

ANNUAL REPORT

2023




In my first year as Holt's president and CEO, I was challenged and excited to further Holt's mission while going through this time of change and growth. In this, Holt's 67th year, we not only navigated internal changes, but also worked within a challenging global context that included regional conflicts and inflationary costs of basic needs that significantly impacted the vulnerable communities we serve.

But allied with you – our dedicated donors, partners, families, adoptees and friends – we remained resilient, reaching nearly 1.54 million children, families and individuals with life-changing, and in some cases lifesaving, services.

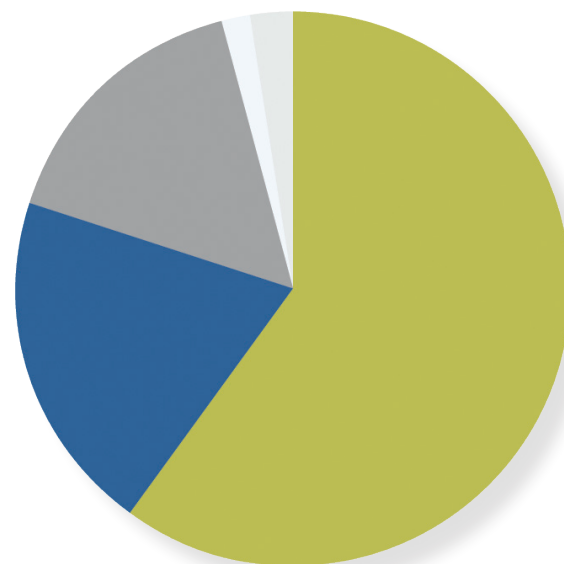
Thanks to your support, Holt empowered over 29,200 children through education, strengthened over 34,400 families at risk of separation, and provided critical medical care to over 170,300 children across the globe. Over the summer, we held our first Korea heritage tour since the pandemic. And toward the end of 2023, we were overjoyed to facilitate travel to China for a number of families whose adoptions had been on hold since March 2020 – finally uniting these children with the loving, permanent families they deserve.

As we look ahead, I want to thank you for your faithful support and partnership. You make it possible to continue working toward a world where every child has a stable, loving home.

For the Children,

 Dan Smith
 President & CEO
 Adoptive Father | Child Sponsor

SOURCES OF SUPPORT

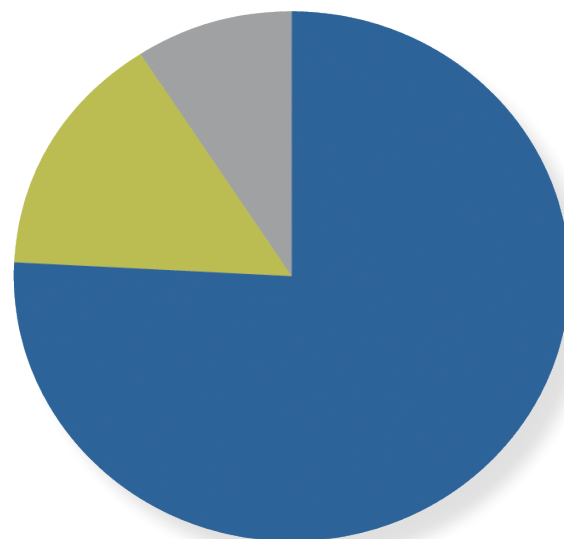
Where money comes from to help kids



- Sponsorship Contributions (60%)
- Other Contributions & Grants (20%)
- Adoption Fees (16%)
- Other Fees (2.5%)
- Investment Income and Other (1.5%)

EXPENSES

How we invest your money to help kids



- Programs & Services (76%)
- Fundraising (15%)
- Management & General (9%)

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

October 2022 - September 2023

An online version of our audit report is available at holtinternational.org/annualreport.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the year ending September 30, 2023

Sources of Support	2023	2022
Sponsorship Contributions	\$16,218,052	\$16,522,400
Other Contributions and Grants	5,342,255	5,441,987
Adoption Fees	4,392,404	5,595,513
Other Fees	417,858	140,786
Investment Income and Other	699,908	(1,742,082)
TOTAL SUPPORT	\$27,070,477	\$25,958,604

Expenses	2023	2022
Programs & Services	\$20,422,782	\$22,302,233
Fundraising	3,980,320	5,233,597
Management & General	2,338,085	2,545,739
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$26,741,187	\$30,081,569

Change in Net Assets	2023	2022
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$14,745,201	\$18,868,166
Net Assets, End of Year	\$15,074,491	\$14,745,201

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

For the year ending September 30, 2023

	2023	2022
Total Assets	\$19,397,435	\$18,709,606
Total Liabilities	\$4,322,944	\$3,964,405
Net Assets		
Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	\$10,301,547	\$10,174,896
Net Assets With Donor Restrictions	4,772,944	4,570,305
Total Net Assets	15,074,491	14,745,201
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$19,397,435	\$18,709,606



In 2023, Holt supporters reached **1,539,786** children, family members and individuals through Holt programs and services around the world.

