

*The Precious  
Gift of*  
**HOPE**



**SOHO**

SAVING ORPHANS THROUGH HEALTHCARE AND OUTREACH

*Growing Hope • Changing the Future*

[www.saving-orphans.org](http://www.saving-orphans.org)

# An Invitation To You

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You're invited to explore the many ways you can change the future for a whole generation of children who are literally dying for lack of HOPE. Saving Orphans through Healthcare and Outreach is on a mission to heal, educate, feed, nurture and empower a generation of HIV/AIDS orphans and vulnerable children who need HOPE: Healthcare, Opportunity, Purpose, and Empowerment if they are to survive and thrive.



This Gift Catalog is your key to their opportunity.

## About SOHO

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SOHO was founded in 2016, beginning with teams of volunteers who conducted large scale feeding programs and mobile medical clinics. Today, we have educational facilities and a 1082 acre mountain farm, INTSABA, where we will change the future for the orphans and vulnerable children of Eswatini.

SOHO's programs are funded by compassionate donors who are willing to embrace and become part of this mission through your financial support, skills and abilities and your prayers.

We are committed to using your contributions as you specify, and should the financial goal for 2023 be met, we reserve the right to use any remaining funds where the need is greatest.

SOHO is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization registered in the states of Washington and Indiana.



## Table of Contents

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About SOHO .....	page 2
Education .....	page 4
Food Program .....	page 6
Operational Assistance .....	page 8
Safe Homes .....	page 9
Clean Water .....	page 11
Agriculture .....	page 12
Your Invitation .....	page 16

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# Why We're Here

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What were the incidents that changed the trajectory of my life, motivating the switch from corporate America to missionary and advocate for orphans and vulnerable children?

It was my meeting with four children between the ages of 12 and infant. I remember the eyes of the 12 year old as she distractedly rocked the screaming baby in her arms while her younger sibling glared at the world with venomous eyes. A half-naked little boy played in the sand nearby and then there was that baby. The sight troubled me enough that I asked to visit the following day. It was then that I discovered that the child was also mother, and that she had been spirited away from prying eyes.

I would like to say that was my only incident of children with lost childhoods but it was not. The beautiful mountainous kingdom of Eswatini in southern Africa has a population of just over a million, but more than 100,000 orphans and vulnerable children.

The HIV/AIDS pandemic that devastated the child-rearing population also created a flood of children heading households. Over 37% of the population is under fourteen years of age and 70% of children are classified as orphaned and vulnerable. The highest concentration of child-headed households is concentrated in the Shiselweni Region where SOHO's INTSABA farm is located.

The last remaining absolute monarchy in Africa, Eswatini is still one of the countries with the highest HIV/AIDS prevalence in the world, with 32% rate among the age group 18 to 49 and 27% overall. According to the World Food Program, close to 60% of the population live below the poverty line of bare survival. The recent COVID pandemic battered an already struggling economy built primarily on tourism. But, the greatest needs also create the greatest opportunity for meaningful service. Join us as we touch the lives of children and youth without a future, with the gift of HOPE.

- Cynthia J. Prime, SOHO CEO & Co-Founder



## Our Program Model

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SOHO works to transform the lives of children of child-headed households and those at risk of abuse and exploitation through a holistic, Christ-centered program to heal, educate, nurture and empower them to be self-sustaining.



### Health

Physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual



### Opportunity

Learn academically and life skills



### Purpose

Pursuit of attainable goals



### Empowerment

Overcome diversity, Embrace opportunity

# Education

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Children who don't have birth certificates are not admitted into school. That poses a challenge for orphaned children who may or may not even be certain of their birthdate! Children also are left out because of school fees, poor performance, lack of access or early pregnancy. The reasons are many, but the opportunities are few.

Through a collaboration with Andrews University's School of Education, Grigg's University's distance Learning Program is arranging to provide academic education from K through High School as well as ESL, Math Literacy and other skills at Hope Discovery Learning Center, Nhlambeni. Currently the school serves a population of 50 Special Needs children and preschoolers, many of which are slow learners.

