM/DISCERN-MENT TO STICK TO IT, EVEN IF THAT MEANS MAKING HARD DECISIONS."

> "I LOVE BEING A PRAYER PARTNER WITH THEM AND SEEING HOW THEY TRUST GOD FOR THINGS BIGGER THAN THEY COULD EVER DO."

make a difference that is • custom to your ability,



## **Meet Carol**

OUR PROVEN PROCESS IN ACTION . LINCOLN, NE

Carol and her husband Mike have been part of The Hope Venture team for over 10 years. They got involved slowly, took their time in figuring out who we are and what we do, and now they're some of our biggest encouragers. Carol said it best... "My husband and I were like, 'Wow. People need to hear about this organization." That's how I feel when I'm with Carol. Like she believes in me. Both she and Mike have had numerous meals with me and expressed how I can count on them to be with us. What a stinking joy for me as the leader of this organization! To watch God burden people's hearts to be a part of this! It's an amazing sight! I'm humbled to imagine that God is working in people's lives, without me maybe even knowing, to raise up this Hub of people ready to fund these projects.

I have no idea how to get this job done, the task at hand is way beyond me, but God keeps bringing along the Carols and the Sylvias and the Naomis and the Darryls and the Dawns and the Tracys and the Staceys and the Matts and the Arlins and the Kevins and

all the people, and wow, here we are, still standing, still trusting, still moving forward to do something beyond ourselves. I don't know who God is raising up, even today, but maybe it's you. Thank you!

"MY HUSBAND AND
I WERE LIKE, WOW.
PEOPLE NEED TO
HEAR ABOUT THIS

ORGANIZATION.'"

# We will inquire & leap

#### Carol has found lots of ways to

help us. So many! She's invited everyone she can think of to our A Night for Hope. She's spread HV to her workplace where they've become sponsors for our Run for Hope and other events. She's been in videos for us. She's given financially. But lately she's been praying more than ever with us. That is such a huge encouragement to me. One of our key values is to be faith-driven: to inquire and leap. We are desperate for God to show up. We believe this is His idea and He will need to keep it going. Everything we do revolves around God showing up to love the hurting and broken. All of this will be in vain if He is not in the center of it. So we seek Him, and then we try to do what He says. Over the years we have found people who would join our prayer teams. Some get a weekly text with just one request, some get an insider's "donut" email, and Carol even joined a small group of us this year who prayed specifically for A Night for Hope each month for the entire year!

