



# Annual Report 2023



**SOS CHILDREN'S  
VILLAGES**  
CANADA

# Message from the Board Chair and President and CEO

Founded in 1949, SOS Children's Villages began with one main goal: to protect abandoned, abused and neglected children and provide them with safe, loving homes. Today, 75 years later, we are the world's largest non-governmental organization focused on supporting children and young people without parental care, or at risk of losing it. Protecting children and their rights in everything we do is always our priority.

SOS Children's Villages envisions a world where every child grows up in a nurturing family with the love, respect, and security they need to thrive. We build families for children in need, help them shape their own futures, and share in the development of their communities – a mission that SOS Children's Villages Canada has proudly supported with Canadians since 1969.

As millions continued to struggle from ongoing overlapping crises and devastating inflation, 2023 did not relent and brought with it new challenges and increased hardships for vulnerable children and families. But despite this, people in Canada and around the world continued to step up and we increased our impact by 17% reaching nearly 3 million people through our programs in over 130 countries and territories.

The need for our work, however, also increased. New and existing violent conflicts, natural disasters, and the destructive effects of climate change persisted, and we responded to 32 crises in 38 countries with humanitarian action last year. Drought, famine, and disease outbreaks required us to more than double our efforts through our health programs to provide care to over 650,000 people.

Thanks to your support, we were there to protect children and families through the worst moments in their lives. We provided a lifeline through the traumas of war in Israel and Palestine, Sudan and Ukraine. We offered hope and access to vital care to ease suffering during the drought in the Horn of Africa and the earthquake in Morocco.

We also saw many positive, lasting impacts of our work. With the support of Canadian partners and donors, SOS Children's Villages Canada invested in the future to help ensure sustainable programs support globally. Some highlights of the many impacts of these investments and partnerships you will find throughout this report, including SOS Children's Villages Dominican Republic's programs expansion to the province of Barahona and SOS Children's Villages Namibia's new gardening project where food is grown to feed 600 primary school children.

None of this would be possible without you. This annual report shows a small glimpse of what we've achieved together.

To all our supporters – from donors, community fundraisers, institutional and corporate partners, to everyone who supported us with their time, voice, expertise and more – we give our sincerest thanks for the impact you have made in the lives of children, families, and communities around the world.

As we look ahead, we are forever inspired by the compassion, resilience, and determination of everyone we work with and for. While our work remains critical, we will continue to learn from and strengthen our programs to reach more people, keep children safe, and invest in our future.

In closing, we would also like to extend our deepest gratitude to two departing members of SOS Children's Villages Canada's Board of Directors: Past Board Chair and Board Member for over a decade, Alfred Page, and Board Member, Diamond Lalani. It was an honour to have been supported by your leadership and expertise.

We wish everyone a safe, healthy, and happy 2024,



A handwritten signature in black ink.

Alicia Quesnel  
Chair, Board of Directors  
SOS Children's Villages Canada



A handwritten signature in black ink.

Thomas Bauer  
President and CEO  
SOS Children's Villages Canada

*The children and youth featured in this report, their caregivers, and donors, have given permission for their images and stories to be shared.*

# What we do

SOS Children's Villages envisions a world where every child grows up in a nurturing family with the love, respect, and security they need to thrive. We take a holistic, child-centred approach to help children, families, and communities succeed in the long term. We strengthen families to prevent child abandonment, provide loving homes for children who lack parental care, educate and empower children to reach their full potential and advocate for children's rights so their voices can be heard.

## 1 Protect children:

We ensure that all children have a loving family environment and an opportunity to reach their full potential.

## 7 Advocate for children's rights:

We campaign with children to remove the barriers that prevent them from realizing their rights.

## 6 Boost economic empowerment:

We empower young people and parents through vocational and leadership training so they can break the cycle of poverty and become resilient.

## 5 Respond to emergencies:

We support those most affected during disasters and emergencies, focusing primarily on child protection and distributing life-saving aid to children and families.



## 2 Strengthen families:

We keep families together through our Family Strengthening Programs, which help parents and their communities protect and care for their children.

## 3 Increase access to education:

We provide quality education to children and young people and ensure schools are places where all students are safe and happy.

## 4 Ensure health for all:

We support health facilities and train frontline health workers so children and young people have access to mental and physical healthcare.

## Protecting children and their rights in everything we do is always our priority.

SOS Children's Villages, founded in 1949, is the world's largest non-governmental organization focused on supporting children and young people without parental care, or at risk of losing it. Protecting children is at the heart of what we do, and today children around the world are in greater need of our support than ever before.

In 2023, the persistent onslaught of new and existing conflicts, natural disasters, droughts and famine continued to devastate hundreds of millions of people; but it's children who suffer the most. For the children living in conflict-affected areas, the situation is even more dire. Over 43 million children have been displaced from their homes – the highest number the world has ever seen and it's increasing every day.

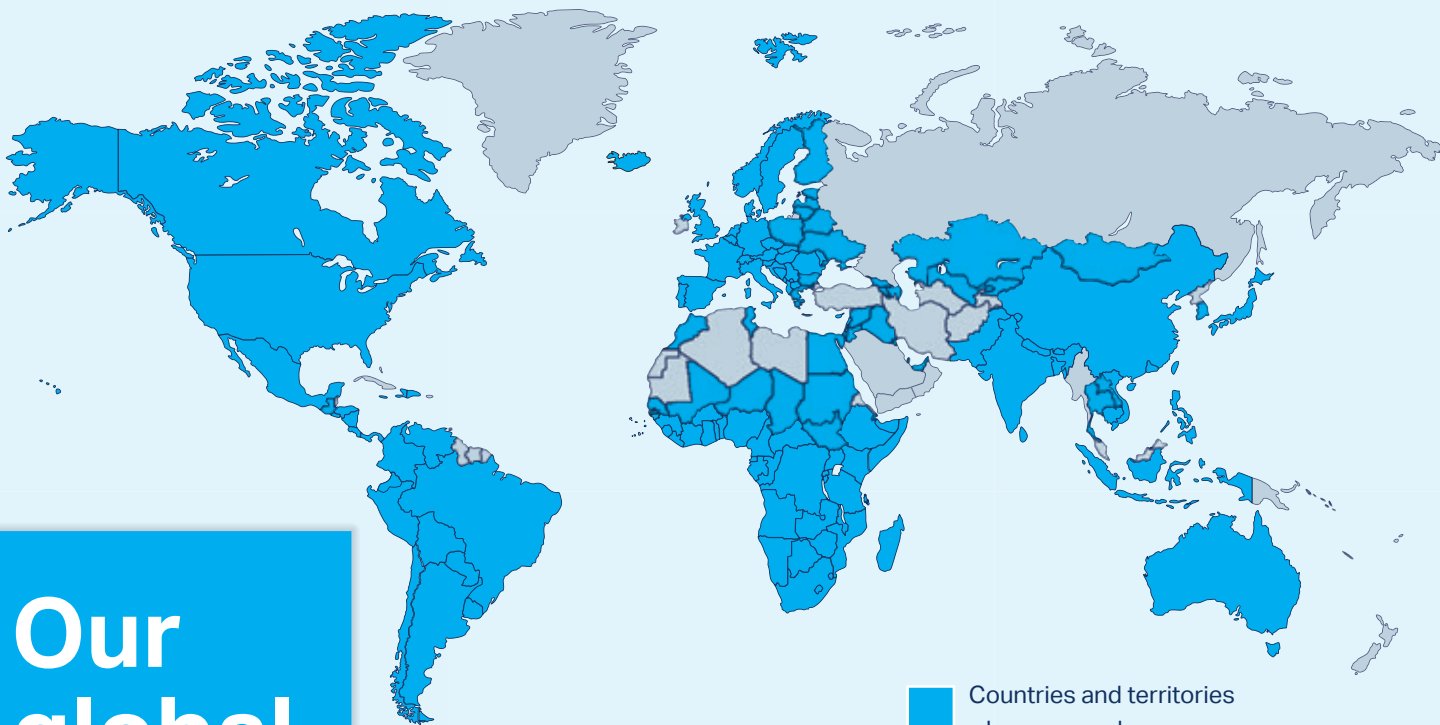
The wellbeing and protection of children is always our priority, especially during crises. We offer them loving homes with the support of a family and a community. We provide them with nutritious meals, access to education, mental health support and more so they can heal and thrive. We support vulnerable families with the vital support they need so that children are safe and families can stay together.