When their program ends at 1:00 p.m. after lunch, the school will become a skills training center where through distance learning the opportunity gap that excludes children who are being turned away from school, can be bridged.

- \$38 per month (\$456 per year) to cover school fees, and meals at Hope Discovery Learning Center
- 100 Scholarships needed
- \$95 per month (\$1,140 per year) to pay for Teaching Assistants (6 Teaching Assistants are needed)



## Learning Through Technology

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Nell is at home, after having her first baby at 14, due to trafficking.

Faith had two children while in her teens, but she is not allowed into school because she has no birth certificate.

Mbali is seven. She has no parents and no documents to enable her to enter school.

There are scores of children in a depressed part of Sidvokodvo in need of a way out of the poverty that drives them to trafficking.

We already have a sponsor covering costs of the educational resources. The students will learn English and Math literacy, and there will be a Head Start program for Primary School children and job readiness skills for teens and older youth.

- \$1,862 needed to get the school equipped with technology to facilitate Distance learning. Training can begin as soon as the school is equipped
- \$6,000 needed for 30 computers
- \$925 for a large screen monitor

# A Skills Center

Mphumelelo Similane has four sewing machines crammed into the one small room in her home. She teaches women to sew products that SOHO can use to generate income. She has a list of products that she would like to produce and an even longer list of girls waiting to learn valuable craft making skills, but there is no place to conduct the training.



SOHO owns two 40 ft. containers that can be converted into a Skills Training Center where sewing, weaving, knitting, woodwork and mechanical skills can be taught.

These skills will enable the many jobless youth in the community to have an alternative to illegally growing marijuana (known as dagga).

- \$10,000 per container conversion to skills training classroom
- 2 containers to be converted
- \$500 for desk top computers (we need 3)
- \$819 for printer

# Looking For A Miracle

Here is what we want to accomplish with your help in 2023:

- Schooling for children left behind
- Food for empty stomachs
- Skills to alleviate poverty
- Safe homes to shelter and nurture children at risk of human trafficking
- Agriculture to grow food to feed orphans and to help support them
- Sponsorship for basic health care and urgent needs of vulnerable children
- Life skills to help break the cycle of abuse and poverty

*SOHO works to transform the lives of children of child-headed households and those at risk of abuse and exploitation through a holistic, Christ-centered program to heal, educate, nurture and empower them to be self-sustaining.*



# A Life Saving Food Program

Many orphaned and vulnerable children live on one meal a day, which they receive at school when school is in session. Very often the meal is rice or mealies (corn meal) and beans which is sometimes enriched with ground meat or soya chips. It is not unusual for children to faint in the classroom because of hunger.

The Marekamp is a slum community, where the needs are even more acute. It is a place where traffickers prey on young children because their needs are so extreme.

SOHO plans to feed 200 children, five days per week at the start. A location is being sought to begin the program and contributions are needed for food.

- \$200 per day (\$1,000 per week) for 200 children
- \$50 per day will feed 50 children



## Healthcare

With limited access to healthcare, the health of orphaned children is always at risk. Dental care is limited or inaccessible. Often health issues are not addressed until an emergency occurs and hospitalization is necessary.

SOHO has arranged for the shipment of a 20 ft. container, converted into a clinic. This will be staffed by a full-time nurse, with periodic visits from a physician. The clinic will serve the children, and be a blessing to the community. Health education can prevent diseases that result from poor sanitation and impure drinking water.

We can make a difference in the communities we serve with your help.

## Our Core Values

SOHO is committed to

- Compassion & Equity
- Love & Respect
- Health & Safety
- Empowerment

- \$5,000 to ship the clinic container to Eswatini
- \$750 per month for a nurse
- \$50 share in cost

# Camps For Kids

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One way to discover what is going on in the lives of hurting children who have been abused or who may be living in abusive environments, is weekend camps.

Girls and boys have separate camps with same gender mentors and camp managers. They get an opportunity to get away for an enriching weekend, where they can be assessed, fed, nurtured, counseled and inspired.

These camps cater to as many as 70 to 100 boys and as many girls. The entire group gets together for a special program of music and spiritual nurturing. The weekend inevitably ends in sports activity.