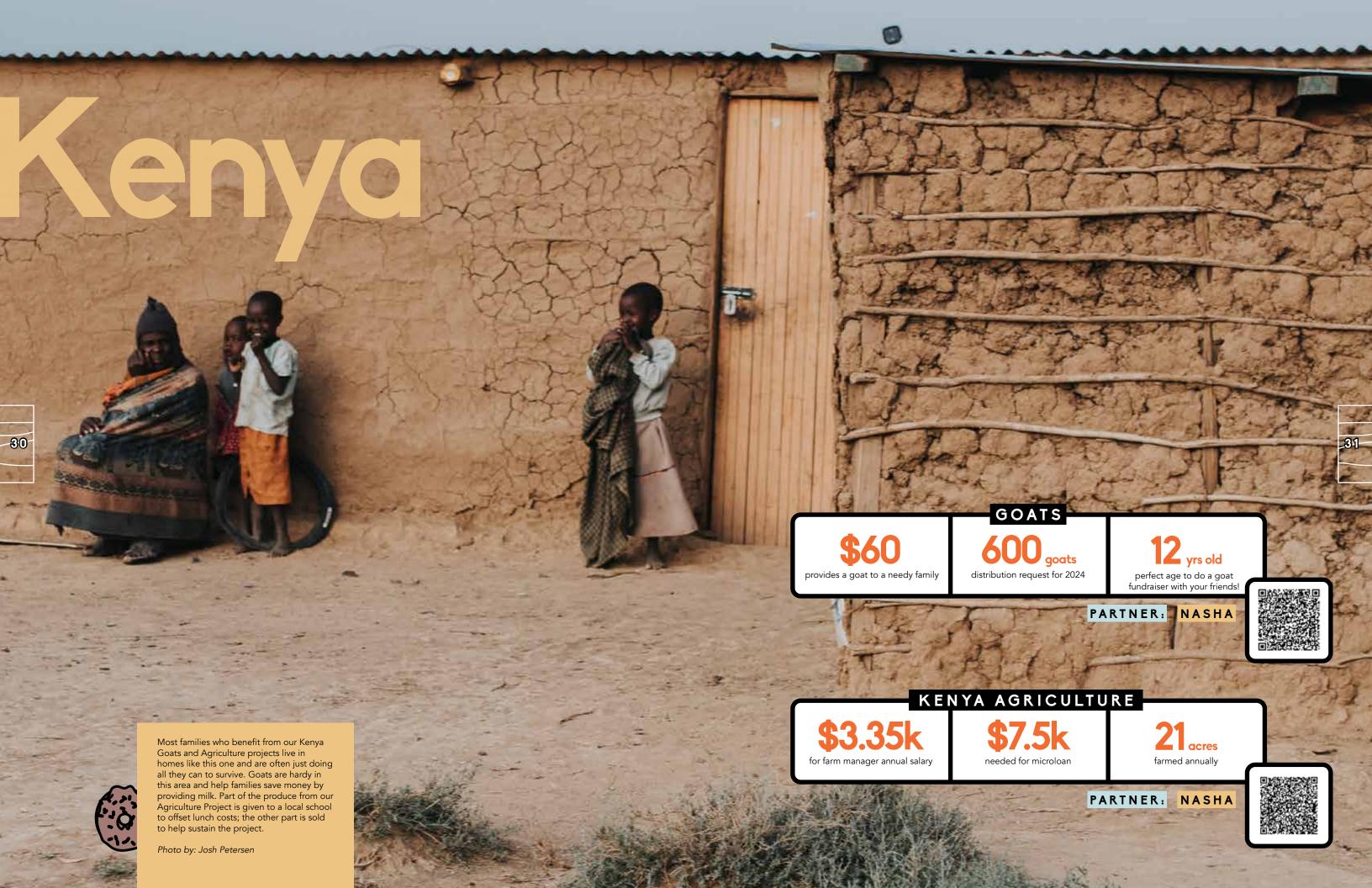
#### Helping people doesn't just happen;

you make choices to alter your world and step into someone else's. It is a task bigger than ourselves. God is raising up a fun, generous hub of donors that are changing the world with us. Real and extreme needs are being impacted. Hope and dignity are being reborn in the hurting, abused, and broken. And motaj is spreading. Come see what Carol is loving and be a part of it with us! Donate and change a life, including your



The Hansen family at A Night for Hope last year. The Hansens have helped this event grow so much! Photo by: Victoria Petersen

Prayer Team





SEEMINGLY SMALL ACT WOULD

REAP SUCH GREAT DIVIDENDS."

—Student sponsor, after going to Kenya and seeing

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

in need of scholarships

needed for students (new/slightly used)

PARTNERS: NASHA FANUEL ACTS4RWANDA (RWANDA)

STUDENT SPONSORSHIP

\$68/month cost per HS student (increased due to inflation)

country all these students are in Kenya

**HS** students hoping for sponsorship in 2024

PARTNERS: NASHA ERUS FANUEL PURITY

Photo by: Rachel Mey



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Back to the Basics

After pausing new water projects for several years, we took 2023 to research and visit some new locations. We're excited to get back to helping every human have access to this basic resource.

Turkana, Kenya, is one of the most desolate places we've seen. Many of the locals go hungry day in and day out, yet they still find a way to give what they can to help take care of each other. What a blessing for us to give to them.

TURKANA RELIEF FUND

for each distribution

34

hungry and needy of food

**Villages** we are trying to help

ERUS

PARTNER:

WATER & SANITATION PROJECTS

each needed for two more India borewells

requested in Uganda for a new area

for new tanks, toilets and maintenance in Kenya

PARTNERS: NASHA CHARLIE (INDIA) SUSHIL (INDIA)

DR. EMMA (UGANDA)





#### At The Hope Venture, we have a 100% model.

We send 100% of all project donations directly overseas to the project intended. We don't keep any of it. That means we need a separate source of funding for things like monthly rent, our electricity bill, staff payroll, and even things like sticky notes and pens. Our Backbone Team supports these operational costs, letting us send project donations right where they should be: overseas.

