

THE SACRED PORTION CHILDREN'S OUTREACH *A Child Caring Ministry*

Spring 2011

*"And you...shall rejoice in all the good which the Lord your god has given you and your household. And you...shall say before the Lord your God. I have removed the sacred portion from my house, and have given it to...the orphan according to all thy commandments which thou has commanded me...I have listened to the voice of the Lord my God."
Deuteronomy 26: 11, 12, & 14*

Our Mission



The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing for the needy children of the world who are without homes or families.

Formerly known in our community as Southwood Child and Family Education Center, the organization was directly involved for 22 years in the development and operation of an early childhood program. In 1997 the organization passed the care and continuation of that program into another's hands and the founders, Craig and Jan Druckenmiller, turned their hearts to serving a more needy population of the world's children.

With a new name and a new mission, the organization seeks to provide better environments for children living in orphanages and to ultimately move them on to brighter futures through adoption.

Constructing a Vision

By Jan Druckenmiller



Dance productions, Philippine jewelry sales, and generous pockets raised the match needed to receive a grant from the Lion's Club International Foundation designated for the construction of a medical clinic in Sampaloc, Philippines. The Rehoboth Medical Clinic is the first building to go up in Phase I of a three phase expansion project. The medical clinic is part of an expanded vision for the Rehoboth Children's Home to help families rise above their circumstances and give them the capability of raising their own children. Affordable, accessible medical care, vocational training, and employment opportunities will positively impact the community's health, education and economic needs, and thus prevent children from becoming orphaned and abandoned.

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With the help of the local Lion's Club in Bozeman, MT, the match for the grant was completed in December 2010. Craig Druckenmiller, Ken Philips, Steve Van Dyken and son, Karsten, traveled to the Philippines on January 15th for a three week stay. Their goal was to clear the land, dig the footings and install the foundation for the clinic.

Upon arrival, the building plans needed to obtain permits to start construction were not yet finished and the local planning department would not allow any clearing of the land until they had received and approved the plans. The men lifted the situation up in prayer, ready to be content with Plan B which was to do some maintenance and painting on the current facility.

Word came the next day that the local planning department had changed their mind and clearing of the land could



begin. Wielding the biggest chain saw the men had ever seen, Bugar, one of the locals, began cutting trees. By 5 pm., Bugar had all ten trees cut down, de-limbed, and hauled away on three wheel tricycles to his house for making charcoal.

The following day, plans were delivered to the planning department and a go ahead



was given to begin digging the footings. However, that planning department stated that no steel could be put into the footings or concrete poured until they had approved the plans. Since digging equipment was not available, a local crew of Filipino workers were hired to dig the footings by hand. Ten workers plus the four Montana men dug fifteen holes 2 meters deep around the perimeter of the clinic for the columns. Ten more Filipinos then joined the crew to dig



trenches that intersected and connected the column holes. Some of the workers cut and bent rebar to form the framework for the columns.

Ready to pour concrete, the local planning department was contacted, but the answer was to wait for approval of the plans. Again, the situation was lifted up in prayer and word came that, if pictures were taken of the steel in the trenches, the crew could commence with pouring the concrete for the footings.

It was determined that mixing cement by hand would slow down the process given the amount of concrete to be poured. A decision was made to purchase a cement mixer. The shiny new cement mixer was like a "Mercedes Benz" to the workers and they treated it with utmost care, thoroughly cleaning it at the end of each work day.



With the concrete poured in the column holes and the footings, the planning department was contacted once again to see if block could be laid on the footings to begin the foundation walls. The answer was no, that the plans had not yet been approved because there had been a three day festival and the



department had gotten behind in their work. Two days later, the answer was still no to laying block. More prayer! By noon of that day, a building permit was in hand and the block began to be laid.

The clinic will be accessible from both the street front and inside the compound. Volumes of dirt had to be excavated to



bring the building site to street level along the front. It was a real blessing when the Provincial Governor's office sent up a front end loader and two large dump trucks to finish the job that had been started by hand!



Local men led by Eric, Rehoboth's gardener and groundskeeper turned foreman, continued work on the clinic after the Montana men returned home. This crew of local Filipinos have learned about their own hidden abilities and done a marvelous work! The Rehoboth Medical Clinic is about building a building, but

more importantly it is about expecting and witnessing the Lord's daily provisions as we live in relationship with Him and work alongside others wanting to do their best for His glory.

An operational model is being developed for the clinic that will be self-sustaining and will allow for the children residing at Rehoboth to have free medical care, significantly helping the budget for the Children's Home. The clinic will utilize local doctors, but will also be an opportunity for medical mission teams to come and serve the community of Samploc. We already have a local dentist who has committed to outfitting the dental portion of the clinic and is excited about bringing dental teams. SPCO will be participating in an **Encountering Medical Missions Conference** in Boise, ID on May 13 - 14. We hope to meet other organizations that will be interested in becoming involved with the Rehoboth Medical Clinic.

Montana Men At Work



And Play



Twining Agreement Signed



One of the conditions of the grant from the Lion's Club International Foundation is involvement in the project by a local Lion's Club in the Philippines. Tanay is a community approximately 15 to 20 minutes down the road from Rehoboth and has an all women's Lion's Club. A meeting took place on January 31st with the Tanay/Kapuso Lion's Club in which a "Twining Agreement" was signed between that club and the local Bozeman Lion's Club. A banner was hung on the front of the clinic showing this international relationship.





Bonnie's Heart Baby Home



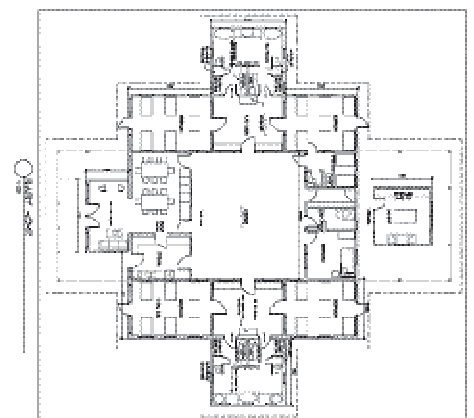
The second building that will be constructed in Phase I of the Rehoboth Expansion Project will be Bonnie's Heart Baby Home, named for the late Bonnie Burgard of Bozeman, MT. The Baby Home will accommodate 24 children, ages 0 to 3 and will be a vast improvement over the current facility in terms of being designed to adequately care for infants and toddlers. Once the Baby Home is built, the present facility will be used strictly to house the older children at Rehoboth. The Baby Home is badly needed as the Rehoboth Children's Home is constantly filled to capacity and, at times, becomes over full.