In 2023, Holt worked in Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Colombia, Ethiopia, Haiti, India, Mongolia, the Philippines, South Africa, South Korea, Thailand, Uganda, the United States, Vietnam and the regions of Taiwan and Hong Kong. Read highlights from some of our global programs!

Korea

Holt programs served 2,259 children across Korea in 2023, including 471 children who received support to remain with their birth families and 13 children who joined permanent, loving families in the U.S. With donor support, Holt Korea provided services to 156 residents at the Holt Ilsan Center, and provided education, vocational training and other services for 300 youth aging out of orphanage care.



Thailand

In Thailand, donors helped support a number of programs for vulnerable children and families in 2023. Our local partner, Holt Sahathai Foundation (HSF), welcomed 91 children into their model foster care program, about half of whom are children with special needs requiring specialized care. In 2023, HSF also united 41 children with families through international adoption, including 24 from foster care and 17 with special needs from government orphanages, and helped over 1,900 children remain or reunite with their birth families.



Uganda

Through Holt's local partnerships and with donor support, Holt Uganda provided nutrition and health screenings, vitamin supplements and treatments to over 165,000 children. We also provided prenatal services to over 4,000 pregnant women, reducing nutrient deficiencies and complications with pregnancy and birth. Through our economic empowerment program, 1,388 parents received financial literacy training and microbusiness support to generate income for their families. Holt Uganda also provided nutritious meals to 915 children at early childhood care and development centers, and mentorship and psychosocial visits for 19,950 children at partnering schools.

India

In Bangalore, India, donors continued to support an especially vulnerable population of children and families — those living in migrant communities. Through our local partner, Vathsalya Charitable Trust, 227 migrant women received job skills training to help them generate income for their families. After the training, 15 of the women secured jobs in the garment industry and approximately 80% of the women began stitching work from home. With donor support, over 300 children living in migrant families received education and nutrition support as well as services to strengthen their families and prevent separation.



This little girl was the first to join a family through Holt Cambodia's growing domestic adoption program!



Mongolia

Holt programs served 12,306 children across Mongolia in 2023, through 29 program sites and 18 community health care centers, in six regions of the country. With donor support, Holt funded the creation of a new community service center for children with disabilities in a province that previously had no such facility, provided education opportunities and daily nutrition to students in the informal school system, and delivered comprehensive services to children living in care centers.



Cambodia

Holt Cambodia continued to grow two pilot programs in partnership with the Cambodian government and local partners — foster care and domestic adoption. Our in-country team supported efforts to declare 11 children legally free for domestic adoption, matched two children with families and is actively seeking families for another nine children. With donor support, we also expanded foster care services to Phnom Penh — placing the first child with a family in April. And through the donor-supported university education program, 29 students received support to pursue degrees — with 10 students graduating in 2023!

In Mongolia, you helped so many children eat nourishing meals at school!

You helped serve so many children in China this year!



China

In 2023, Holt China reached over 20,400 children living in poverty with education, nutrition and more. Holt's team began collaborating with the government to create "virtual classrooms" in remote village schools — providing children with access to quality education without having to leave their villages or their families. And despite some program closures due to changes in China's policy toward foreign organizations, Holt China made significant strides in advocating for international adoption cases and for the continuation of our family strengthening, group home and other critical programs and services for vulnerable children in China.



Every morning, toddlers in this migrant community receive porridge and hard-boiled eggs from our partner organization in Bangalore, India. With this nutritious food, they are overcoming hunger and receiving the nutrition they need to thrive!

Philippines

In the Philippines in 2023, donors helped support a number of programs and services, including a pilot home-finding project to help older children, children with disabilities and sibling groups join loving, permanent families through adoption. Through this project — modeled after a similar Holt project in Thailand — social workers traveled to the Philippines to meet, assess and advocate for more than 80 children who have long waited for a family. Donors also helped make it possible to reunite 20 children with their birth families and place 16 children with adoptive families — 12 in the Philippines, and four in the U.S.



This new project will help so many older children and children with disabilities to join adoptive families.

