

Dear Sponsors and Donors,

As we draw near Thanksgiving and Christmas, we are very thankful that God continues to keep His mighty hand of blessings on LCW/LCP. We are grateful to you, our donors and sponsors, for helping us continue the mission God has given us.

Because of you, we can minister to over 6000 people, changing their lives through sponsorships, programs helping over 200 children with disabilities, 2 soup kitchens feeding 135 hungry children five days a week, 5 residential dorms housing 72 children coming from the streets or abusive and neglectful homes, preschools giving 120 children a foundation for future schooling, livelihood teaching parents how to make a living, college work scholarship program providing an opportunity for 155 students to fulfill their dream for an education, and most importantly the peace and faith program teaching them about Jesus. Without you, this would not be possible!

We are very grateful to each of you who believe in this ministry and give so lives can be changed every day. God multiplies your gifts providing a way for LCW to show love, give help, bring hope, change lives, and make a difference in this world.

LCW still needs \$100,000 before the end of the year and desperately needs your help to cover the budgets for this year. Please donate to Urgent Needs which covers any shortages. May God bless you for caring and sharing to help us change the world one child at a time.

Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas to you and your family,
Glenna



Little Children
of the world, inc.

A Founder's Reflections: Dr. Bettie Elwood



At 94 years old, Dr. Bettie Elwood, also known as Nanay, is the last living founder of Little Children of the World. Her co-founders Dr. Doug Elwood, Dean Houk, Peggy Houk, and Luther Carroll have all passed away in recent years, but their legacy lives on through the program they helped create.



Bettie fondly remembers her experiences in the Philippines and the early days of the ministry. During their visit, Carmenia and her daughter Carmela, who was sponsored by the Elwood Family from preschool through college, were able to visit with Nanay. Carmela now has her Master's degree and is a teacher here in the US. It was a beautiful reunion of old friends where they reflected on the impact of the ministry that was started 38 years ago with just a few little boys sleeping on the streets that has now grown to sponsor over 925 children and the HELPS programs and reaches over 6000 people through various aspects of the ministry.

In amazement of the current scope of the ministry, Bettie said, "I'm just so glad we could get it started." Her humility and vision continue to shine through. Without the founders' willingness to answer God's call, how different would the world be? How many people would still be waiting for an opportunity to escape from the grips of poverty?

Carmenia reminded Nanay that she saw something in her before she even had an education. Nanay once told Carmenia, "If you have the heart, you can serve. God will equip you." Since then, Carmenia finished her college education through the college program and since then has been the Executive Director of the entire Philippine program for 27 years! Even today, Carmenia holds onto these prolific words when she is overwhelmed or needs a boost.

The story of LCW's foundation and how it continues to flourish is a reminder that God will work through you if you just allow Him. All 5 founders were retired from their primary careers when they started the journey of starting LCW, Carmenia was a beneficiary before she took on her working role at LCP, and God continues to use ordinary people to do His work. Whatever God is calling you to do, you are equipped for it in Jesus' name! We only need to say 'yes!'



Little Children of the World

P.O. Box 37
Barnesville GA 30204
Tel/Fax 770-358-2771
www.littlechildren.org

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Barnesville GA 30204
Permit No. 22

Return Service Requested

In This Issue:

- A Founder's Reflections
- Holiday Giving Reminders
- A New Gifts Policy
- Peace & Faith this Christmas Season
- Carmenia's Visit across the US Recap
- The Impact of Health and Housing
- The Most Powerful Gift



Give online:
littlechildren.org



Give by phone:
770-358-2771



Give by mail:
Use enclosed envelope



Sponsorship:
\$35 per month

We Need Your Help This Christmas!

We need \$100,000 before the end of the year to be able to reach our goals and fund all the programs. Your gift to Urgent Needs today will be the most powerful gift to ensure your contribution is being used to its highest potential!

Carmenia's Visit across the US Recap

Did you know LCW has supporters in 35 US states and 13 different countries? We are amazed with how we have grown, but we still want to prioritize personal touches and knowing our sponsors and donors as people, not just piggy banks. We love being able to visit you and thank you in person for all you do for the ministry and your sponsored children! This year, we wanted to prioritize meeting as many of you as possible.

Carmenia Benosa, LCP Executive Director, spent most of September and all of October 2024 with Brittany Foster, VP of International Relations, traveling the eastern portion of the United States visiting with supporters, sharing about the ministry, and recruiting new sponsors and donors. They were incredibly blessed to be able to stop in Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, Maine, Tennessee, Georgia, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Maryland over the 6 week trip for engagements with people like you! **It was a very successful trip resulting in 50 sponsorships and over \$15,000 raised for 2024 with much more committed for 2025! Did you get a chance to meet them along the way?**

Thank you to the churches and individuals who hosted them to speak, opened their home for them to stay, provided a delicious meal along the way, or encouraged them by attending an event and meeting them. We are all so grateful that we have such enthusiastic advocates and supporters all over the world that make our job possible. We are also grateful for the new sponsors and donors who have been added to the LCW team. Seeing the outcome of this trip has been a testament to your generosity and willingness to lend a helping hand where it is needed most. We are always looking for opportunities to share. Please contact us if you, your church, or a civic club you are a part of would be willing to host us in 2025!