Engineering Ministries International (eMI) has estimated the cost of the Baby Home to be \$100,000. Funds have trickled in for the Baby Home over the years ever since Bonnie's passing and have been held in reserve for that purpose. However, it seemed like a big stretch to think we could ever reach that \$100,000 goal without something significant happening in terms of funding. We were very encouraged when Bonnie Burgard's parents, Dick and Muriel Hill, and Bonnie's sister, Betty Hill, of Boyce, Virginia decided to take on a capital campaign to make the Baby Home a reality. Bonnie's Heart Baby Home Capital Campaign was launched on Valentine's Day with the Hill family setting a goal of \$40,000. Five of Bonnie's family members pledged a total of \$20,000 to start and then invited relatives, friends, and former acquaintances of Bonnie to also give to the campaign.



Since February 14, a total of slightly more than \$40,000 has been given in cash and pledges to the Bonnie's Heart Baby Home Capital Campaign. That amount combined with previous contributions held in our reserve account totals over \$49,000, nearly half of the \$100,000 needed for the Baby Home!

In addition to this tremendous effort by the Hills, we are hoping to get another grant as we did for the medical clinic. A \$50,000 grant plus the \$48,000 raised to date will bring us close to the mark. Our target date for beginning construction on the Baby Home is 2012. Please pray with us that people will continue to respond to the capital campaign with gifts and pledges, that a grant will be forthcoming for the Baby Home, and that we will see the walls go up in 2012!



If you would like to make a contribution to **Bonnie's Heart Baby Home Capital Campaign**, please make your check out to the Sacred Portion Children's Outreach with a notation that it is for Bonnie's Heart Baby Home. Making a pledge of an amount to be gifted over the next few years is another option that some people find easier on their finances. Thank you so much!

New Hope Bible Church Spring Break Mission



A group of fourteen people from New Hope Bible Church in Belgrade, MT boarded a plane on March 9 for the Philippines. The short term mission team's destination was the Rehoboth Children's Home and their purpose was to help with construction of the



medical clinic that was underway. The team was led by Josh McKenzie, former construction manager for the building of the security wall on the expansion acreage. Team members ranged in age from teenagers to older adults. Everyone participating in the short term mission raised support to cover the cost of their airfare and their stay at Rehoboth. New Hope Bible

Church also held a pancake breakfast to raise money for the short term mission.

As the team settled in at Rehoboth, each team member found their niche. Those who did not feel cut out for hauling buckets of dirt or smooth coating the clinic walls with concrete held babies and entertained the children. Those who were



tech savvy worked on the sad state of the computers in the administration offices.

Upon their return, New Hope Bible Church devoted a church service entirely to hearing the results of the short term mission and the impact that the trip had on each of



the team members. One day of physical labor showed Jim Little that God had a different purpose for him being there and he quickly became "Lolo" (grandfather) to the children at Rehoboth. Carolyn Dykstra spent her days holding and hugging babies which was a great help to the caregivers, freeing them up to accomplish



other tasks. Kyra, Jordan and Jessica had kids hanging off of them from morning until night. Their tears during the sharing time in the church service showed how precious those children became to them during the ten days spent at Rehoboth.





The Powell BLOG - DAY EIGHT

As I begin to write this entry, I am flying above the north Pacific ocean en route to Seattle. The plane and it's varied occupants are sitting above a soft and buttery bank of clouds illuminated by moonlight. I was fortunate enough to get a window seat, with Jordan on my left, Jess and Kyra behind me and Chip and Jade in front. Jordan is currently passed out as are many of the other sky high travelers. There have been a few moments today where I wish we could turn this bird around and head back to our Filipino family. I know that the feeling is mutual. I will try to give you a synopsis of these moments of "yearning for a return" and what events transpired to cause this strong felt emotion.

The first occurred before we even left. We awoke around 3:30 am, and instantly set about transferring our luggage down to the vans. This helped to keep my mind off of what leaving meant and what and who we were leaving behind. Then this fact came to us in the form of some slips of paper. I do not know who gave them to Jess, Kyra and Jordan, but they received notes written to us from the various children we met and grew to love over the course of our short stay. Some were as simple as "We love you *'insert name here'*" with their name. Some had made drawings for specific people. Lolo (grampa) Jim receiving the bulk of them, Jess, Kyra, Jordan, Josh and myself were all honored to receive notes. I wanted to rush into the quiet house in which resided all of those that I hold precious and dear, and give them one last, long, teary, goodbye. One that would have probably resulted in our delay. At this point, I wanted to turn around, and we hadn't even left.

The second was in the Manila airport. We had an incredibly expedient ride to the airport. For those of you who haven't traveled outside the U.S.A., you are in for a surprise. The Philippines probably sits up there at the top as far as crazy travel is concerned. I would summarize the experience like this, Formula One with a sporting game of chicken. Yet, we never witnessed an accident, they are just amazing at driving, and you learn quickly never to doubt the driver. We were through our third security check and sitting down outside our gate and Jess and I started to talk about the kids again. At this point I wanted to turn around, and we hadn't even left the country.

The third occurred as we were given our in-flight breakfast on the Boing 747 en route to Tokyo. We ate very well in the Philippines, very well indeed! Lily Beth was the resident cook at Rehoboth and was darn good at it. I was never hungry, was able to try some new dishes and was always glad to be greeted by her smiling face. As I picked at my mushy egg and sausage combo I wanted to turn around, and my stomach didn't feel very good.

The fourth occurred as we boarded the Airbus A330 that I am sitting on right now. We were walking down the jet bridge onto the plane, me with my guitar in hand. Now I was glad to bring my guitar to the Philippines, but I have decided that I do not enjoy carrying a guitar as a my second carry-on. It is awkward in size, I get exasperated looks from the flight crew as I search for a spot to stow it and it gets heavy in long, slow moving security lines. But as I thought of this rather minor complaint that I had, I was reminded of the music that was played in the Philippines, both at the children's home and in Antipolo, ministering to underprivileged street youth. I didn't even have to play songs in another language, they knew all of our music and even called out requests that I knew from memory. They sang loud and melted away my fear and anxiety. I wanted to turn around, and my shoulder was getting sore.