- Budget for Weekend Camps: \$5,000
- Split into shares of \$50.00, per contributor



# Growing Hope

*SOHO's service model focuses on Health of body, mind and spirit, Opportunity to learn and grow, Purpose for life, and Empowerment to achieve and overcome,*

# Playground

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Toys, unless donated by kind strangers, are usually not available to brighten the days of children who live in constant crisis. But, these children are ingenuous, making footballs from garbage bags and jump ropes from lengths of string. Games are often developed that engage hands and feet.



A playground is greatly needed, both for children with disabilities, and others who need the benefit of good exercise and socialization. We would like to replace odd objects and car tires with safe, modern playground equipment that is certain to improve motor skills and bring smiles of joy to the faces of many children.

- Budget for playground equipment: \$8,500
- Split into shares of \$85.00, per contributor

# Operations: Help Us Get The Work Done

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Many contributions are earmarked for specific needs and the donor's preference must be respected. Only non-designated funds can be used for operational expenses such as office rent, salaries for our modestly compensated staff, and the overall management of the operation in the US.



## Where The Need Is Most Urgent

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This month, we came to the rescue of a gang rape victim we nurtured through her childhood. The vicious rape resulted in the need for medical procedures for which there were no funds. Ignoring the need could result in the loss of a young, productive life.

A donor sent the funds for the medical lifesaving medical procedures. An SOS call came from a community where over 100 children were starving.

Emergency funds had to be tapped to meet the need.



## Electricity

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Currently, solar panels are the only source of electricity. The panels on the farm house are old and limited in their use. Additional panels and a wind turbine are needed to build capacity as usage grows. The summer months are particularly challenging as the rains are heavy and sunlight is more limited.

- \$11,260 for 9 panels needed plus one battery
- Share \$48 per month
- \$3,500 for wind turbine and controller, which adds electricity generation on bad weather days

- \$4,500 per month (12 Months needed)
- Split into shares of \$45, per contributor

*Please donate where the need is greatest  
so emergencies can be addressed*





# Safety And Security

When dealing with a population of children who have known abuse and who have not had a safe place to call home, security is of primary concern. Security stations will house trained personnel who live on the premises and who will be responsible for all safety matters affecting the assets, residents, workers and volunteers on the farm.

## INTSABA: Safe Homes

The population of Eswatini is young, with more than one third under the age of 15, and about one third between 15 - 29 years of age. As a result of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, the number of children heading households is estimated at 10% of the orphan population. The traditional safety net where grandparents look after children, is frayed and inadequate as the numbers of vulnerable children exceed their meagre resources and their physical ability in this polygamous society.

33% of female children in Eswatini experience sexual abuse which takes place most often where they live by perpetrators who are in their neighborhood. Abuse is perpetuated by poverty as silence is sometimes the price of food and resources to survive.

For many years, SOHO has sought foster housing options for destitute children in abusive situations, but stability and consistent parenting have been difficult to achieve. Our prayers have been answered with INTSABA, a 1082 acre mountain farm in a pristine, beautiful area of Shisleweni Region just half an hour's drive from the city of Nhlngano.

Since acquiring the farm, over 400 orphans from the area have been fed with INTSABA grown produce during the COVID shut down. With schools back in session, groundwork is underway to build the first 9 houses in pods of three.

There is already a waiting list of children who need a safe home.



Two security cottages are needed at two different locations; one close to children's housing and one in the valley protecting access from roving cows and animals, as well as poachers.

- \$5,000 for a small cottage (2 needed)
- Split into shares of \$50, per contributor



# Building On A Mountain

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One of the blessings of a mountain farm is the spectacular beauty of the site from every direction. Breathtaking sunrises and sunsets are the normal order of every day, and the air is free of contamination.

However, unlike laying a foundation on a flat plain, the construction sites require grading and preparation. This affects the cost of every home.

The benefits of a safe, secure, healthy environment that can breathe fresh life into children destitute of hope, far outweigh the sacrifice of the few extra dollars needed to guarantee their safety and happiness.

The Swazis call the farm Canaan, not only because of its natural beauty, but also because it is rich in natural resources.

