

THE SACRED PORTION CHILDREN'S OUTREACH

A Child Caring Ministry

Spring 2015

"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. We seek to provide better environments for children living in orphanages and to ultimately move them on to brighter futures through adoption. The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach relies on contributions from individual, businesses and corporations in order to carry out its mission.

If you would prefer to receive our newsletters through email, please notify us by sending a message to: info@sacredportion.org. Thank you.

It's a Boy!

By Jan Druckenmiller

The tarpaulin sign had barely been hung on the outside of the building announcing the opening of the Rehoboth Medical Clinic on March 1st before several patients came on consults and two more were admitted for overnight stays, one a child needing IV re-hydration and the other a teen who delivered a baby at 11:18 pm. The first baby to be born in the birthing unit of the clinic weighed a little under 4 pounds and measured 15.75 inches in length. We are thankful for a safe delivery for both the baby and mother and are thrilled to have this wonderful facility finally being utilized.



Construction of the Rehoboth Medical Clinic was begun in 2009 with a grant received from the Lion's Club International Foundation. These funds were matched by the local Lion's Club in Bozeman, MT. Funding was also received from a number of dentists for outfitting a dental room with a dental chair, x-ray machine and other dental equipment.

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The model of operation chosen for the clinic is to invite local doctors with different specialties to rent space and hold office hours in the clinic. The Rehoboth Medical Clinic will maintain a core administrative and nursing staff to service the doctors. Thus, this project has taken a “build it and they will come” approach.

A first connection was made with a local midwife whose lying-in clinic was facing closure by the Department of Health due to the inadequacy of the physical space. A widening of the road in front of her clinic was also threatening loss of the front of her building. After some discussion and negotiation, it was agreed that the Rehoboth Medical Clinic would absorb her practice and put her, along with her team of midwives, in charge of the birthing wing in the clinic. Her role can hopefully be expanded in the future to provide education programs in women's reproductive health care.

Now that the clinic has its first occupant, we are hopeful that other local medical professionals will follow suit so that a pediatrician, a general practitioner and a few specialty

doctors can be housed within. In addition to services provided by local doctors, the vision for the clinic includes inviting teams of medical doctors from the U.S., Australia and within the Philippines to hold medical missions.

The clinic will provide accessible and affordable health care to the surrounding community of Sampaloc as well as the indigenous people living in the mountains. Being able to come to a clinic to deliver a baby will help to reduce infant and birth mother mortality that can occur with unassisted births and after delivery complications.



Midwives in delivery room of medical clinic

Next Steps for the Rehoboth Medical Clinic:

- Work with Department of Health on meeting requirements
- Hire core staff
- Develop MOAs with local doctors
- Open primary laboratory

Prayer needs for the Rehoboth Medical Clinic:

- Finances for clinic operation
- Additional midwives
- Night custodian
- Participation by local doctors

Donate to the Rehoboth Medical Clinic:

www.sacredportion.org



HopeFull Connections

Adoption Services

HopeFull Connections is the name we have given our adoption program which is under the umbrella of the Sacred Portion Children's Outreach. As a licensed child placing agency with the state of Montana, we provide the following services:

- Home studies for international adoption from any country
- Post placement and post adoption supervision

⇒ **The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach is also able to function as an international placing agency for adoptions from the Philippines.**

⇒ Hague Accreditation

The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach is currently one of only two Hague accredited adoption agencies in the state of Montana. Hague accreditation means that, as an agency, we have met stringent standards intended to protect children, birth parents, adoptive parents, and to prevent child trafficking and other abuse in the adoption world. The Universal Accreditation Act which became effective July 14, 2014 extends the same safeguards provided by accreditation to orphans who are being adopted from countries that are not part to the Hague Adoption Convention, to their adoptive parents, and to their birth parents. This ensures that adoption service providers are all held to the same federal standards, no matter from which country a child is adopted.

To start an adoption process, call us at (406) 586-5773.

For more information on our adoption services, visit our web site:
www.hopefullconnections.org



Two Lovely Ladies

Summer hosting, winter hosting, Christmas hosting seems to be expanding into getting children connected with families at any time of the year! The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach in coordination with the Intercountry Adoption Board of the Philippines, Catholic Charities of Baltimore, MD and Hand In Hand Christian Adoption of Gardner, KS has brought a group of five children to the U.S. for four weeks of hosting during the months of February and March. The group is comprised of a sibling group of three who are being hosted in the state of Washington and two lovely ladies being hosted by families in Gillette, WY. The children traveled on February 24 from Manila to Seattle with the sibling group being retrieved by their host family at the airport there. Our coordinator from Wyoming, Haley Gray, flew to Seattle to then accompany Erica and Danica to Billings, MT and on to Gillette.

Erica and Danica will have an opportunity to experience daily life with a family for four weeks and receive some extra special love and attention. They will also have the chance to meet (in a very discreet manner) potential adoptive families. With Erica in particular, who is already 14 years old, we hope that the right match of a family will be forthcoming who would have the skills, understanding, patience and faith needed to help this young lady develop family relationship, adjust to another culture and find a future in a country far from her own. It's a tall order but we have come to count on God's miracles.