In collaboration with partners, donors, communities, children, young people and families, we enable children to grow up with the bonds they need to develop and become their strongest selves. A mission that SOS Children's Villages Canada has proudly supported since 1969.

**In response to these unprecedented needs, SOS Children's Villages Canada will take bold action** to ensure more of the most vulnerable children can realize their rights to family, education, health, and protection.

**We will work with our partners to learn and implement best practices,** continually adapt to change, and ensure the greatest possible impact on the lives of those in our programs.

**We will meaningfully engage with vulnerable children and youth** to ensure that our programs are guided by their needs and priorities and amplify their voices by advocating for their rights.



# Our global reach

Our impact increased 17% in 2023, and together we achieved change for nearly **3 million people in over 130 countries and territories**. Through our programs, we ensured that children around the world were safe and healthy and that families could thrive.



## Alternative Care

**69,000**

children and young people cared for



## Education

**238,900**

children and young people learning



## Health

**654,600**

children and parents benefitted from health programs



## Humanitarian

**1,385,800**

people aided in emergencies



## Economic Empowerment

**549,800**

children, young people and adults reached through our Family Strengthening Programs



## Programs highlights that Canadians have helped support in 2023

### ▶ Colombia

SOS Children's Villages implemented a community-strengthening strategy to protect children, adolescents, and their families affected by the Colombian armed conflict in the most vulnerable rural and urban zones of the Pacific Coast: Quibdó and Tumaco. The project supported more than 400 people and targeted families with children at high risk of being recruited by armed groups or criminal gangs.

### ▶ Dominican Republic

SOS Children's Villages expanded its programming to the province of Barahona in the southwestern part of the country. In close collaboration with community leaders and local partners, we are focused on supporting vulnerable children, youth and their families to ensure children's rights are respected and fulfilled. Thanks to your support, SOS Children's Villages also provides family-based care for 90 children and youth in Los Mina.

### ▶ Ethiopia

In Keranyo, SOS Children's Villages provided 194 children with early child development services, empowering caregivers to pursue education or employment knowing their children are safe and cared for. At the SOS Early Child Development Centre, we offered free holistic childcare services, including health and nutrition care and foundational education in math and Amharic, the local Ethiopian language.

### ▶ Ghana

We supported the SOS Children's Villages youth employment and entrepreneurship program in Accra, supporting six youths ages 18-35 to create a business by providing start-up funds, business development sessions and coaching. This program targets youth at risk of losing their caregiver, helping them become financially independent and keep their families together.

### ▶ Namibia

To promote access to primary education, SOS Children's Villages helped to establish a community gardening project for a primary school in Windhoek. Through the gardening project, food is grown to support a school feeding program for 600 children. Surplus produce is sold to reinvest in the continued operation of the community garden. SOS Children's Villages also provides, with your support, 160 children and youth who've lost parental care with safe and nurturing family-based care in Ondangwa and Windhoek.

### ▶ Nepal

In Jarahi, Ghodaghodi Municipality, 81 families participated in the SOS Family Strengthening Program which supported caregivers with income-generating activities, including farming initiatives. Families learned how to be self-reliant and establish strong relationships with local financial cooperatives and government agencies to access loans, subsidies and support services. In 2024, the program will expand into Manakapur.

### ▶ Pakistan

The SOS Technical Training Institute (SOS TTI) in Karachi provides disadvantaged youth, especially women and refugees, access to vocational training in technical fields empowering them to find meaningful employment and become independent. In 2023, 1,024 students graduated from SOS TTI programs, including 50 Afghan refugees

### ▶ Somalia

The increased humanitarian needs in Somalia surpassed the storage capacity of the SOS central warehouse where most health and nutrition supplies used by SOS Children's Villages were stored. A new humanitarian supplies warehouse was constructed in Mogadishu benefitting 400,000 people yearly.

### ▶ Ukraine

SOS Children's Villages provided educational support to 2,481 refugee Ukrainian children who had been forced to flee to Hungary and Romania due to the war. These children were provided with the materials needed to enrol in primary or secondary school, such as notebooks, manuals, and pens; and for those pursuing their education online, tablets and headphones.



© SOS Children's Villages | Dominican Republic

## Alternative Care

We will not stop until every child has a loving, safe environment where they can grow and thrive.

**69,000**

children and young people cared for

All children have the right to grow up in a safe environment even when their own families cannot care for them. SOS Children's Villages works with communities and states to provide a loving and supportive family environment for children who need alternative care.

Our priority is to strengthen existing families so they can stay together. However, when this is not in the child's best interest or when there is no family to care for them, we offer a range of reliable care options, adapted to the local context, to best meet the individual needs of the child or young person.



**SOS family care (our SOS Village Model):** For 75 years, we have been providing children with family-based care in SOS families. Children and young people are nurtured by a reliable caregiver – an SOS parent – while living in a supportive home and community.