The fifth and last one for now was just about an hour ago when we were talking about all of the memories we were able to capture, and the ones that we wished we could have. One such memory is of one little boy who had the most amazing air guitar impression. Seriously, this kid had mad skills! He was vary small, but was very intelligent and loved to have me read him some bedtime stories. His air guitar will forever be a cherished memory. I wanted to turn around, but Jordan was asleep on my shoulder and waking her wouldn't be polite.

So there you have it, thoughts about a time not soon forgotten. God gives us these moments in life to shape and mold us into the very people we ought to be. Sometimes you have to take a leap of faith to have these moments, Some leaps are further than others, but there is always ground to land on when when you have God calling the shots. I want to turn around, and this trip is still far from over!

Families Home with Kids!

Over the past six months, a number of families traveled to the Philippines to bring home their children. Five of these families were host families from Summer of Hope 2009 and one family hosted in 2010. The length of the adoption process varies greatly depending upon how quickly a family does their paperwork and other extenuating circumstances. The shortest time frame for a Summer of Hope adoption is approximately six months but can stretch to eighteen months in some cases. The months of exhausting paperwork and interminable waiting seem to fade and become inconsequential once the families have their children home for good.



Brent and Tonda Schroeder of Bozeman, MT arrived home from the Philippines on March 22 with Rael, age 16, Weeno, age 14 and Melrod, age 13. The boys spent four weeks with the Schroeders during Summer of Hope 2010.



The Liedle family of Corvallis, MT arrived home on November 8 with Juliette, age 13 And Jaymark, age 10. This brother/sister pair was hosted by a family in Bozeman during Summer of Hope 2009 and adopted by the Liedles.



Don & Wendy Greenfield of Corvallis, MT arrived home on November 8 With Lorence, age 15, whom they hosted during Summer of Hope 2009.



Craig Blockey brought Irish, age 11, and Cherry, age 9, home to Bozeman, MT on April 3. Craig and his wife, Julie, hosted the girls during Summer of Hope 2009.

Families Home with Kids!



Newly adopted children have a big adjustment to make to differences in language, culture, food, education systems and CLIMATE. Arriving home during the winter months creates a whole new experience for these children coming from a tropical climate. Seeing and touching snow for the first time brings lots of smiles and bundling up in so many layers feels very different from the lightweight clothing they are used to wearing.



The Anglea family of Hamillton, MT arrived home on December 17 with Analiza, age 12, Aprilyn, age 11, and Anthony, age 8. The Angleas hosted this sibling group during Summer of Hope 2009.



The Wirick family of Hamilton, MT arrived home on October 23 with Rico, age 13, Alice, age 11, and Richard, age 8. The Wiricks hosted this sibling group during Summer of Hope 2009.



The Busby family, formerly of Hamilton, MT, arrived home on March 12 with Majel, age 13, Mia, age 10, and Mika, age 8. The Busbys hosted this sibling group during Summer of Hope 2009.



Summer of Hope 2011

This will be our 9TH summer of doing the Summer of Hope program. We will be bringing children from the Philippines and Ethiopia to Bozeman, MT and the surrounding area. The children will stay with host families and experience four weeks of a fun, Montana summer. The children range in age from 7 to 14 years old. It is our HOPE that during their stay, the children will meet someone who will be become interested in adopting them. This might be their host family or another family.

Host Families and Volunteers Are Needed

We are currently recruiting host families and volunteers for Summer of Hope 2011. For more information on hosting or volunteer opportunities, go to the Summer of Hope web site:

www.summerofhope.org

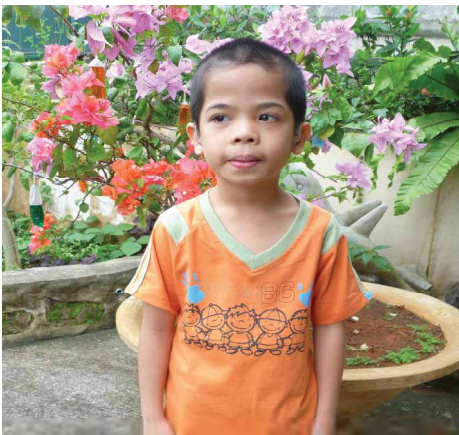
Annual Hope Walk/Run

Saturday, June 11 at 10:00 am

Bogart Park in Bozeman, MT

Saturday, June 18 at 9:00 am

Eagle Island State Park in Boise, ID



Our annual Hope Walk/Run is our main event to raise the funds for the summer program. It costs approximately \$3,500 per child which covers pre-travel costs, airfare, escorts, and other expenses associated with the summer program. Individuals, families, church youth groups, and businesses form teams for the Hope Walk/Run and solicit pledges. Although our Summer of Hope community in Boise, ID will not be hosting children this summer, they are still having a Hope Walk/Run to get a head start on fundraising for their program in 2012.



Older Child Adoption - Is It Right?

By Jan Druckenmiller

with thoughts from Amy Eldridge (Love Without Boundaries)

In the past, orphanage directors did not present the older children living within their institutions for adoption. They assumed that people only wanted to adopt babies and couldn't believe that there would be families willing to adopt children who were 11, 12, and 13 years old. It has been a slow and steady process for orphanages to realize that older children most definitely can find families through the adoption process.

Although more older orphans are now being presented for adoption, some people feel that it is wrong to make a child start over at age 13 or 14. Adoption usually means having to learn a new language and kids that have grown up in orphanages do not really understand what it means to live in a family. There is concern that the kids will be leaving friends and relationships they have had their whole lives. This is a valid concern and one that has played out in our own family. Our daughter whom we adopted from the Philippines at the age of 13 was incredibly homesick for the first year that she was in our family. Her only experience with relationships had been in the orphanage setting and she did not know how to navigate the ups and downs of relationships within a family. It took several years for her to learn to express her feelings rather than shutting down and to take ownership for her part in conflicts that arose with family members. School was also challenging and English not being her first language was a major obstacle in being able to grasp the material she was learning. During this lengthy period of adjustment, there were times when we

questioned whether she would have been better off to stay in the Philippines.