Vietnam

With donor support, Holt Vietnam expanded Holt's child nutrition program (CNP) to a new daycare facility in 2023 — delivering nutrition screening and deworming medication to more than 250 children, and growing the number of children in the CNP program in Vietnam to 1,470. Holt Vietnam also helped 12 children reunite with their birth families, six children join adoptive families in Vietnam and seven children join families via international adoption to the U.S.

Family Strengthening

Holt Donors Helped Arban Travel to India for Life-Changing Surgery

Eight-year-old Arban was born with cerebral palsy, with such severe muscle tension and weakness that he couldn't stand, walk or feed himself. He lived with his grandparents in Mongolia, but as he got older they had a harder time caring for him. Arban's doctors recommended a surgery that might help him walk, but they would have to travel to India — and it would cost \$40,000. Arban's grandparents would do anything to help him, so they raised money for a year — selling most of their possessions, even their car! But it wasn't enough. They reached out to Holt Mongolia for help — and we provided the remaining funds they needed through our Molly Holt Fund for children with special needs! Arban and his grandparents traveled all the way to India for the surgery, which was a success! Today, Arban is learning to walk and his grandparents are overcome with gratitude for the donors who made Arban's life-changing surgery possible.



170,382 children received critically needed medical care, including life-changing or lifesaving surgeries, in 2023

Trafficked for 45 Days, Trinh is Now on the Path to Healing

Fourteen-year-old Trinh and her mother were living in poverty in Vietnam when Trinh was offered a summer job in Cambodia. Wanting to help her mother, she accepted the offer. But unbeknownst to Trinh, she was being targeted by human traffickers — a significant issue where Holt works in Vietnam. Drugged and taken over the border, Trinh was starved, beaten and forced to do illegal work for 45 days. When her mother received a ransom offer from the traffickers, a wealthy individual from their village offered to cover it. Trinh came home, but she was traumatized. Holt Vietnam connected her with counseling through a local partner, and also provided her with job skills training to move forward in her life — a program funded by Holt donors. Today, Trinh is 16 and working to become a make-up artist and hairdresser. "She still gets emotional when she remembers the hellish time," her social worker says. But over time, the trauma has lessened. With the love of her mother and the counseling and support she's received through Holt donor-funded programs, she is on the path to healing.



34,894 children received support to remain or reunite with their birth families, and 6,761 individuals participated in economic empowerment activities

Orphan Care

Three Boys Thrive in Foster Care Program in Ethiopia

When Seblewengel moved back to her home country of Ethiopia from the U.S., it was for one specific purpose: to help children. She hoped to adopt, but at the time — in 2018 — there was no legalized framework for domestic adoption in Ethiopia. Then she learned about a new initiative through Holt's partner orphanage, the SeleEnat Charitable Organization. Although she couldn't adopt, through SeleEnat, she could do the next best thing. With the support of Holt donors, SeleEnat was developing a training that would support a new, formalized foster care program in Ethiopia. Seblewengel became their first foster parent, and three boys — Yonas, 8, Abel, 7, and Jemal, 6 — soon came to live with her. In the past five years, Yonas, Abel and Jemal have thrived in her nurturing care. But as Kalkidan Teshar, SeleEnat program director, says, "Ultimately, the long-term hope for children in foster care is to get the opportunity of living a happy life by finding a caring parent." In 2023, Seblewengel officially began the domestic adoption process — now possible in Ethiopia — and hopes to soon become the boys' legal, permanent parent.



5,098 children received nurturing care in Holt-supported foster families, group homes or care centers in 2023

Holt Featured in PBS Documentary on International Adoption

In November 2023, during National Adoption Month, a documentary premiered on PBS that was filmed at Holt's office in Eugene and features members of Holt leadership as well as Holt's board chair, Derek Parker. Produced by the production company Empowered and hosted by actress Meg Ryan, the five-minute video shares about the changes in international adoption in recent years, the need for post-adoption services among adoptees and adoptive families, and why it's so important that international adoption continues as a path to a family for children living in orphanages around the world. The documentary will periodically air on PBS stations throughout the coming year, and we hope it inspires viewers to learn more about Holt's work and mission to ensure stable, loving families for children! Use the QR code to view the documentary on the Empowered website.