**Foster care:** Foster care differs from country to country, so our role changes too. In some cases, we provide support services to foster families, such as counselling or training, or we work with governments to implement quality foster care through sharing our expertise or assisting in the development and distribution of quality training materials.



**Short-term care:** When children need temporary care – for example, in an emergency – we provide an environment that protects them from harm in our transit homes. If it is determined that it is in the child's best interest to return to their family of origin, we facilitate and support this process. If not, we work with child protection authorities to find the most appropriate care option.

## Forging bonds in the Dominican Republic that last a lifetime



When he was four years old, Robinson and his two brothers arrived at SOS Children's Villages in Los Mina, a safe and loving place where their worries of the past could fade away.

Robinson reflects, "My first day at the village was amazing. My first reaction was, 'WOW!' I was surprised by the space and seeing so many children." Feeling welcomed, they were given more than a nice room; it was a home, a place to belong and be loved.

Strong bonds were forged from the beginning with his SOS family and mother. Robinson arrived with two biological siblings but gained 'hundreds of brothers [and sisters] and friends at the same time.' Together, they laughed, played, and explored the world around them. There was never a dull moment.

Beyond nurturing his emotional wellbeing, SOS Children's Villages provided Robinson with ongoing support with his education, offering a pathway to self-sufficiency. With access to technical training, he gained the skills necessary to thrive beyond the village. The SOS economic empowerment and youth employment programs helped him secure an internship in hospitality that eventually led to a paid position.

Throughout his journey, Robinson remained connected to his sponsors, sharing updates on his progress and achievements, thankful for their unwavering support. Sponsorship means a lot as it provides children with opportunities they wouldn't otherwise have.

Now living independently, Robinson fervently desires every child to experience the same care and encouragement he received.

"To welcome a child and provide them with an education and a loving home was the miracle I needed [and SOS Children's Villages was there] just when I needed it."



© SOS Children's Villages | Namibia

## Happy childhood memories with SOS Children's Villages Namibia

Although too young to remember the traumatic events that led to the loss of both her parents, Josefina's first memories at SOS Children's Villages remain vivid. Clinging to her sister, she grappled with questions amid the unfamiliarity of a new home, wondering why they were there and where their parents had gone.

"We were treated well inside and outside the SOS Village. We received the best education and good healthcare."

As she grew older, she participated in school activities, played netball and took art classes. On weekends, the children were kept busy with activities like going to the swimming pool and visiting museums. Grateful for her sponsors' support, Josefina also cherished her time communicating with them.

"I liked belonging to a large family. I loved my SOS family and the moms who shared their precious time with us. I never slept hungry or was on the streets. We had no worries about anything." Holiday trips, movie nights, talent shows, dances and meals together strengthened their family bonds, and they loved each other. Josefina is now 38 years old, is the proud mother of three beautiful children, and is teaching them the values her SOS family instilled in her.

"I'm grateful to have lived the important stages of my life at SOS Children's Villages because, without all the love and support, I would not be the person I am today. I got the best of everything, and we called our SOS mothers 'mom'. Their love stays forever in our hearts, and our bond will never be broken."





## Health

Every child has the right to survive and thrive. Our medical teams provide a wide range of critical health services, reducing child and maternal mortality and helping prevent child-family separation.

**654,600**

healthy children and parents

We know that access to healthcare is essential to our wellbeing. However, access to essential health services, such as mental health and sexual and reproductive health services, in many parts of the world is extremely limited and can have long-term negative health impacts on children and their caregivers.

SOS Children's Villages medical facilities and public health promotion programs ensure that children and their caregivers have access to the health information and services they need to thrive, primarily focusing on maternal and child health, mental health, sexual and reproductive health.

**With your support, we more than doubled our impact in 2023 and cared for 654,600 children and their families through our health programs.**



## Supporting the development of skilled healthcare workers in Somalia

Somalia has one of the highest rates of maternal and infant mortality in the world. Each year, thousands of women and children die of largely preventable illnesses and medical complications due to a lack of access to essential healthcare services. One of the major barriers preventing women and children from getting the healthcare they need is a severe lack of skilled healthcare workers. Somalia only has four healthcare workers (doctor, nurse, or midwife) for every 10,000 people – the world’s lowest patient-to-healthcare worker ratio.

In 2002 in Mogadishu, SOS Children’s Villages established the SOS Community Nursing College, now named the SOS College of Health Sciences, to improve the overall health and wellbeing of the Somali population by training and certifying skilled health professionals. For over 20 years, the college has trained highly skilled nurses, midwives, community health workers and community nutrition workers who received accreditation

from Somalia’s federal Ministry of Health upon graduation. The college is a centre of excellence in training and developing skilled healthcare workers in Somalia.

The courses offered are tailored to help healthcare workers better respond to the healthcare needs of the Somali population and include training on emergency obstetric and newborn care, childhood illnesses and acute malnutrition, immunization, prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission, emergency triage, infant and young child feeding, and maternal nutrition.

Over the past decade, the number of students enrolling in the college has more than doubled. To address the needs of the growing number of students and keep up with modern teaching methods, SOS Children’s Villages has invested in renovating and expanding the college facilities to ensure sufficient space and resources for all students.



- Existing classrooms have been renovated to ensure proper seating space, ventilation, and lighting.
- The college's skills laboratory, which provides a comprehensive learning environment to students who engage in practical individual or group activities, such as case study analysis and discussions, has been modernized.
- New and additional training equipment was purchased. This equipment will be key to providing students with high-fidelity healthcare simulations that mimic real situations, improving their decision-making and clinical skills through hands-on practice.
- Medical equipment purchased includes an auscultation manikin, an airway management model, a hospital bed, catheterization training simulators for men and women, advanced trauma accessories, and a CPR and AED training manikin.

In 2023, 110 students were enrolled and an additional 500 health professionals attended capacity-building courses provided by the college. Over the next five years, more than 2,685 healthcare workers are expected to benefit from programs at the SOS College of Health Sciences.

The renovation and expansion of the SOS College of Health Sciences was made possible thanks to the generous contributions of partners such as the Ptarmigan Charitable Foundation.





© SOS Children's Villages | Mozambique

© SOS Children's Villages | Namibia

## Education

From early childhood education to post-secondary opportunities, we are ensuring children and young people can realize their right to quality education despite conflict and crisis.

**238,900**

children and young people learning

Violent conflicts, natural disasters, and climate change are just a few of the crises affecting children's access to education around the world with 250 million children and youth out of school and at risk of never returning. Millions more living in conflict-affected countries and territories, such as Ethiopia, Gaza, Sudan, Ukraine and Venezuela, face additional challenges that prevent them from accessing education altogether and unprecedented numbers of children and families have been displaced from their homes.