Yet, what would that have meant for her future and what does it mean for the future of other children like her? An orphaned child often faces a deep and ingrained stigma within the society in which they live. Orphans are often felt to be unlucky or even "cursed" and so they have many strikes against them when it comes time to go to school or find a job. For example, in China orphaned children are only able to attend the lowest level schools as parents who are paying higher fees for the better schools don't want their children to have to attend with "unlucky orphans". In some cultures, almost everything revolves around the family. Orphans often find life very difficult with no family ties, and they frequently live on the margins of society.

Some people question whether older children who are being adopted really want to leave their country. Most countries require children who are 10 years and older to reply to questions from a judge in the court setting upon finalization of the adoption. Social workers also talk to older children about their desires before an adoption takes place. It is questionable, however, whether a child can adequately and honestly answer the question of whether they want to be adopted. First of all, is a 12 or 13 year old really capable of deciding their future? Secondly, because adoption is often glorified in the orphanage setting, some

children may feel that saying "no" is not really a choice, as it would be met with an incredulous reaction from the orphanage staff.

In doing respite care for a friend who was experiencing some challenges with her adopted daughter, this young lady confided in me that adoption was built up to be such a wonderful thing in her orphanage and it was disappointing for her to then to experience it as otherwise. She hadn't anticipated that she would have such difficulties in her adoptive family. There is a great need to adequately prepare older children for their adoptions and help them develop a realistic picture of what some of the challenges might be.

Although we are well aware that adoption can be a less than story-book experience for an older orphan, we still hold to the premise that every child, regardless of age, deserves a chance at a family to love them. For children who have been deeply wounded, this may be their only real chance to heal. Children with Reactive Attachment Disorder may be able to survive with the coping mechanisms they have developed, but they will never know the joy of deep, trusting and loving relationships. When a family can provide the back drop of love and support and access appropriate therapies, a child has a chance to heal and develop the potential to grow up to be a healthy adult, capable of sustaining close relationships with other people. Helping children heal may, in fact, be the most compelling reason why adoption of older children can be "right".

Home Study Services

The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach became a licensed child placing agency with the State of Montana in January 2006. Our primary motivation in getting licensed at that time was to be able to take our Summer of Hope families through the process of getting provisional foster care licenses for hosting and for doing home studies for families that decided to pursue adoption at the end of the summer program. The home study is the first step in an adoption process and must be done by an agency licensed in the state where the family resides.



Over the past several years, we have evolved into also doing home studies for non-summer program families wanting to adopt. Families must use an international placing agency for their adoption process after their home study is completed. The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach has partnership agreements with a number of international placing agencies and works in conjunction with those agencies to see families

through the adoption process. The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach is responsible for conducting post-placement visits once a family is home with their child.

Nancy Brown, a single mom from Florence, MT, had made a decision to adopt a child from the Philippines and enlisted The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach to do her home study. Nancy traveled to the Philippines and

brought her 12 year old daughter, Jessica, home on September 24, 2010. SPCO has also done a number of home studies for infant adoptions.

Although our adoption work to date has been with international adoptions, The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach is also able to do home studies and placements for domestic adoptions.

If you are in need of a home study for an adoption process, it would be our pleasure to work with you. We will provide you with an information packet that outlines the steps you will need to take in having a home study completed. After filling out a preliminary adoption inquiry form, we will connect you with our social worker to begin your home study. You can contact us at:

The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach
7104 Bristol Lane
Bozeman, MT 59715
(406) 586-5773
info@sacredportion.org

Becoming a Complete Agency

The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach has been performing home studies for families going through an adoption process. However, because we are not an international placing agency, families must necessarily utilize the services of another agency once their home study is completed. SPCO is making a move to the next level of becoming a complete agency for the children and families it serves for the following purposes:

1) We develop a relationship with a family that begins with the preparation and training they must go through in order to host a child through the summer program. That relationship continues through the four weeks that the family has a child in their home. Each hosting situation is closely monitored and there is much interaction that takes place with the families through all of the summer program activities. At the end of the summer program, we work closely with those families who are pursuing adoption to complete their home study. It is at that point, however, that we must necessarily turn the family over to an international placing agency for the rest of the adoption process. The international placing agencies are typically located in another state and so all of the family's contact with the agency is via phone or e-mail. Although most families have a positive experience with the international placing agency that they use, it does lack the up close and personal touch of working with a local agency. One adoptive mom described her relationship with the international placing agency as "feeling impersonal and so remote." We would like to have the privilege of holding an

adoptive family's hand through the entire adoption process rather than passing them off to another agency.

2) The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach charges a fee to families for completion of a home study. In addition, the international placing agencies with whom we have cooperative agreements for summer program adoptions provide SPCO with a "supervised provider" compensation which is basically a redistribution of the agency's adoption fees. While this has helped in creating a small revenue stream for our General Fund, it is not enough to sustain the organization. By becoming an international placing agency, we will be able to retain the adoption fees that normally go to another agency which will make a tremendous difference for sustainability of The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach ministry as a whole.

There are a number of steps that have to be taken in order to become an international placing agency. The first step is to gain Hague accreditation status. The Hague Convention which took place in 2000 was a movement to standardize adoption practices and reduce child trafficking. More than 70 countries around the globe have ratified the Hague Convention which means that adoption agencies placing children from those countries must be Hague accredited. Through the accreditation process, agencies must show that they are in compliance with each of the Hague standards that address the overall functioning of an agency as well

as the agency's adoption services.

The second step is to become licensed in the foreign countries from which an agency wants to place children. The Central Authority of the foreign country must approve the agency as one of its adoption partners.

To become Hague accredited and gain international licensure is a very intensive and costly process. In November 2010, SPCO submitted a grant to the Cora Foundation for funding to go through the Hague Accreditation process and to become licensed in the countries with which it is involved through the Summer of Hope program. In December, SPCO received confirmation of a partial grant award of \$20,000. At that point, we asked the Cora Foundation to put our grant award on hold until we could secure the balance of the funding needed to successfully achieve our goal of becoming a Hague accredited agency.