God has blessed us with this awesome landscape, and we are grateful for this haven of hope to serve children who otherwise would have no future.



## Security System

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An electronic security system is also necessary so that surveillance can be provided for the entire property.

- \$30,000 will build a three-bedroom home that can house 8 children and a house mother. (Need 9 homes for 72 children)
- Share 10 contributions of \$3,000 each
- \$3,500 for site preparation



The fertile soil on the fringes is a temptation to marijuana growers, some of whom are grannies, who may try to grow a speedy crop on the fringes of the property.



- \$3,500 for a CCTV system with solar power lights operating 24 hours a day
- Coverage for the full expanse of the farm is necessary to protect the children and the property

# Clean Water

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At a mobile clinic some time ago, a little boy was brought to me by a concerned neighbor because his urine was bloody. The speculation was that the child might have Bilharzia's disease because of other related symptoms. The water he drank without boiling was foul.

At SOHO projects, clean water is a priority. That is why wells are being drilled to provide an adequate supply of water at INTSABA Farm.



## A Kitchen And Multi-Purpose Building

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Research has been done by an expert who has identified locations where bore holes or wells are likely to be most productive. The current supply of water is inadequate to serve the children who will occupy the first homes, therefore a well is a priority.

- \$12,000 for a hole boring machine with compression pump and panels
- \$415 for large storage tanks (6 needed)

A kitchen is needed to meet the needs of the growing population at the farm. Meals need to be prepared for the orphan residents, staff and visitors who come to provide valuable services.

Although there will be a simple traditional cook house where Grannies can prepare the morning porridge for the children, a kitchen where fresh produce can be washed and stored, and where meals for larger groups can be prepared, is a necessity. The communal lunch and supper meals will be prepared here as well as meals for meetings, group trainings, etc.



- \$35,000 for a building, adjacent to the kitchen (multi-use) to serve as church, classrooms, assembly, special programs, etc. until other buildings are added.

# Transportation

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Because of the topography of the mountain farm, and the miles to be covered over 1082 acres, several vehicles are needed. All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) allow staff and security personnel to get around. A 4 wheel pick up will allow for easy mobility and ensure that emergencies can be addressed promptly.



- \$29,500 for two All Terrain Vehicles (pick up)

# Agriculture

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The farm is going to be a source of financial support as well as food at INTSABA. Leveling land and digging holes can be slow and arduous. We are thankful for a recent donation of 1000 macadamia nut trees, but it makes even more apparent the need for farming equipment.

A back hoe would be helpful, not only with the agriculture program, but also to prepare the construction sites.

- \$70,600 for a back hoe with 4 wheel drive
- \$2,300 for a heavy duty mulcher which will enable us to garden organically



# Truck Needed

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There is need for a truck as we currently rely on a Toyota SUV without 4 wheel drive. When there is rainfall, commuting is challenging because of lack of a suitable vehicle.

- \$45,000 for a truck with 4 wheel drive
- Share 10 contributions of \$450 each



# Working Together

*We work together to mend brokenness, open closed doors of opportunity, inspire future vision and build inner strength with the capacity to succeed.*

# Help To Build Children's Homes

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Additional construction equipment is needed to build homes at our mountain farm.

An eco-block brick making machine has already been provided by a generous donor. A conveyor is needed to help to expedite brick making.

- \$6,392 will pay for the needed conveyor belt

## Children In Waiting

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There are any number of reasons why children end up in need of a safe home. One child on our waiting list is an orphan. Her mother died giving birth to her and there is no trace of a father.



This baby girl was brought to a sister who was located living in the city. She has one small child of her own from a forced sex encounter in Primary School, and another pre-schooler from a consensual relationship in high school. She is trying desperately to find ways to support the children already in her care. One more child is one too many.

Abuse is unfortunately all too common. Children that encounter abuse or abandonment are brought to the attention of humanitarian organizations such as SOHO by various social service agencies. Sometimes they are foundlings, children who are homeless or on the run from abuse.