We run 575 educational programs worldwide, including SOS kindergartens, schools, and vocational training centres. In response to the overlapping and cumulative challenges of 2023, we enhanced programs to reach more children in SOS Villages, local communities, and child-friendly spaces.

We know that children who do not finish their education can become trapped in a cycle of poverty. That is why we promote high-quality, child-centred education, invest in teachers, and support the improvement of schools.

From preschool through to post-secondary, our educational opportunities give children and young people a sense of hope and allow them to be active agents in their learning and development process.

## Paving pathways to brighter futures with the Green Family Education Fund



Unemployment among young people in Namibia is very high at over 40%. In recent years, this rate has been increasing partly due to the lingering economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

One of the driving forces behind such high unemployment rates is a lack of access to quality education. Around 50% of Namibian children complete their secondary school education and even fewer have access to higher levels of education and advanced skills training.

Children who have lost parental care or are at risk of losing parental care face added barriers to quality education, leading to higher dropout and lower attendance rates than their peers.

In 2016, with generous support from the Green Family Foundation, SOS Children's Villages launched the Green Family Education Fund. The fund provides critical financial assistance to help disadvantaged youth from Ondangwa in northern Namibia to access post-secondary education.

The fund covers the costs of tuition, accommodation, living expenses, and school materials. More than 35 youth have benefitted from the fund since launch, including 18 in 2023.

Students supported by the Green Family Education Fund study in high-demand industries, such as nursing, welding, and electrical engineering, leading to a high employment rate among program graduates.

## Education offers hope and transforms lives in Namibia

In 2010, Reinhold and his siblings found a new home and family at SOS Children's Villages when their mother could no longer care for them. It was a turning point in their lives.

"Our [SOS Children's Villages] mother is a hardworking and loving person. She encourages us to study, and I'm studying very hard, which is why I love my mom very much." He explains that his favourite subject at school is biology, as he loves to learn about nature and the interaction between humans and animals. He aspires to be a zoologist and contribute to the wellbeing of animals, as they, too, need love and care to have a good life.

Growing up at SOS Children's Villages shaped him into a better person. Reinhold is grateful for the opportunities that have come his way and has made the most of them. If given the chance, he would establish a high-quality school in the village where he was born to provide education and guidance to all the children there, just like he received at SOS Children's Villages, and inspire them to dream big.

Reinhold is grateful for the path that led him and his siblings to SOS Children's Villages, their SOS family, and the prospect of bright futures.



© SOS Children's Villages | The Gambia

## Economic Empowerment

With strong families, children and young people can get the care they need to thrive. We offer tailored support to strengthen vulnerable families, helping to keep them together.

**103,500**

strengthened families

SOS Children's Villages has been a global leader in strengthening families and preventing child abandonment for 75 years. Every child needs someone to support them as they grow, but many parents face hardships that prevent them from providing proper care. The direct and indirect effects of extreme poverty can also deprive children of the care they need to thrive. With generous supporters like you, we create reliable, long-term economic solutions so families can stay together and beat poverty for good.

Economic empowerment helps children reach their full potential, advancing gender equality and sustainable development. Our SOS Family Strengthening Program model enhances the employability of parents and caregivers through skills training, cash assistance, and support in establishing small businesses and finding decent work. We focus on the most vulnerable and marginalized families – predominately single female caregivers.

Boosting women's control over household income brings significant positive impacts to their families and communities. When women are empowered to participate fully in the economy, women's voices are heard, and their children's access to school and healthcare improves. Through self-confidence and leadership skills training, we work with women so they can access better quality work and make their own business decisions. We also reduce other barriers that prevent women from entering the workforce, such as a lack of childcare options.

**In 2023, we strengthened 103,500 families, reaching 549,800 children, youth, and adults with your support.**

## Empowering women and strengthening families and communities in Ethiopia



SOS Children's Villages Ethiopia established the Family and Community Strengthening Program in Keranyo, a deeply impoverished community on the outskirts of Addis Ababa, the capital. In collaboration with community members, which includes community leaders, migrant families, women's groups, community-based organizations and informal leaders, this initiative aims to improve the overall wellbeing of vulnerable children while socially and economically empowering vulnerable single mothers and other marginalized female caregivers, enabling them to sustainably meet their families' needs.

The work focuses on three action areas:

- Increasing the use of comprehensive early child development services, making them more accessible, and empowering caregivers to pursue education or employment during the day by offering free holistic childcare services such as health and nutrition care at an SOS Early Child Development Centre.
- Improving parental care for vulnerable children by empowering women with skills development and business training.
- Enhancing the safety of women and children in the community by strengthening the capacity of community-based organizations to prevent and respond to rights violations, including sexual and gender-based violence.

Approximately 200 women, 194 children and a dozen community partners, including schools, community-based organizations, government institutions and a child protection committee, participate in the program annually.

The Family and Community Strengthening Program continues to provide support to vulnerable children and families thanks to generous contributions from partners such as Unifor.



Unifor  
Social  
Justice  
Fund

Unifor  
Fonds  
de justice  
sociale



© AFP | Sudan

## Emergency Response

We work around the world to help children who are affected by conflict and disasters, separated from their families, and who have had to flee their homes.

# 1,385,800

people in crisis reached

**Protecting children in crisis is at the heart of what we do.** In an emergency, children are always the most vulnerable. SOS Children's Villages helps children and families in emergencies get the support they need to survive and build resilience for years to come.

Since 1949, we have responded to more than 250 humanitarian situations worldwide. We specialize in the protection and care of children, working with unaccompanied and separated children, reuniting families, and ensuring children receive the support they need to recover. To protect children and prevent family separation during humanitarian emergencies, our local teams and partners provide life-saving healthcare, nutrition, clean water, shelter, and education to those who need it most.

We stepped up our humanitarian efforts in 2023 to aid more than 1,385,800 people in crisis and protect children and families against the impacts of extreme conflicts, climate change, and natural disasters.

**In 2023, your generous support of our emergency response programs helped provide immediate, life-saving aid to children and their families in Israel and Palestine, Morocco, Sudan, and Ukraine.**

© SOS Children's Villages | Morocco





---

# Major emergencies in 2023 where SOS Children's Villages is responding to the needs of children in crisis

## Colombia's response to Venezuela crisis

Colombia remains the fourth biggest refugee-hosting country in the world, hosting nearly 3 million Venezuelan refugees and migrants. Since 2018, SOS Children's Villages Colombia has provided emergency assistance to more than 120,000 Venezuelan refugees and migrants. In 2023, this work continued in some of Colombia's most vulnerable communities and included activities focused on protection, education, shelter, early recovery, and emergency distribution of food and other items.