We then submitted our grant proposal to two other foundations. Within a matter of three days, we received a commitment from the Gianforte Family Trust for the balance of the funding we needed - another \$20,000. We were blessed beyond words to have the funding that we needed to move forward with the accreditation process.

God continued to pour out His blessing on SPCO when the Gilhouse Family Foundation responded several months later with the commitment of another

SPCO Receives Grant Awards

\$20,000 grant. This additional grant will be a great help to us in ensuring that we have enough funding to complete the international licensure in the foreign countries and to provide additional staffing as we make the transition to being a Hague accredited international placing agency.

Our grant proposal contained a component for development of post adoption services which was beyond the scope of the grant request, but part of the big picture of becoming a complete agency for the children and families we serve. We feel very strongly that we have a responsibility to support families well beyond the time that they come home with their children. Support groups, further training, respite care and linking families to professional services such as therapy, counseling and neurofeedback are part of that post adoption model.

Grant writing is a fairly new endeavor for us and we stand in amazement at what God has provided. To receive grant awards from three different foundations was beyond what we had hoped for or imagined possible. We are looking forward to implementing best practices in adoption and supporting families in ways that we have not previously been able to do.

We are also grateful that the secondary outcome of all of this will be sustainability for the ministry. As an outreach organization for orphaned and abandoned children, we are adamant about keeping that ministry focus. In other words, we

do not want to become an "adoption business". The fees gained from the adoption work that we do will support our General Fund and provide the administrative support that we need to carry out all of the focuses of this ministry.

A Grateful Thanks
to:

The **C**ora
Foundation

The **G**ianforte
Family **T**rust

The **G**ilhousen
Family
Foundation

Thank you for believing in us and in our vision for becoming a complete agency for the children and families we serve. We are grateful beyond words for your generous support and look forward to all that God will do with the resources you have provided.



Our Hague Accreditation Timeline

January 2011

Apply to Council on Accreditation to start Hague accreditation process

Contract with consultant for help in completing self-study process

February 2011

Develop work plan and time line for self-study process

March 2011

Complete Chapters 1 - 2 of self-study

April 2011

Complete Chapters 3 - 5 of self-study

May 2011

Complete Chapters 6 - 8 of self-study

Board of Directors approves all newly developed policies and procedures

June - August 2011

Implement policies and procedures in accordance with Hague accreditation standards

September - October 2011

Submit self-study to COA

Prepare for site visit/evaluation

November 2011

Site visit - November 7

December 2011

HAGUE ACCREDITATION DECISION!

TOGETHER IN PARENTING

Post Adoption Prayer and Support Group

Last Thursday of Every Month
Evangelical Free Church Classroom #102
6:00 PM - Informal Sharing and Prayer Time
7:00 TO 8:30 PM - Parenting Session with Kate-Cremer Vogel, MS, LCPC

New Series for Adoptive Parents

on Attachment

Beginning May 31st

A series on attachment for adoptive parents will begin on May 31st and run through June 21st. This is a once a week class to be held on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. The attachment series will take place at The Commons (Journey Church) corner of Baxter and Love Lanes.

The series will be conducted by

Kate Cremer-Vogel

author of

**What Every Adopted Parent Needs To Know:
Healing Your Child's Wounded Heart**

Sponsored by Encompass Ministry and The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach

Encompass

This is a newly formed group composed of people from the community who have a common interest in working on behalf of children who need permanent families, both international orphans and children within the foster care system. The group also has as its focus the support of adoptive families, both pre and post-adoption. If you would like to become a part of this group, contact Tara Bradford at tara@journeyweb.net.

Recognizing Our Child Sponsors

The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach partners with Asian Hope Missionary Outreach of the Philippines in the operation of the Rehoboth Children's Home, an orphanage serving 24 children ages 0 to 8 years in Rizal, Philippines. SPCO is the U.S. fundraising arm for AHMOP/Rehoboth Children's Home, provides administrative guidance for the operation of the Home, and manages the Child Sponsorship program. While other types of gifts can be sporadic or seasonal, a sponsorship program provides a predictable and consistent source of income for the Home by which to meet the daily needs of the children for food, clothing and medical care. In addition to providing a stable income base, the sponsorship program is an opportunity for others to become involved and have a role in providing love and care that can transform the life of a child. A child sponsor can be an individual or couple, a Sunday school class, youth group or civic organization. Once a sponsor is matched with a child, they receive a photo and description of the child. Regular updates and pictures are provided throughout the year. Sponsors have the opportunity to send letters, cards and small gifts to their sponsored child.

We are fortunate to have sponsors who have been with us since the onset of the sponsorship program in 2003. These sponsors have supported a number of different children over the years as the children do eventually move on to adoption. We rejoice when that happens and love being able to send our sponsors notification that their sponsored child has been adopted. We are usually able to also share a photo of the child with his or her new family.

If you are interested in becoming a child sponsor, please go to our web site at www.sacreportion.org to the **Child Sponsorship** section and print out the **Portion of Love Sponsorship Form**. You can mail that in to us and we will match you with a child at the Rehoboth Children's Home. Monthly sponsorship payments can be made by sending a check through the mail or through Paypal. Our web site has a Child Sponsorship donate button that will take you directly to Paypal. Sponsorships can also be set up as an automatic debit each month from your bank account through Paypal. We will be happy to give you more information on how that works.



