

It's the first of the month, which means I get to bring more uplifting news into your inbox. Your support impacts so many children, and here are just a few highlights of what we accomplished together in July.



A Family for Kirstin

I'm excited to share that 20-month-old Kirstin was domestically adopted last month! This beautiful little girl came to us from an orphanage in China when she was just a small newborn struggling with severe pneumonia. It's been a true joy to watch Kirstin grow and thrive under the care of our healing home nannies. Her adoptive family are over-the-moon in love with her. Her new mother told our team, "I must be dreaming. She is too special and dear."

Permanency is always the goal for every orphaned child who comes into our care, and we know you'll celebrate with us that Kirstin has now found her forever home.

Education at the Landfill



Earlier this year, we began visiting the families who lived at a major landfill in Kolkata, India, slowly building trust so we could learn more about their lives. The first two projects we did here included basic essentials, such as food relief and digging the community a well. Through those efforts, we realized that many children living at the dumpsite were falling through the cracks when it came to education. I'm excited to share that just yesterday, on the last day of July, our first Believe in Me Center in India held its opening ceremony. Our goal at this center is to help close the achievement gap that comes from living in poverty, while also offering a healthy breakfast to combat malnutrition. I'll definitely be sharing more news on this program in the future.



Food Relief in Uganda

Also in July, we were honored to help hungry families in the Butalenja district of eastern Uganda. This area is ranked as one of the most severe for food shortages, due to a drought which has greatly impacted their ability to grow crops. LWB's team provided monthly food supplies to 222 families in need....bringing full tummies and happy smiles.

Graduation Dreams in Cambodia

I also want to share about a very special young woman, who first enrolled in LWB programs when we began our work in Cambodia back in 2016. When I first met Mae, in a small village along the border with Thailand, I immediately knew this determined high school student was dreaming of a better life. Mae became part of our Impoverished Student Support program, which provides scholarship opportunities to rural students who are unable to afford higher education.

In 2018, I got to know Mae even better, when she became the first Cambodian student accepted into an English language immersion program at the University of North Florida. For three months, she lived in my home, and every day I got to learn more about the immense barriers that too often keep children from the rural villages from ever "dreaming big."

Earlier this year, Mae graduated from university on an LWB scholarship, and last month she accepted a government job representing her village on the Women and Children's Advisory Committee. We are so proud of her hard work and determination, which will now allow her to be a vocal advocate for the most vulnerable in her community. We currently have over 60 students in Cambodia attending university on LWB scholarships, and we can't wait to see what each and every one of them does in the future!



Wheelchairs in Guatemala

Did you know it is estimated that over 100 million people around the world need a wheelchair but can't afford one? At LWB, we've always done everything we could to make sure that children with mobility issues acquire the equipment they need. Last month in Guatemala, we helped 6 beautiful children receive wheelchairs, bringing new potential for them to explore their world..



Cardiac News

And finally, I want to send my deepest thanks to this community for making it possible for seven beautiful children to soon have their chance at heart surgery. Last month, we set an enormous goal to send seven children from Uganda to India in order to save their lives. This was a deeply personal campaign to me, as my mom passed away in the middle of our fundraising. The immense grief I felt in losing my mother made me keep thinking that no parent should have to watch their sick child grow weaker as well. But now, they won't have to. All seven kids will soon be on their way to India for heart surgery, and I am so very grateful.

On behalf of all of us at LWB, thanks for making so many incredible dreams come true for children around the world.

Amy Eldridge
Chief Executive Officer

Thank You!

“Every Child Counts”