## Why We Do It:

We believe in **honesty, integrity, and transparency**. We want to earn your **trust**, because you should believe in any organization you give to.

Explore our website and know what you're giving to. Call or text us (402-802-8296) anytime you have concerns about your money. And if you ever regret your donation, or feel like you made a mistake, we'll return your funds. It matters that much to us. We're passionate about joyful generosity. God says He loves a cheerful giver, and that's all we want too. Motaj, baby!

**God never intended** our giving to be something we did just because we felt like we should. Offerings are meant to be from the HEART. That's the beginning of generosity: our hearts. Our hearts lead the way. They don't control us—we can still use our brains and make wise choices—but generosity is not something pulled out of us. Even IF we are asked, it's on us to let our hearts prompt us. No one has to control us in an "offering." It's not yanked, it's offered.

### Questions about planned giving?

Contact us about helping you strategize your giving (even if it's to other organizations you love as well). We LOVE helping people grow in generosity! Whether you're in high school or just graduated college and have your first real job, or maybe you're starting to look at retirement and IRAs and all those words you didn't know existed, or maybe you want to make sure you have a will set up with your giving desires, no matter where you're at on the journey, we'd love to talk!

#### THE LORD SAID TO MOSES, "TELL THE ISRAELITES TO BRING

ME AN OFFERING. YOU ARE TO RECEIVE THE OFFERING FOR ME

FROM EACH MAN WHOSE HEART PROMPTS HIM TO GIVE."

Exodus 25:1-2

Often when I've been in India I've seen beggars on the streets. Sometimes I've helped them with a little cash, more often with a little food or by purchasing something they were selling, but often I've chosen to help only by giving to organizations that are planning wisely how to distribute funds to the hurting of that country. It's actually one of the reasons I started The Hope Venture: I saw so many people wanting to give but then not being wise about HOW they gave. Even my husband and I were scammed when we started trying to help the country of India... and then again in Uganda. Helping is not always easy. Organizations work hard to figure out the best way to get real help into real hands.

For more thoughts on giving from Cynci, scan the code to see our Live + Love Generously 14-day devotional





Check out a few of our favorite books from the office library.



#### Want to help make all this happen?

We need you! Our Backbone Team funds all the backend of The Hope Venture, and we currently are in major need of building this team, from monthly donors at any amount to Thors (think thoracic spine—these are key vertebrae, people who commit to \$10,000+ per year specifically toward the Backbone Team) to Lumbars (people who commit to \$50,000+ per year specifically toward the Backbone Team). Currently we are struggling to grow our internships and retain employees with fair salaries due to this lack. In addition, our board has approved a salary increase for Cynci for the last three years, but she has failed to take it, still making less than a first-year teacher (which she was out of college 35 years ago). We only share this to be honest that we are not splurging with your funds, yet we do want to build something that will last, and this fund is a major need right now.