***Carmen Van Middendorp of
Rock Rapids, Iowa***



***Ian & Gill Sayers of
Leicestershire, UK***

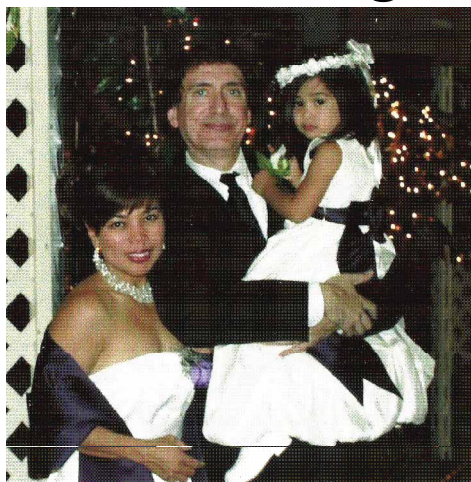


***Stan & Linda Tenney of
Belgrade, Montana***



***The Naurta family
of Victoria, Australia***

Recognizing Our Child Sponsors



***Norman & Maria Shaw
of Granada Hills, Canada***



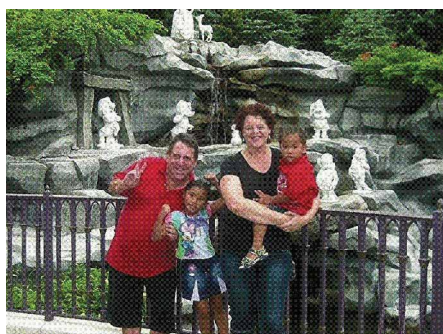
***The Bruckner family
of Bozeman, Montana***



***Roger & Mary Ann Van Dyken
of Bozeman, Montana***



***Jim & Helen Zarifiou
of South Australia***



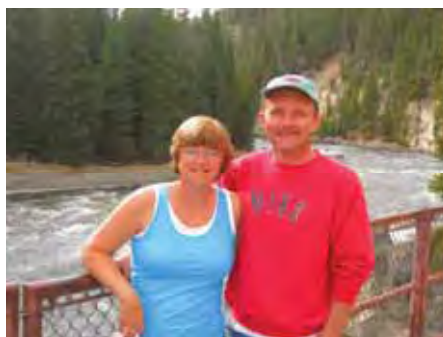
***The Dunne family
of Queensland, Australia***



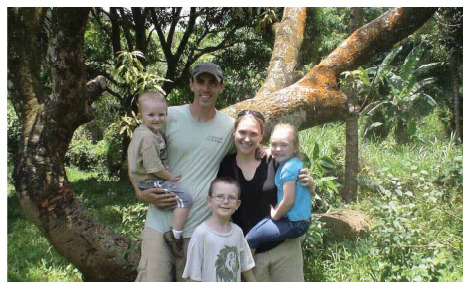
***David & Mary Siewert
of Bozeman, Montana***



***Charles & Carol Cleveland
of Forest City, Iowa***



***Loren & Sandi Van Middendorp
of Bozeman, Montana***



***The McKenzie Family
of Belgrade, Montana***

***The Evangelical Free Church
Sunday School Class
of Bozeman, Montana***



***Gail Hendrickson
of Manila, Philippines***

Sponsors



***The Aardema Family of
Doon, Iowa***



***The Lee Family
of Great Falls, Montana***



***The Cole Family of
Livingston, Montana***



***Albert Shemwell
of Staffordshire, UK***



***The Warren family
of Victoria, Australia***



***Brent & Jessica Powell
of Bozeman, Montana***



Steve Van Dyken and his son, Karsten, of Bozeman, Montana had the joy of meeting Nikki, their sponsored child, when they went to Rehoboth in January as part of a work team to begin construction on the medical clinic. Steve and his wife, Kris, have sponsored various children at Rehoboth for the past six years. Steve and Karsten were able to spend time with Nikki and get to know her which was so special for them and for Nikki.

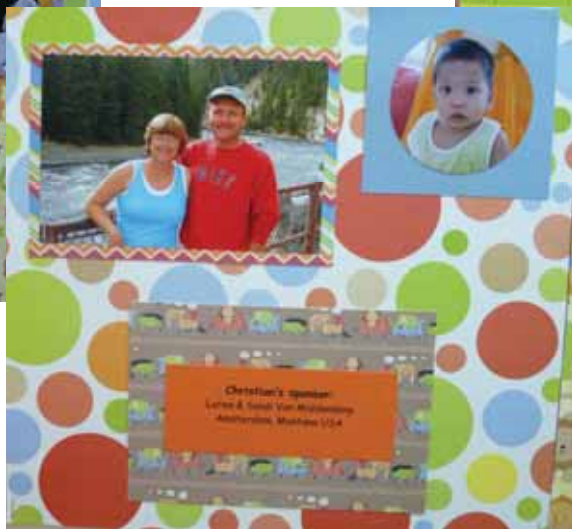
Other sponsors for whom we do not have photos:

Marvin & Deb Erickson of Bozeman, MT
Jon & Ceci Goodman of Ennis, MT
Calvin & Kathy Braaksma of Bozeman, MT

Joe & Ali Nardinger of North Pole, AK
Larry & Deborah Schulz of Gallatin Gateway, MT
Eric & Connie Wooten of Bozeman, MT
One anonymous sponsor

Enjoying Their Sponsors!

One of my goals for my visit to the Rehoboth Children's Home in March was to redo the child sponsorship bulletin boards in the two houses. They had become rather tacky looking with only a few sponsors represented on the boards. Prior to leaving, I sent out letters to all of our child sponsors requesting that they send a photo of themselves for the bulletin board. I took fun scrapbooking paper with me and set to work to create a much expanded and more attractive display of the very special people whose monthly and annual gifts make it possible for us to care for the children at Rehoboth. I worked out of sight of the children in the Rehoboth office on each of the "pages" for the bulletin board that included a picture of the child, their sponsor and the sponsors name and where they live. The day the bulletin board went up, the children were very surprised and excited to see the pictures of their sponsors. We had to be careful to explain to the children what a sponsor is so that they wouldn't become confused and think the photos were of their future adoptive families! I also asked the caregivers to do a little "lesson" with the older children using a map or globe to show them where their sponsors live.



Erecting Stones

By Jan Druckenmiller



Raising funds is definitely the hardest part of running a non-profit organization or ministry. Yet, it is probably the most profound way that we see God's hand at work and through which we receive confirmation that His intentions are to sustain this ministry. It is hard at times to not be discouraged when the financial future looks bleak and we often experience short term memory loss in not remembering God's faithfulness in the not-so-distant past. In reading through the Old Testament, it seems that the Israelites experienced this same type of memory loss even though they witnessed some incredible miracles along the way during their wanderings. It was probably for that reason that God had them erect stones in locations where He had undeniably shown His faithfulness and care for His chosen people. During the months of December and January, God made His presence known to us in the Sacred Portion ministry through some significant events and we found ourselves erecting our own stones of remembrance lest we forget what He had done.