## Ethiopia

Climate-related disasters and conflicts in different regions of the country have created a widespread humanitarian crisis. According to UN reports, over 21 million Ethiopians, including 12 million children, need urgent humanitarian assistance. SOS Children's Villages is responding to the urgent humanitarian needs of children and families affected by the crisis, by providing protection, healthcare, WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene), and multi-purpose cash assistance.

## Israel and Palestine

On October 7, Palestinian armed groups crossed into Israel, along with rocket attacks, resulting in civilian casualties, the capture of civilians and members of the Israeli forces, and the devastation of residential areas. On October 8, the Israeli Government declared a state of war. These events resulted in a catastrophic humanitarian crisis, especially for children. SOS Children's Villages is responding to the urgent humanitarian needs of children and their caregivers in Gaza, Israel, and the West Bank. A primary element of our response has been the protection of unaccompanied and separated children, as well as children in alternative care.

## Somalia

In 2023, Somalia was on the brink of widespread famine and experienced catastrophic droughts followed by mass flooding. Combined with conflict and disease outbreaks, the humanitarian crisis in Somalia left over 8 million people in urgent need of aid, including 5.1 million children. SOS Children's Villages responded by providing access to essential healthcare and nutritional assistance.

## Sudan

On April 15, a civil war erupted in Sudan between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces. Despite being one of the world's most catastrophic disasters, it has remained widely overlooked. Soaring hunger and the largest child displacement crisis leaves 14 million children, half of all Sudanese children, in need of urgent humanitarian aid. In 2023, SOS Children's Villages launched a humanitarian response program to provide cash assistance, hygiene kits, mental health support, and child-friendly spaces.

## Ukraine

The lives and wellbeing of children in Ukraine remain under threat due to the ongoing war. Despite the fragile operating context, SOS Children's Villages and its partners maintained a presence in 16 regions of the country. In total, 246,251 Ukrainians were supported by the emergency response, including 148,418 children. These children and their families benefitted from mental health and psychosocial support from mobile or static teams, physical healthcare and physical rehabilitation services, legal support, cash-based assistance, educational support, emergency food assistance and hygiene materials.



# Corporate Partners and Supporters

Premier Corporate Partner



## Corporate Partners

- Angels There For You
- Park Avenue Consulting
- Wirth Rail
- Anonymous (2)

## Corporate Supporters

- Apotex
- 1155599 Ontario Ltd In Trust
- 2710287 Ontario Inc.
- Bayshore Dental Patients & Staff
- Douglas Fire Safety Systems Ltd
- G&M Fitness
- Imperial Oil
- Maplehurst Farms Ltd
- Motorola
- Van Loc Tran
- Anonymous (8)



## Could your company benefit from a partnership with SOS Children's Villages?

We work closely with multinational corporations, national companies, and small to medium-sized businesses to build partnerships that leverage the strengths of the corporate sector on behalf of children around the world.

Through our strategic and transformational partnerships, we offer opportunities to develop impact-driven programs and deepen engagement with employees and customers.

Contact the corporate partnership team at [partners@soschildrensvillages.ca](mailto:partners@soschildrensvillages.ca) for further information on how SOS Children's Villages can contribute to your business and philanthropic goals.

## Transat, a long-standing partner in driving positive change



© SOS Children's Villages | Dominican Republic

Over ten years ago, Transat employees chose SOS Children's Villages Canada as a charity partner. Their commitment to improving the lives of vulnerable children has been evident since the beginning. Over the years, this partnership has positively impacted the lives of over 80,000 children and individuals in seven countries: Colombia, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama and Ukraine.

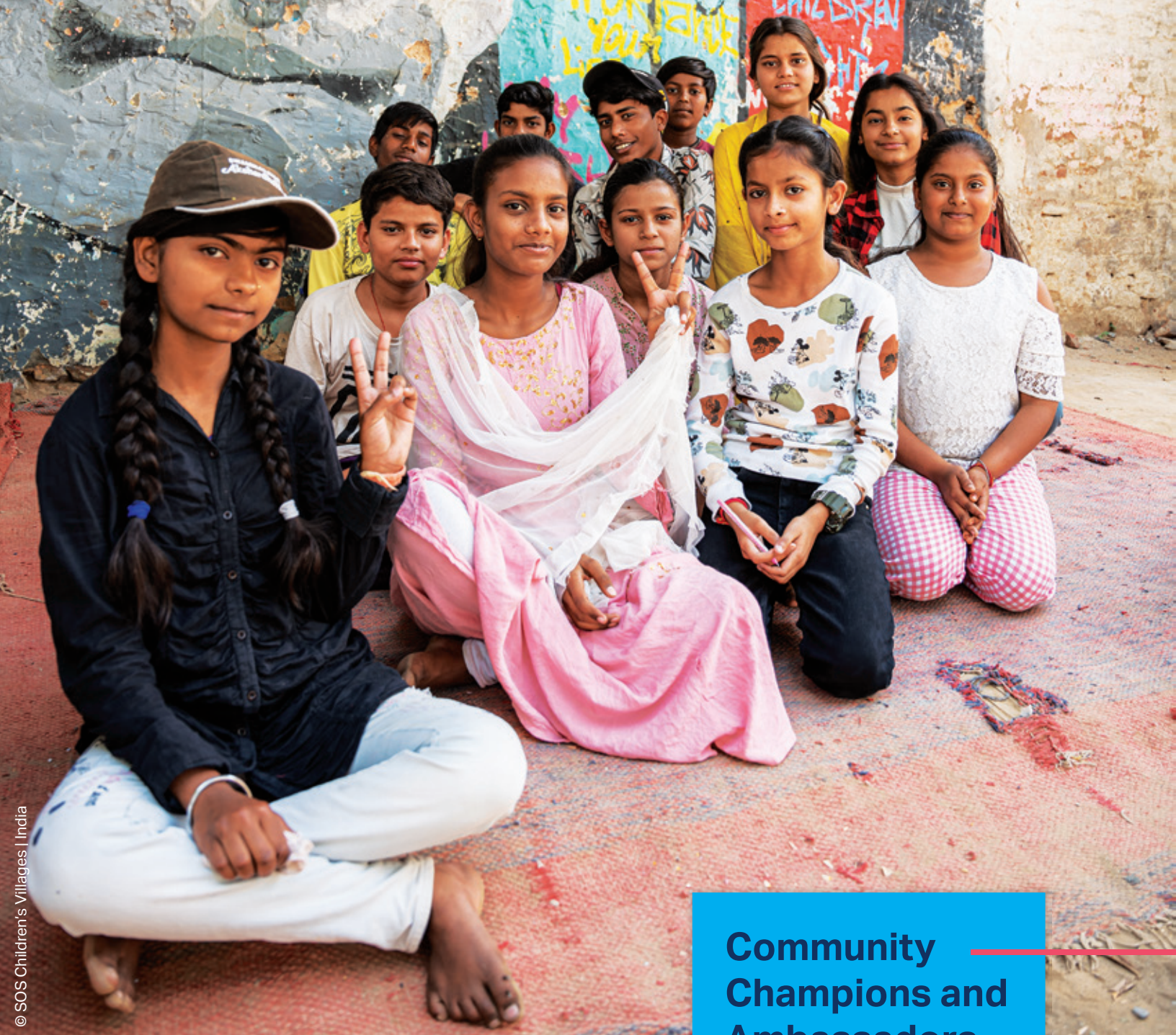
Transat's *Small Change, Big Hearts* campaign has proven that even the smallest contributions can make a big impact. By donating spare change during Air Transat flights, passengers have been introduced to the vital work of SOS Children's Villages. This heartwarming campaign and the annual employee *Big Hearts Challenge* have brought awareness to our mission to protect the world's most vulnerable children.