Erica

Erica turned 14 years old this past December. She resides in an orphanage several hours from Manila where she was admitted at the age of 11 years. She is one of the older girls in the orphanage and is described as sweet, silent and obedient. She shows affection to her caregivers by hugging and talking with them. In a group setting, she is quiet and lets others do the talking. Given her age, Erica is very particular about her appearance, making sure that her clothes and hair look good.



She has a knack for fashion and loves putting different outfits together and accessorizing. Erica is responsible, fulfilling her chores without reminder and initiates helping the caregivers. She enjoys playing with the other girls including pretending



to be Disney princesses or Wings characters. She also likes listening to music and involving herself in activities where she can dance and sing. Erica will occasionally have a squabble with the other older girls and, when this happens, she tends to isolate herself in her room. Erica attends a tutorial program within the orphanage and is making progress academically. Erica is staying with the Martinsen family of Gillette, Wyoming. The Martinsens have a 220 acre ranch 20 miles outside of Gillette. Erica will have plenty of opportunity

to be around animals and to learn to ride a horse! The Martinsen's two oldest children are grown and out of the home, but Erica will have their youngest son, Carson, age 11, to keep her company.



Danica

Danica is 12 years old, having just had a birthday on January 20. She resides in an orphanage in Manila with children of similar age. Danica was originally admitted to the orphanage at the age of 5 when her birthmother passed away from TB and pneumonia in the hospital. Danica was then recovered by her grandaunt whom she lived with for the next few years. However, her grandaunt readmitted Danica to the orphanage in 2011 at the age of 8 years old as she was no longer able to care for Danica due to her elderly age.

During both her previous and current stay in the orphanage, Danica has presented as a sweet girl having smooth relationships with the staff and her peers. She is responsible in caring for her personal



hygiene needs, follows the rules of the home, and is respectful and polite. Her favorite food is potato and she wants to be a teacher when she grows up. Danica is currently in grade 4 at a local elementary school.

She is described by her teacher as diligent and hardworking. Although she may have some delays in certain areas such as her verbal skills, she is making steady progress with her academics. Danica will be spending four weeks with the Porter family of Gillette, Wyoming. She will have plenty of entertainment in this busy household with the Porter's five younger children.

Celebrate Adoption!

For the past 18 years, an annual adoption celebration has been held at the Capital building in Helena, MT during the month of November which is National Adoption Awareness month. The adoption celebration consists of families finalizing their adoptions in the old Supreme Court chamber followed by a reception in the Rotunda. On November 15, 2014, Bozeman held its first ever local Celebrate Adoption event. The MT Department of Health and Human Services, Encompass Orphan Care, Lutheran Social Services and The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach teamed up to host this event held at the Commons at Baxter and Love Lanes. The honorable Judge John Brown presided over the finalization of four adoptions and the re-finalization of five adoptions while relatives and friends of the adoptive families gathered in the audience. Each of the families took the stage, answered questions from adoption lawyers, and were awarded with the legal rights and responsibilities of adding a child (or two) to their family. The adoption proceedings were followed by a lunch of chili donated by Wendy's and a bouncy house for the kids.

This was a meaningful event for The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach as four of the families re-finalizing their adoptions were home study clients of our agency. It was rewarding to see the long and arduous process of adoption culminated for these families and to know that we played a part in that.

The plan is to make this an annual event in Bozeman as it is a wonderful way for families to complete the legal process of adoption in a venue of celebration and acknowledgement of what they have undertaken.



SPCO Client Families Celebrate Adoption!



Josh and Rebecca Oberly re-finalized their adoption of Selam, age 15 and Filmon, age 11 from Ethiopia.



Peter and Naomi Moore re-finalized their adoption of Wren, age 3 from Ethiopia



Joel and Kristin Sayre re-finalized their adoption of Chet, age 2 from China.



Zach and Kelli Tondre re-finalized their adoption of Ayda, age 7 from Ethiopia

An Adoption Prayer

O God, the Author of all life, who gives us abundant blessings, we thank you for all your gifts. We thank you for adopting us as your children through the finished work of Christ. You have taken us into your house and made us members of your kingdom. You have given us the privilege of calling you "Our Father." We have undertaken your work of adoption. Thank you for granting us this privilege and responsibility. Let us love these children in response to your love for us. Let us give our lives to them as part of our gratitude to you. Let us show them by our words and deeds that you are faithful, holy, loving, and just, the only true God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



Giving Hope to Orphans Art Auction a Success

This past November, we held a fundraiser for The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach - an art auction featuring the work of orphans, adoptees and locally known artists. Having never done an art auction before, we did not know what to expect. But looking at this event in retrospect, we can say that of all of the fundraisers we have done in the past, this was by far our favorite. Why? Because the children who were the purpose of this event were front and center, and the event spoke of VALUE and WORTH. We honored these young artists by nicely framing each of their pieces and beautifully displaying their works alongside a picture and profile of each "artist." The space on the silent auction bid sheets that normally shows the item's retail value listed the value of the children's art as "PRICELESS."