It began in December when I was at the Rehoboth Children's Home in the Philippines. The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach provides oversight of the Home's financial operations so much of my time there was taken up with reviewing the accounting and establishing a budget for the coming year. It was obvious that Rehoboth was going to finish out the year with a shortfall and budget projections for 2011 showed that pattern continuing. The picture became even bleaker when we received word that the annual contribution from one of the Home's main funders had come in at \$15,000 less than anticipated. I felt like the widow of Zarephath from the story in I Kings 18: 8 - 24. She knew that she only had enough flour and oil left to make one small meal for herself and her son and then they had no more. She was planning to give up and die. Likewise, I could see that we did not have enough resources to carry us through the coming year. It's a scary place to be when you have 28 children that need to be cared for and you start wondering what is going to happen to them when the flour and oil run out. Fe, the on-site administrator of Rehoboth, came into my office and we cried in each other's arms, the burden for the care of the children falling so heavily on both of us. Yet, there was nothing we could do except pray together and commit Rehoboth back to Him. After that day of tears and total discouragement, we saw God begin to fill the jar that appeared to be empty, just as He perpetually filled the jar of the widow through His servant, Elijah. Donations came in from Rehoboth adoptive families around the globe including an amazing gift of \$10,000 from one family. A contingency of friends in Australia committed to raising funds in 2011 and another friend in California committed to the same. Siloam Christian Ministries, an organization in the UK that has supported the Rehoboth Children's Home since its inception, informed us that they would be devoting their booth at a four day Christian Resource Exhibition to the promotion of Rehoboth. All of this was confirmation that God does not want us to give up and that He will be faithful in sustaining the Rehoboth Children's Home through 2011 and beyond.

In addition to the blessings that were poured out for Rehoboth, we experienced evidences of God's continued provision for The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach. This included year end donations, pledges of monthly support and other surprises. One day, Jenny Mead, our Summer Program Coordinator, came out to the house to talk about Summer of Hope. We were discussing how many children we might be able to bring this year, possible communities for hosting, etc. I felt tired just thinking about raising money again for Summer of Hope! Shortly after Jenny left, a friend of SPCO showed up at the door and handed me an envelope with checks and cash totaling \$5,000 along with the promise of an additional match of \$4,000, all intended for this year's Summer of Hope program! The money came as the result of a spur-of-moment concert called Rock for Hope that took place in December. We knew nothing about this until the day the money was delivered into our hands (see more of this story on page 21).

In December, we finally met the match for the grant from the Lion's Club International Foundation for construction of the Rehoboth Medical Clinic. This was the result of the 'T'was the Night Before Christmas performances put on two years in a row by Main Street Dance Theatre in conjunction with the Bozeman Lion's Club as well as individual donations and another surprise visit to our house of someone handing us a check for \$15,000!

We were excited to receive confirmation from a foundation in December for partial funding of a grant proposal for going through the Hague accreditation process (see more of this story on page 14). Yet, we knew that we could not be successful in achieving our goal unless we had the full amount of funding needed. We did not want to even accept the funds from this foundation until we secured the rest of the funding. On December 29, I mailed out copies of the grant proposal to three other potential funders, asking them to consider helping us with the balance of the funding needed to move forward with this project. A few days later, one of the foundations responded that they would support our request for the additional money needed. Later, another of the foundations responded with the same and it turned out to be a triple blessing!

The stones of remembrance that we erect along the way become part of our faith arsenal against attacks of discouragement. It is helpful to put this in the form of a written time line, documenting the ways that we see God taking care of this ministry. Then, when we become anxious, we can remind ourselves with concrete examples (stones) of how God has provided in the past. When we see the flour and oil dwindling in the jars, we can have assurance that God will replenish those jars with exactly what we need to carry on.

Rock for Hope

Ever heard of the Daylights, an up and coming Christian rock band? Neither had we until a friend of The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach informed us that they had raised \$9,000 for Summer of Hope 2011 through a concert put on by the Daylights! Hot on the music scene, this band was coming through Montana last December between shows in Spokane and Denver. They happened to have an open night and Marc and Sherrie Pierce, who are music lovers, arranged to have them play a small private show at the Sacajawea Inn. When the band agreed to do this, it occurred to Marc and Sherrie that, in addition to inviting some friends to enjoy the music, they could also make it

a fund raiser for Summer of Hope. Marc and a business partner, David Kiersznowski, decided that their respective companies, Big Sky Carvers and Demdaco would match whatever individual contributions were received the night of the concert. This spur-of-the-moment event generated more than a third of our fundraising goal for Summer of Hope 2011! We are very grateful to the Daylights for giving an evening of their talent and for the Pierces for orchestrating this event. We offer our thanks to all of those who attended and gave a donation at this impromptu concert and to the businesses that matched the contributions. This was a very unexpected blessing!



Rock for Hope Contributors

David Kiersznowski/Demdaco
 Mark & Sherrie Pierce
 Elizabeth Cooper
 Akin International, Inc.
 Red Rover Idea Factory
 Raymond & Kristan Basta
 Martin & Jennifer Coleman
 Evelyn Keller
 Christopher & Emily Richardson
 Denver Bryan
 Nancy Pierce
 Mike & Dianne Atwell
 Jon & Kristen Duchon
 Lauren & Bridger Pierce



OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Gifts Received from 10/16/2010 - 4/18/2011

General

Gordon & Gay Gallup
 Evangelical Free Church
 CR Bard Foundation
 Otten Foundation
 Nikki Robbins
 Gabor & Susan Benda
 Fidellity Charitable Gift Fund
 Barbara O'Neil
 Steve & Kris Van Dyken
 Jeff & Pam Thompson
 LexisNexis
 Michael & Kathy McKenna
 Manhattan Bank
 Fred & Jan Schweitzer
 Ronald & Peggy Hagen
 Calvin & Kathy Braaksma
 Marcella Phillips
 Richard & Nancy Winget
 Stever & Christie Schlumbohm
 Richard & Muriel Hill
 Reability, P.C.
 Craig & Valerie Deeney
 Loren & Heather Cantrell
 Bruce & Joan Meyer
 William & Melissa Wagner
 Allied Electrical Services
 Mike & Joni Westfall
 James & Patricia Tostevin
 Corny & Sharilee Kroon
 Williams Gallery
 John Christiansen
 David & Molly Thompson
 Carla Waters
 Robin Zetzer & Steven
 Fladhammer