Throughout the partnership, Transat has generously contributed over \$3.2 million to SOS Children's Villages' work, helping tens of thousands of vulnerable children and young people. These funds ensured a holistic approach to each child's wellbeing by providing caring family homes, essential healthcare, education, safe recreational spaces, food security, renovated playgrounds, mental health and psychosocial support, and much-needed humanitarian assistance to children and families in need.

**We offer our heartfelt gratitude to Transat for being our long-standing partner in driving positive change in the lives of vulnerable children, families, and communities worldwide. We look forward to continuing to stand on the side of children and, together, shaping a brighter future for generations to come.**

### Meaningful impacts of the partnership, many in just the past five years

- Transat's employees, customers, and business partners raised an outstanding **\$3,286,522**.
- **80,527** vulnerable people, 52,104 children and 28,423 adults, were supported with critical assistance.
- **75,825** beneficiaries received humanitarian assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 Haiti earthquake, and the war in Ukraine.
- **17,611** children and **4,701** adults received access to healthcare to grow and thrive.
- **4,236** Transat employees contributed to SOS Children's Villages programs.
- **3,160** families received support through our Family Strengthening Programs, empowering them to better care for their children and preventing child abandonment.
- **2,035** people benefited from improved homes, common areas, play infrastructures and access to sports equipment.
- **1,000** children and **400** adults participated in activities aimed at preventing violence against children and women.



## Community Champions and Ambassadors

At SOS Children's Villages Canada, we believe that we achieve more when we work together.

We rely on the support from our network of dedicated donors and volunteers who make our global work to empower young people, build loving homes, and enable brighter futures for vulnerable children and families possible.

Choosing to donate, fundraise and get involved in our work is an exciting way to make a difference and help others in need around the world.

Connect with us at [getinvolved@soschildrensvillages.ca](mailto:getinvolved@soschildrensvillages.ca) to learn how you can invest in the future of the world's children.

## Miss Universe Canada



Miss Universe Canada contestants tirelessly raised funds throughout the year to support programs in Costa Rica, Dominican Republic and Nicaragua.

The *Empowering Adolescent Girls in Costa Rica* program helps vulnerable teenage girls, including those who have lost parental care, with educational and youth-friendly workshops aimed at strengthening their understanding of their rights, sexual and reproductive health matters, and gender-based violence.

The *United Families* program in Los Mina, Dominican Republic, supports vulnerable mothers, especially teenage mothers and women-headed households, to prevent the crisis that leads to child abandonment and abuse by providing individualized support and skills development opportunities.

The *Girls Take the Lead* program in Nicaragua contributes to the empowerment of girls and adolescents and the creation of safe and protective environments in Jinotega, Managua and Juigalpa by hosting workshops for teenagers and sensitizing caregivers and local authorities on gender issues affecting adolescent girls, such as violence.

## In memory of Amitabh Bhatnagar



Amitabh Bhatnagar was a cherished donor and devoted supporter of SOS Children's Villages. He was known for his profound love for children and commitment to supporting those most in need. In 2019, Amitabh travelled to India and visited our programs in Jaipur. Inspired by this experience, he became an even more determined supporter of the educational needs of the children in Jaipur.

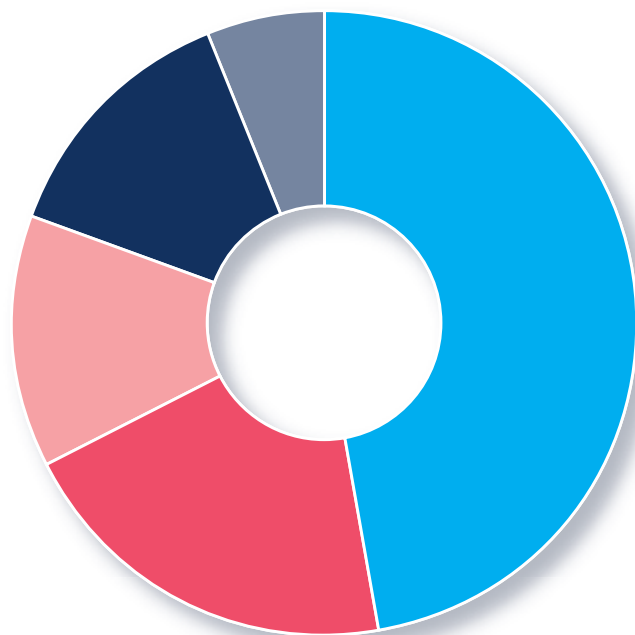
Sadly, Amitabh passed away in December 2022. In honour of his memory and to continue his impactful legacy, Amitabh's family and friends organized a fundraiser to support the educational needs of children and young people in the SOS Village in Jaipur. We are deeply grateful for generous and heartfelt supporters like Amitabh, who carry on the legacy of SOS Children's Villages and help impact the lives of children who need it most.

“I think we all want to believe that we're making a difference with our lives; that what we're doing is changing things for the better. That is what drew me to SOS Children's Villages work. In 2001, I started giving - inspired by what I had seen, first-hand, of SOS Children's Villages efforts to improve the lives of children profoundly at risk. A few years later my daughter, then about 12, asked me if we could sponsor a young boy in SOS Children's Villages Dominican Republic's care. He's a young man now, and our twenty plus year journey with him has enriched my daughter's and my own life. We see sponsorship as a win-win proposition.”