We have waited first to find a location on which to build safe homes, then through two years of COVID disruption. Finally, we are able to begin creating homes for the children we long to serve. We invite churches, schools, organizations, individuals to help us build a room if not a building. Together, we can be the village saving and raising the children who are lost on the fringes.

# A Miracle Of God

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It is always affirming and encouraging when God performs an act of grace that confirms beyond doubt that He is leading in the mission to bless orphans and vulnerable children who are so close to His heart. For example, how is it possible that one staff member misses a bus and, as a result, sits next to a passenger who was unexpectedly transferred from her shuttle bus, only to discover that her seat mate would be the first key to finding land on which to build the Children's Village?

The miracles between the prayer and acquisition of the 1082 acre INTSABA mountain farm are many. Here is one more miracle to celebrate God's Providence.

Twelve years ago, Cynthia Prime missed a connecting flight on her return from South Africa. The airline had booked one flight too close to the connecting flight and Cynthia was stranded in New York. Tired and anxious to get home, she approached the desk praying for help, only to be informed that there were no flights available. She prayed and pleaded with the attendant to help her find a solution.



The clerks searched until one unfilled seat appeared on a flight that was about to leave. There was a flurry of activity as they checked if the seat was indeed available.

Cynthia ended up hurriedly entering the full aircraft with passengers waiting impatiently to leave, hoping for a quiet flight home.

She sat next to Virtral Goode, a woman on her way back from a visit with friends to Monaco. Soon the silence between them was broken by conversation, and in time, a deep friendship developed as Virtral Goode became one of the most dedicated volunteers at SOHO.

Upon her invitation, Cynthia visited Greater Works, the small Christian Church Virtral attended, where Pastor Thomas Johnson is committed to doing the work that He believes God calls all His children to do - helping those who are underserved and vulnerable. His church began donating \$100 per month to support SOHO's mission.

This November, Pastor Johnson retired from full time ministry after 55 years of service, including his work as a school teacher and police officer. The small church building where he preached was sold and a donation of \$100,000 given to SOHO to build a 'pod' of 3 orphan houses at INTSABA. He expressed how happy he was to see that God would use his humble efforts for such a great blessing. The miracle continues to unfold.

Will you be part of this love story God is writing?



# A Chance To Change The Future

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We have a chance to do more than feed and school. We can change the future for a generation of children who can help to create a brighter tomorrow for themselves and the generations that will follow. What a difference it will make to have healthy, educated Peer Leaders working in their communities! You can help inspire youth to embrace the hope-filled life and world that God desires them to have!

This great work requires partners, volunteers, and skilled missionaries. Everyone can play a part by giving, sharing, supporting, praying and providing for Eswatini's orphans and vulnerable children.

The needs are great but every gift regardless of size makes a difference. Be a part of our mission to raise a village of confident, compassionate, educated, creative children who know how much God loves and values them.

They can be a positive, productive influence in their communities and their country, because you cared enough to make their transformation possible.

On their behalf, we say,  
"Thank you!"

Every child deserves, a safe home, loving care, a chance to learn and grow.

INTSABA mountain farm is a sanctuary dedicated to changing the future for at-risk children and their community.



# How Can You Engage?

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Schedule our Traveling Exhibition at a Gallery in your community. We are blessed with a professional mobile exhibit of photos from our coffee table book, **THE HOPE SEEKERS**.

This can be a weekend event focused on a mission, or a month long exhibit with the public invited to attend.



It is difficult for people to care when they lack of knowledge of issues and opportunities for social impact.

You can schedule a speaking engagement with our CEO, [Cynthia Prime](#), an international speaker and author.

Presentations include these and other topics:

- The rejuvenating power of compassion
- Alleviate poverty; abolish abuse
- Change the future for children without childhood, together
- Engaging today's youth to become the Change Agents of tomorrow
- Hope Rising! Making this Possibility a Reality
- Cynthia's journey

Other ways to support SOHO:

- Participate in Mission Trips
- Do you have Agricultural or Building expertise?
- Can you conduct Vacation Bible Schools or youth camps?
- Plan a Benefit Concert or special event
- Organize a Prayer Group to pray for the mission of SOHO
- Engage your Women's Ministries group in an empowerment program for girls

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