95% of children adopted internationally in 2023 were older than 5, part of a sibling group or had at least some minor special needs



Adoption



Holt Families Travel to China to Complete Long-Awaited Adoptions

After beginning their China adoption process in 2017, Amanda and Justin Mohr were matched with a little girl in November 2019. They made plans to travel just as COVID-19 began to spread across the globe, suspending travel to China. For more than three years, the Mohrs — and the nearly 50 other families in Holt’s China program — had their adoptions put on hold. The lengthy wait would be emotional and often uncertain for both the waiting families and their children in China. But Amanda and Justin never gave up hope. In August 2023, shortly after their daughter’s fifth birthday, the Mohrs were finally able to travel to China to adopt their little girl, Paige. “Waiting those years created a void and a longing to get her,” Justin says. “[But] our capacity to love her and receive her was even greater in the moment that we did get her.” Although the process has moved slowly — with China only inviting a couple families at a time — several other Holt families have since traveled to China to finally bring their children into the loving, permanent families they deserve.

61% of children placed internationally were older than 5

Colombia Hosting Program Helps 12-Year-Old Boy Join a Family

In summer 2022, 12-year-old Matias lived with Kim and Michael York in southern California for five weeks as part of Holt’s hosting program in partnership with Kidsave. The program gives older children from Colombia an opportunity to experience life in a family in the U.S., and helps U.S. families consider the possibility of adopting an older child. In their five weeks together, Matias and the Yorks visited places like Legoland and local museums, and spent quiet family time with one another, watching movies and making ice cream sundaes and Colombian food. “From the very moment we met him at the [airport], there was just something about him. ... I don’t want to say love at first sight, but it just really felt like it was meant to be. And that feeling just kept growing stronger,” says Kim. Shortly after Matias returned to Colombia, the Yorks and Matias made the exciting decision to move forward with his adoption! What began as a five-week hosting experience turned into Matias being adopted a year later in summer 2023.



149 children joined adoptive families internationally and 92 children joined families in their country of birth in 2023

Post Adoption

Holt Adoptee Camp Celebrates 40th Anniversary

Holt Adoptee Camp first began in the early 1980s as a Korean heritage camp, started by David Kim, president emeritus of Holt and one of its founders. The camp’s purpose was to connect Korean adoptees with their birth culture. As time went on, more adoptees from other countries began attending and camp expanded to welcome adoptees from any country, even domestic and non-Holt adoptees. Holt Adoptee Camp is like any other summer camp — with silly activities, team-building and sunshine — but it also gives youth adoptees the opportunity to connect with others who have the shared experience of growing up adopted. Holt’s post-adoption team — made up of adult adoptees and social workers — creates a unique curriculum that gives campers an opportunity to talk openly about their stories, as well as topics around adoption, racism, identity and community. During summer 2023, Holt camp was held in Oregon, Wisconsin and New Jersey and served 179 campers. For 40 years, campers have reported having an amazing time at camp and leaving with both a community of adoptee friends and also an increased ability to communicate and embrace their identity.



3,553 adoptees and adoptive families received post-adoption services in 2023

Board of Directors

Derek Parker • Dan Dietrich • Tom Feely • Linda Voelsch • Kristine Altwies • Becca Brandt
Yolaine Dauphin • Margaret Fitch-Hauser • Kim Lee • Cheryl Myers • Susan M.W. Tahir

Serving as the chairman of Holt’s board of directors feels particularly personal to me since so many of the children we serve have special needs. As a baby, I was left on the steps of Holt’s Ilsan Center in South Korea. I was picked up by Molly Holt, who nursed me back to health, and I was eventually adopted by a loving family.

So much of Holt’s work today, especially in international adoption, focuses on children with mild to complex special needs such as cerebral palsy, fetal alcohol exposure, delayed development and Down syndrome. Many potential adoptive parents still have misconceptions about the needs of children who are eligible for international adoption. This year, Holt leaders had the opportunity to discuss these and other changes in international adoption in a national TV segment that aired nationally on PBS and was hosted by actress and adoptive mom Meg Ryan.

Of course, we do much more than international adoption. I’m proud of our in-country adoption programs that find families for children in the country of their birth. Our family strengthening, nutrition, medical and foster care programs are also providing much-needed care for children around the world. Holt continues to thrive and the future looks bright throughout the organization.

Sincerely,

Derek Parker
Holt Adoptee | Holt Board Chair



In 2023, 42,757 people in 50 states and 27 countries donated over \$21 million to help children and families through Holt International. Over 8,170 people donated for the first time, and 32,125 donors gave through child sponsorship. On average, donors gave \$97.21 at a time to help children in need. Truly, it is your gifts both large and small that made it possible to meet the needs of over 1.5 million children, families and other individuals in 2023. Thank you for your incredible compassion and generosity.

Scan to watch our five-minute PBS
documentary on international adoption!



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