– Boyd McBride, former President and CEO of SOS Children's Villages Canada and current child sponsorship donor

# Financials

## Where our funding goes



REVENUE	2023	2022
Donations	\$7,057,708	\$7,905,993
Restricted grants and gifts	\$915,354	\$841,965
Program grant (Government of Canada)	\$800,000	\$3,200,000
Impact Fund for Children grant	—	\$1,230,104
Investments and other income	\$118,760	\$213,255
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,891,822</b>	<b>\$13,391,317</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
Program expenditures	\$5,856,874	\$5,571,704
Impact Fund for Children expenditures	—	\$1,590,519
Program grant expenditures (Government of Canada)	\$800,044	\$2,961,848
Fundraising	\$2,826,966	\$1,597,878
Operating costs	\$1,034,298	\$783,507
Communications and public awareness	\$327,936	\$189,030
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,846,118</b>	<b>\$12,694,486</b>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES</b>	<b>(\$1,954,296)</b>	<b>\$696,831</b>

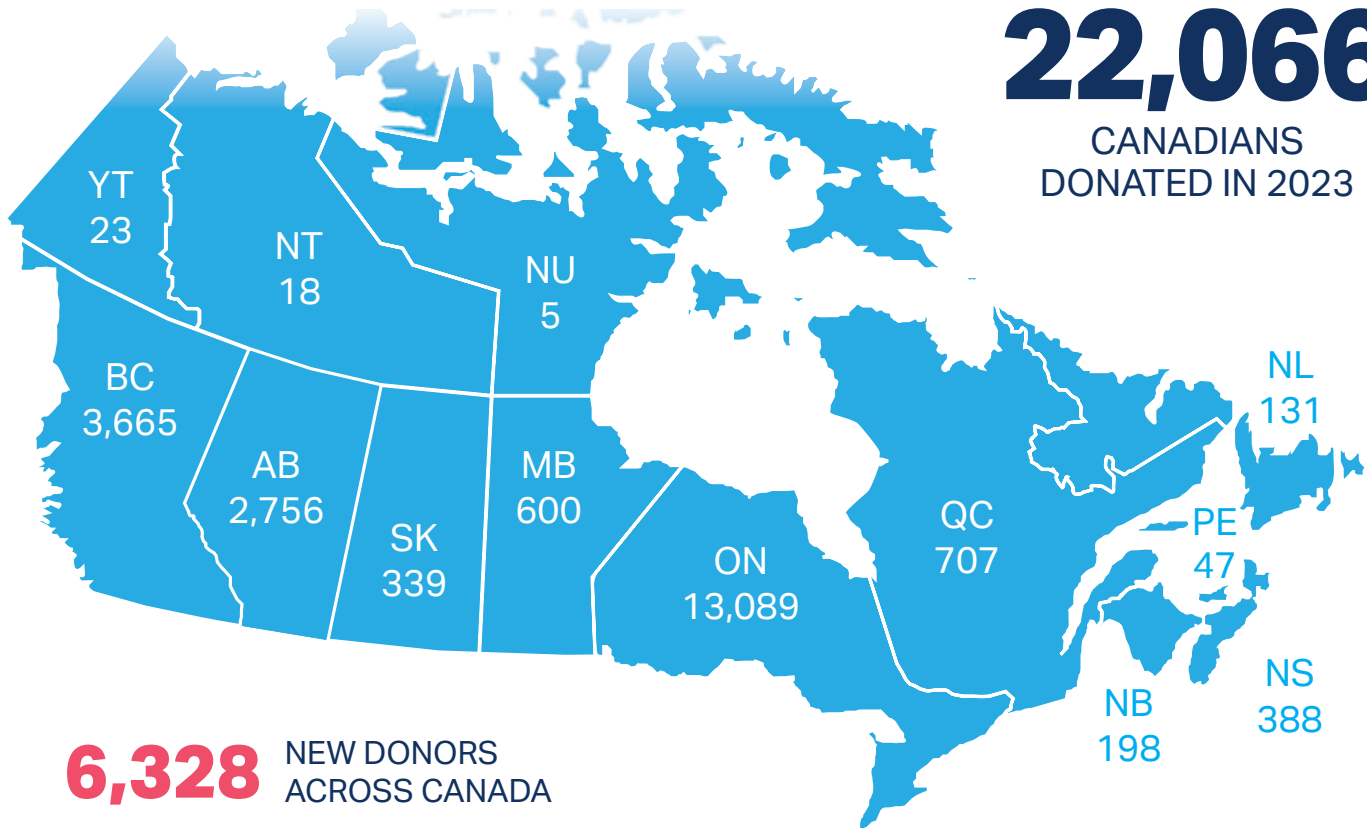
### \*A Message from our President and CEO Thomas Bauer and Board of Directors Treasurer Phil Hopwood

Despite the ongoing challenges and hardships of the last year, our supporters and friends continued to step up and help vulnerable children and families. For this, we are incredibly thankful. In 2023, we invested in our future to help ensure sustainable programs support globally, which resulted in a year-end deficit. These investments were especially important as we continue to face increased armed conflicts, natural disasters and climate change that have devastating impacts on the lives of young people and families around the world.

## Our 2023 Donors and Supporters

# 22,066

CANADIANS  
DONATED IN 2023



**6,328** NEW DONORS  
ACROSS CANADA

**\$688,582** WAS GENEROUSLY DONATED  
FROM NEW DONORS

**4,959** LOYAL DONORS WHO HAVE  
DONATED FOR 10+ YEARS

Board of Directors	Honorary Board	Advisory Council
Alicia Quesnel - Chair	Rt. Hon. Joe Clark	Senator Salma Ataullahjan
Mary Ballantyne - Vice Chair	Rt. Hon. Paul Martin	Senator Jim Munson
Alfred Page - Past Chair <i>- departed Board May 2023</i>	Hon. Roy MacLaren	Marc Bissell
Phil Hopwood - Treasurer	Hon. Barbara McDougall	Paula Clancy
Emilia Nambahu - Secretary	Hon. David Peterson	Rick Evans
Diamond Lalani <i>- departed Board May 2023</i>	Senator Scott Tannas	Lynn Gorny
Cathy Munge	Sherry Cooper	Mike Holmes
Rumina Ratansi	Jean-Marc Eustache	Jeremy Hooper
Mo Vikrant	Pamela Jeffery	Boyd McBride
		Ian McBride
		Jim McConnery
		Kim Melanson
		Don Scott
		Michael von Herff



© SOS Children's Villages | The Gambia

## VILLAGE CHAMPIONS • \$100,000+ in lifetime gifts

### INDIVIDUALS

Agnes Faraci  
 Alfred Page\*  
 Alicia Quesnel\*  
 Anne Mackay  
 Barry Cooper  
 Don & Shirley Green  
 Dr. Alfred G. Wirth\*  
 Elizabeth J. McBride  
 Fatima & Anwar (Andy Merchant)