Six-year-old Regina's water color painting of a chicken went for \$650 in the live auction which, in Philippine currency, is 29,075 pesos! Even though Regina cannot comprehend that amount of money, she can feel proud in seeing the photo that was taken of the winning bidder holding her painting. For Regina, who has never had a family to admire and hang her art work on the refrigerator, this recognition speaks volumes to her. Not only that her painting has value but that she, herself, is highly esteemed and worthy. That is what this ministry is about - showing children that they have value and worth even though their pasts often speak a different message of abandonment and abuse. We are all about rescuing these children of WORTH and giving them the life they deserve, a life where they can be

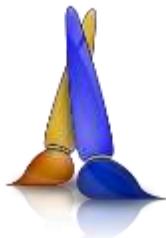
healthy and happy, receiving the nurture, love and guidance of a family as they grow and mature.



We plan to make the Giving Hope to Orphans art auction an annual event and hope that you will join us this coming November!



Carol Barmore, Bozeman artist, and her son, Paul, traveled with us to the Philippines in March and spent time doing art with the children at the Rehoboth Children's Home. We have some fun pieces created for our next art auction!



Embrace Families

The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach has teamed up with Encompass Orphan Care ministry to address the need of post adoption support in our community. SPCO has run a monthly support group for adoptive parents for more than five years but the attendance has not grown to the level that we had hoped for. We attribute this to the difficulty of parents being able to get supper on the table, off to a meeting and home in time to get kids to bed. So, we have come up with a more "family friendly" approach that serves the entire family.

Embrace Families meets the 2nd Thursday of every month at the Commons (Baxter and Love Lanes) in Bozeman. We start with dinner at 6:00 pm that is provided at no cost to the families. At 6:30 everyone proceeds to their appropriate group for a session lasting until 7:30. With this new "family friendly" format, we have seen attendance more than double over what it was. Seems like we're on the right track!

Something For Everyone!

Parent Support Group facilitated by Steve Wellington, MSW, LSCW. This group utilizes psycho-educational topics to provide valuable information on parenting adopted or foster children. The topics are a springboard for parents to discuss issues of relevancy that they are encountering in parenting their children.

Teen Adoptees Support Group facilitated by Donna Kelsch, PHD. This group is for adopted teens and provides an opportunity for them to share their thoughts, feelings, and struggles in being an older adoptee.

Teen Sibling Support Group facilitated by KC McLaughlin, MSW. Siblings of adopted children undergo a lot of adjustment to new family dynamics, shared attention and other matters which they get to discuss in a secure, confidential setting.

Art Therapy for Elementary Kids facilitated by Mary Gammill. This is a fun opportunity for children to be creative and express themselves through art.

Child Care for children ages 0 to 5.

For more information on Embrace Families, call Tara Bradford at 599-5863 or Jan Druckenmiller at 586-5773

LIVE SIMULCAST!

EMPOWERED

To Connect

CONFERENCE

Equipping you to bring hope and healing to adopted and foster children.

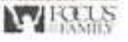
Featuring the trust based parenting methods from the TCU Institute of Child Development

 Dan & Terri Coley <i>Show Hope</i>	 Diatren Jones TCU	 Dr. Karyn Purvis TCU	 Dr. Amanda Howard TCU	 Henry Milton TCU	 Alan & Debra Jones PACT
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APRIL 10-11, 2015

Location: The Commons at Baxter & Love /Time: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Register for your free ticket: <http://etcbozeman.eventbrite.com>
Sponsored Locally By: Encompass, SPCO & LSS

CEU credits available for professionals

 
In association with: 

Bonnie's Heart Baby Home One Third to Go!



Bonnie's Heart Baby Home has been up and running since October, 2014. The staff have been thoroughly enjoying this space designed for convenience and comfort in caring for Rehoboth's youngest children. It's a building filled with the happy sounds of play, colorful and fun. We are anxious to finish the remaining one-third of the building which will include two additional sleeping rooms, bathroom/changing area, playroom and isolation area for sick children. The Baby Home will serve 24 children at full capacity. With the two wings operational, we will be able to separate the younger babies from the toddlers and design their environments accordingly.

We are estimating that it will cost approximately \$20,000 to finish the remaining portion of the Baby Home. We currently have \$10,000 of that amount so we are half way there! If you would like to contribute to the finishing of this wonderful facility, please go to www.sacredportion.org and click the Donate button and then select Bonnie's Heart Baby Home. You can also mail a check to:

The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach
2137 W. Durston, Unit 26
Bozeman, MT 59718

Please include a notation with your check that it is for the finishing of Bonnie's Heart Baby Home.

Thank you!

The Sacred Portion Children's Outreach
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**BONNIE'S HEART
BABY HOME**

Our Mission:

*"Creating Better Environments and Brighter
Futures for Children Without Families"*