#### BACKBONE TEAM-2024 NEEDS

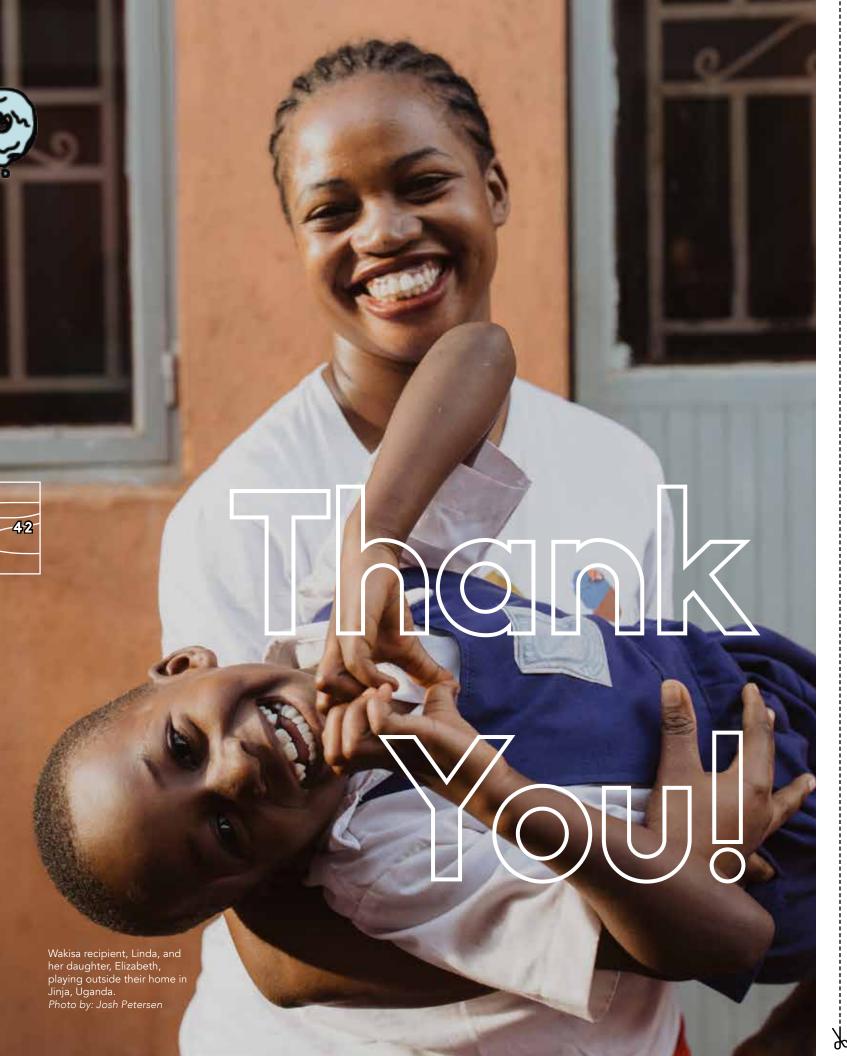
245
monthly donors
at any amount

thors
giving \$10,000+ per year

lumbars giving \$50,000+ per year







#### DONATION FORM

Use this form or donate online at thehopeventure.org.

\$ Backpacks
\$ Feeding Centers
\$ India Scholarships
\$ Jawadhu Hills
\$ India Tailoring & Computers
\$ Food for the Blind
\$ Leprosy Care
\$ Home of Hope
\$ Mt. Sinai School
\$ India Non-formal Schools
\$ Mama Kits
\$ High School Uniforms
\$ Uganda Malnutrition Clinic
\$ Wakisa Skills Training
\$ Scholarships for Teen Moms
\$ Goats
\$ Kenya Agriculture
\$ College Scholarships
\$ Student Sponsorship
\$ Turkana Relief Fund
\$ Water & Sanitation Projects
\$ Any Direct Project Need
$\square$ monthly
Don't know which project has the most need? We can send 100% of this fund overseas for the greatest need! Support it one time or become a monthly project donor!
\$ Backbone Team  monthly

COMMENTS	1
	J

LET US KNOW WHO YOU ARE			
NAME			
ADDRESS .			
EMAIL			
PHONE			
		)	

## TOTAL

\$ one time
\$ monthly

Tear out this form and mail it in with cash or check to:

The Hope Venture 315 S 9th St. Ste. 200 Lincoln, NE 68508

The Hope Venture is a registered 501c3 with the United States government. All donations are tax deductible. We will do our best to honor each request. In the event that a project becomes fully funded, we will direct the funds to the project most similar. If no preference is indicated, the funds will be directed to any direct project need.

#### RETURN ADDRESS:

THE HOPE VENTURE 315 S 9TH ST. STE. 200 LINCOLN, NE 68508 NON PROFIT US POSTAGE PAID PERMIT # 1887 LINCOLN NE

#### MORE INFO:

www.thehopeventure.org | @thehopeventure | hello@thehopeventure.org | Cynci 402.802.8296