Gerry & Judy Strongman  
 Helmut Liehr  
 Josine Eikelenboom  
 P. & J. Gillespie  
 Scott Tannas\*  
 The Crich Family  
 The David Harquail Family\*  
 The Will Family  
 Anonymous (4)

### INSTITUTIONS

Atrium Innovations Inc  
 Austrian Society of Montreal  
 Beauties of Canada Organization  
 Canada-Ukraine Foundation & Ukrainian  
 Canadian Congress  
 Canada for Haiti (World Vision Canada)  
 Christadelphian Meal-a-Day of the Americas  
 Cirque du Soleil Entertainment Group  
 Cunningham Investment Group  
 Debdonnell Holdings Company  
 Fariview Glen Private Schools LTD.  
 Government of Canada  
 Himalaya Foundation  
 HNW Investments Inc  
 HSBC Bank Canada  
 Intact Financial Corporation

Ottawa Community Foundation  
 Ptarmigan Charitable Foundation  
 Reaching for the Stars Children's Foundation  
 Site Preparation Ltd.  
 Steele Family Foundation  
 The Don and Shirley Green Family  
 Charitable Foundation  
 The Hellenic Initiative  
 The John Brouwer Foundation  
 TKC-CNC Foundation  
 Transat A.T. Inc.  
 Victoria Villages Group of Companies  
 Western Financial Group Inc  
 Wishing Well Montessori Schools  
 Anonymous (2)





**PATRON** - \$100,000+ gifted this year

Canada-Ukraine Foundation & Ukrainian Canadian Congress	Ptarmigan Charitable Foundation
Government of Canada	Steele Family Foundation
	Anonymous (2)

**BENEFACTOR** - \$50,000+ gifted this year

Basilios Tserpes	Anonymous (1)
The Don and Shirley Green Family Charitable Foundation	

**LEADER** - \$25,000 - \$49,999 gifted this year

Christadelphian Meal-a-Day of the Americas	Anonymous (4)
--	---------------

**BUILDER** - \$10,000 - \$24,999 gifted this year

Agnes Faraci	Kiwanis Vancouver Welfare Foundation
Alfred Page*	Leanne Porter
Barry Cooper	Phil Hopwood & Kate Morican
Bernice & Gary Houston	The Grandey Family Foundation Inc.
David Kerr	Varico Charitable Foundation
J. Lorne Braithwaite	Unifor Social Justice Fund
John & Cathy VanderVelde	Anonymous (8)

**SUPPORTER** - \$5,000 - \$9,999 gifted this year

Alicia Quesnel*	Jane Tyson
Audrey Ruth (Downey) Buckley	Ottawa Community Foundation
Christie MacDonald	Ron Pante
Fondation Denise et Robert Gibelleau	Sally & Mike Jackson
Mrs. Frances Caron	Thomas & Joanne Singer
Herwig Lavicka Charitable Trust	Anonymous (12)

## FRIEND - \$1,500 - \$4,999 gifted this year

Andy Corbett  
Anita Puronto  
Ann Thompson  
Anne Tize  
Ashirvad Roy  
Audrey J. Kenny  
Bill Burton & Lesley Benham  
Boyd McBride  
Brent Chezenko  
Ms. Camille Mitchell & Family  
Charles E. Fipke  
Christopher & Edythe Anna Clapp  
Mr. Daniel Sanchez  
Diana Scalizzi  
Dominique Doucette  
Eric Spika  
Fatima Najem  
Mr. Gary & Mrs. Shenta Arnold  
Georgi Ignatov  
Gordon Ross  
Grace Graham  
Guido Pela  
Hans Steidl  
Heather Robinson  
Huban Nath  
Hubert Risch  
Ian McNab  
James French  
Lois Shauf

Dr. Vicente – In memory of  
Julio E. Vicente & Robert G. Vicente  
Lucia M. Horbasz  
Margaret McEachern  
Margaret Mitchell  
Mark Letain  
Matthew McLaughlin  
Mr. Meet P. Patel  
Mikhail & Ekaterina Ilfirovych  
Mohamed Aly  
Oluwasegun Kuteyi  
Oualid Ktata  
Pam Matharoo  
Mr. Paolo & Malita De Francesca  
Rendy & Claudia Dueck  
Robert Brzost  
Robert Graham  
Robert & Mary McTavish  
Dr. Sacha Singh & Dr. Andie Wiseman  
Sangeeta Bhatnagar  
Sara Burke & Alexei Pasyukov  
Shu-Hwei Lin  
Steve & Debbie Neil  
Susan Albert  
Susan Hayes  
Vera Tobis  
William Nicoll  
Yvonne Martin-Morrison  
Anonymous (64)

## ESTATE AND LEGACY GIFTS

Estate of Charles E. Andison  
Estate of Wendy E. Black  
Estate of Terry Bradley  
Estate of Wynona Campbell  
Estate of Margaret Copeland  
Estate of Louise Jean DeCecco  
Estate of Christine Kreutzer  
Estate of Jean Laird  
Estate of Constance E. Lavender

Estate of Gloria R. Mauro  
Estate of George L. Popow  
Estate of Anna Salnikova  
Estate of Andrew A. Vanderheyden  
Estate of Colette M. Weston  
Estate of Richard W. Wirtanen  
Estate of Garfield D. Withers  
Anonymous (6)

*\*denotes current and former board members*

”I knew a lot of orphans myself as a child growing up in Austria during World War II. I was lucky to have a loving mother, but so many of my classmates ended up all alone. SOS Children’s Villages gives children back their childhood, provides them with nutritious food, a quality education, and proper healthcare. In short, they do what is needed for the children in their care to reach their full potential. Deciding to make a gift in my Will to SOS Children’s Villages was easy. Orphaned, abandoned and other vulnerable children will continue to need SOS for years beyond my lifetime, and SOS will still be there, giving them back their childhood with love and guidance – and that’s the legacy I want to leave.”

– Maria Virjee, former Board Chair of SOS Children’s Villages Canada and legacy donor



# Thank You

From all of us at  
SOS Children's Villages  
Canada, we thank  
you for your  
continued support.



Photo: © SOS Children's Villages | India



**SOS CHILDREN'S  
VILLAGES**  
CANADA



@SOSChildrenCan



@SOSChildrensVillagesCanada



@soscanada

**SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES CANADA**

240 - 44 ByWard Market Square  
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1N 7A2

Toll Free: 1-800-767-5111  
[info@soschildrensvillages.ca](mailto:info@soschildrensvillages.ca)  
[soschildrensvillages.ca](http://soschildrensvillages.ca)

Registered Charitable Number: 13824 7259 RR0001

Cover Photo: © SOS Children's Villages | Namibia