Rehoboth General

Joy Pierce
 Beverly Brander
 Voula Concengco
 Scott & Maggie Walters
 Gabriel & Asuncion Boratgis
 National Christian Foundation
 David & Cristina Rios
 Coleman Charitable Trust
 William & Kathryn Webster
 Robin Zetzer & Steve
 Fladhammer
 Tim & Gina Leonhardt
 William & Melissa Wagner
 Paul & Shari Reasoner
 Valeria Luschi
 CJ & CR Janzer
 Melissa Melvin
 Leif & Elizabeth Wickland
 Duke & JoAnn Brekhus
 Tim & Lorna Hayes
 Steve & Donna Koch

Rehoboth Expansion

Bozeman Lion's Club
 Michael Burgard
 Tim Hart Real Estate
 Martin Eskijian
 Ken & Holly Van Kirk
 Mark & Becky Dockter
 John Christiansen
 Junkermier, Clark,
 Campanella & Stevens, PC

Bonnie's Heart Baby Home

Richard & Muriel Hill
 Betty Hill
 Margery Hill
 Robert & Sharron Hill
 Nancy Hall
 Phyllis Wolff
 Robert & Cheryl Darling
 Ron & Micky Huisenga
 Rick & Carla Radovich
 Paul & Mary Darling
 Arthur Darken
 Frederick & Barbara Kenney
 Thomas & Lori Vassar
 Andy Yousko
 Robert & Kathleen Braaksma
 Carl & Helen Schuster
 Vernon & Bernice Tourtelotte
 Ken & Brenda Easton
 David & Evelyn Dickey
 Thomas & Glory Sullivan
 Beverly Zbryowski
 Nydam's Landscaping Co.
 Capt. Hal & Doris Miller
 Steven & Christine Carpenter
 Joseph Ahern
 Craig & Valerie Deeney
 Mary MacFarlane
 Miriam Rasmussen
 Dr. Christian & Elizabeth
 Knudsen

Summer of Hope

Darrell Conklin
 Suzi Trebas
 Rebecca Lockie

We are very grateful to those who responded to our letter this past November expressing our need for regular support for our General Fund. A number of people committed to monthly, quarterly or annual giving. It's wonderful to know we can count on this support for 2011!

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Gifts Received from 10/16/2010 - 4/18/2011

Adoption Assistance

Randall & Heather Begger
 William & Cheryl Berberet
 Thomas Family Chiropractic, Inc.
 Jon & Jennifer Pinczes
 Russell & Marlene Kilpatrick
 James & Cheryl Hampton
 Caleb & Laura Walker
 Brandon & Stephanie Edwards
 Howard & Cherie Elmer
 John & Joan Gilbertz
 Stanley & Vicki McMahan
 Melanie Ployhar
 Lyn Ryman
 Heather Susemihl
 Arbor Medic, Inc.
 Edith Evanson
 Gary Green
 Kenneth & Debora Sauskojus
 Donald & Rebecca Lloyd
 Darren Murchison
 James & Sally Howard
 Donald & Karen Funke
 Hardin & Company, Ltd
 Rod & Jessica Spencer/
 Northwest Center for Dentistry
 Melissa Quigley
 Andrew & Maverly Gaspari
 Jack & Bonnie Millar
 Donald & Lorinda Brewer

Child Sponsorship

David & Loann Aardema
 Jerry & Shawn Cole
 Marvin & Deb Erickson
 Rick & Janet Lee
 Roger & Mary Ann Van Dyken
 Loren & Sandi Van
 Middendorp
 Larry & Deborah Schulz
 Joseph & Alyssa Nardinger
 Calvin & Kathy Braaksma
 Clayton & Gail Wells
 Carol Cleveland
 E. Free Sunday School classes
 Tony & Rhondda Dunne
 Jon & Ceci Goodman
 Josh & Brit McKenzie
 Sandra Felts
 Stan & Linda Tenney
 Jeff Van Dyken
 Andrew & Michelle Warren
 Norman & Maria Shaw
 David & Mary Siewert
 Steve & Kris Van Dyken
 Ron & Donna Nauta
 Larry & Nancy Johnson
 Jim & Helen Zarifirou
 Phil & Cindy Bruckner
 Ian & Gill Sayers
 Freddie Mac Foundation
 Matching Gifts Program
 Brent & Jessica Powell
 Darrell & Lee Micken
 Keith & Julie Heidecker

Annie's Fund

William & Kathryn Webster

Short Term Mission

We simply do not have room in this newsletter to acknowledge the 125 people who donated to the New Hope Bible Church Spring Break Mission trip to the Philippines to help with the construction of the Rehoboth Medical Clinic. People gave generously to help with the cost of airfare and room and board for the team of 14 people. Being able to go on a short term mission can be a life changing experience and we are grateful that so many were given that opportunity through the generous support of others.

Thank You!

The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach is now a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability. ECFA is an accreditation agency dedicated to helping Christian ministries earn the public's trust through adherence to Seven Standards of Responsible Stewardship. ECFA provides accreditation to leading Christian non-profit organizations that faithfully demonstrate compliance with established standards for financial accountability, fundraising and board governance.



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Ramona Linabary, Jenny Mead, Tim Hart, Cal Braaksma



Construction began on the Rehoboth Medical Clinic in Sampaloc, Philippines in January. Funding for the clinic was provided by a grant from the Lion's Club International Foundation and matched by efforts of the local Lion's Club in Bozeman, Montana. The medical clinic is the first building to go up in an expanded vision of supporting families in the Philippines.

Inside This Issue:

- CONSTRUCTING A VISION
- BONNIE'S HEART BABY HOME
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
- NEW HOPE BIBLE CHURCH
SPRING BREAK MISSION
- FAMILIES HOME WITH KIDS!
- SUMMER OF HOPE 2011
- OLDER CHILD ADOPTION
- HOME STUDY SERVICES
- BECOMING A COMPLETE
AGENCY
- SPCO RECEIVES GRANT AWARDS
- POST ADOPTION SUPPORT
- RECOGNIZING OUR CHILD
SPONSORS
- ERECTING STONES
- ROCK FOR HOPE CONCERT