Urgent Needs: The Most Powerful Gift



See a need, meet a need! Wouldn't it be great if we all could see a need and instantly know how to help? Often, it is overwhelming to think of all the things that could be done and should be done that we become paralyzed and wonder "Am I even making a difference?" Maybe we do a little, or maybe a lot, but we all want to know that the impact of our giving is utilized to its highest potential. **A gift to Urgent Needs is the most powerful gift because it goes directly to where the need is greatest!**

Thank you for your continued support of Little Children of the World. We are blessed to have a variety of programs that meet a plethora of needs for thousands of people. These programs range from health, housing, and livelihood to educational and spiritual. Each program has its own unique way of serving the niche of individual needs and its own special needs. Will you help us meet all of them?

We need \$100,000 before the end of the year to be able to reach our goals and fund all the programs. Your gift to Urgent Needs today will be the most powerful gift to ensure your contribution is being used to its highest potential! We need your help this Christmas! Thank you in advance for helping us finish the year strong!

The Impact of Health & Housing

We believe in the biblical mandate of meeting practical needs for people. Health and Housing are critical needs that must be met before education can be a priority and meeting those needs in Jesus' name helps spread the love of Christ.

Medical consultations are available every Sunday with 2 doctors and 1 dentist. Between January and July, 713 patients saw doctors, 45 saw a dentist, and each week 65 underweight children received feeding supplements. Two families benefitted from a Bayanihan where the communities came together to rebuild their house, and the 5 residential shelters are currently housing 72 children from crisis situations. These are just a few of the Health and Housing statistics displaying the impact of our programs.

Good health and a safe home are blessings often overlooked or taken for granted until they become uncertain. A year-end contribution to Urgent Needs can help sustain these programs for the future to continue to provide vital health and housing services to people in need. Please prayerfully consider how you can help today!



Holiday Giving Reminders



2024 has flown by! Christmas will be here before we know it, so here are some reminders for holiday giving:

- Christmas gifts need to be received by our office by December 9 in order to arrive by Christmas. If they are submitted after 12/9, do not worry, they will still be sent this year, but they may be distributed after Christmas Day.
- All sponsors should have received the Child Annual Progress Report via mail. New sponsors who started between August and November will receive your first report next year.
- All end-of-year giving must be done by December 31 for fiscal year 2024.

We hope you all have a Merry Christmas. May you be blessed for being a blessing!

New Gifts Policy

It is one of our greatest joys to be able to provide a personalized sponsorship experience. We love to be able to facilitate a relationship wherein you are able to give special gifts to your sponsored child and their family on holidays and special occasions. We understand and accept the administrative work and costs that are associated with making this possible. However, we must not allow the cost of facilitating individual gifts to affect the implementation of all the HELPS programs for the sake of gifts to individuals.

We have previously never taken administrative fees from gifts, because we want special blessings for Christmas, birthdays, and other occasions to have a maximum impact for your child. You may have noticed on our online forms there is a check box or over the phone our staff ask you if you are willing to cover the credit card fees for your contribution. We are so grateful to everyone who is willing to do this. Where it may only add a small amount to your payment, it hugely helps our organization! If you do not cover the cost processing that card for that gift, we have to fundraise it elsewhere as a Stateside Expense and that gift will only benefit your child.

Did you know we are charged a fee for every credit card transaction to the tune of over \$16,000 per year for gifts?

The Board of Directors decided, going forward, we will continue to give you the option to cover the credit card fee on our web donation forms as well as on the phone, but if you opt out, we will cover the cost of that fee from the gift itself on gifts to individuals. This policy only affects individual gifts (i.e. Christmas, birthday, school needs, repairs, etc.), not all contributions to programs. To avoid the fee altogether, you may pay by check. Again, we are overwhelmingly grateful to you for giving special gifts to your sponsored child and for all you do for our programs. We will continue to keep costs low and administrative fees at a minimum. If you have questions regarding this policy, please feel free to contact our office at 770-358-2771 or by email at info@littlechildren.org.

Peace & Faith this Christmas Season



We know that Jesus is the reason for the season! We strive to keep Him at the center of everything we do. The Peace and Faith Program is our largest and most foundational program that emphasizes spreading the love of God to all who come into contact with our ministry. This program facilitates the weekly worship service and Sunday school for over 2000 people and the Bible studies in the communities for parents and youth. During the holiday season, the Peace and Faith Program works extra hard to be sure all feel the love and blessings of Christ.



While there's no turkey in their celebration, Little Children of the Philippines recently had Thanksgiving Sunday. This is a special Sunday worship service where thousands gather to worship and give thanks to God for another year of life and provision. The Peace and Faith Program facilitated communion and the members of the communities brought offerings of whatever they had to give back to God. Through the offering, the communities gave close to \$500 plus many fresh fruits, eggs, and other offerings to give glory back to God. Community offerings go back to support the members of the communities when there are bereaved members or other instances of great need because they are part of a caring community.



As our largest program, it has a correspondingly large budget to be sure everyone that receives any aspect of support from our ministry has the opportunity to hear about Jesus, including supporting the transportation costs for all sponsored kids and their parents to come to church. **This season, will you commit to pray for the Peace and Faith Program as they minister to our communities? Will you consider how an end of year gift to Urgent Needs can have a lasting eternal impact?**

