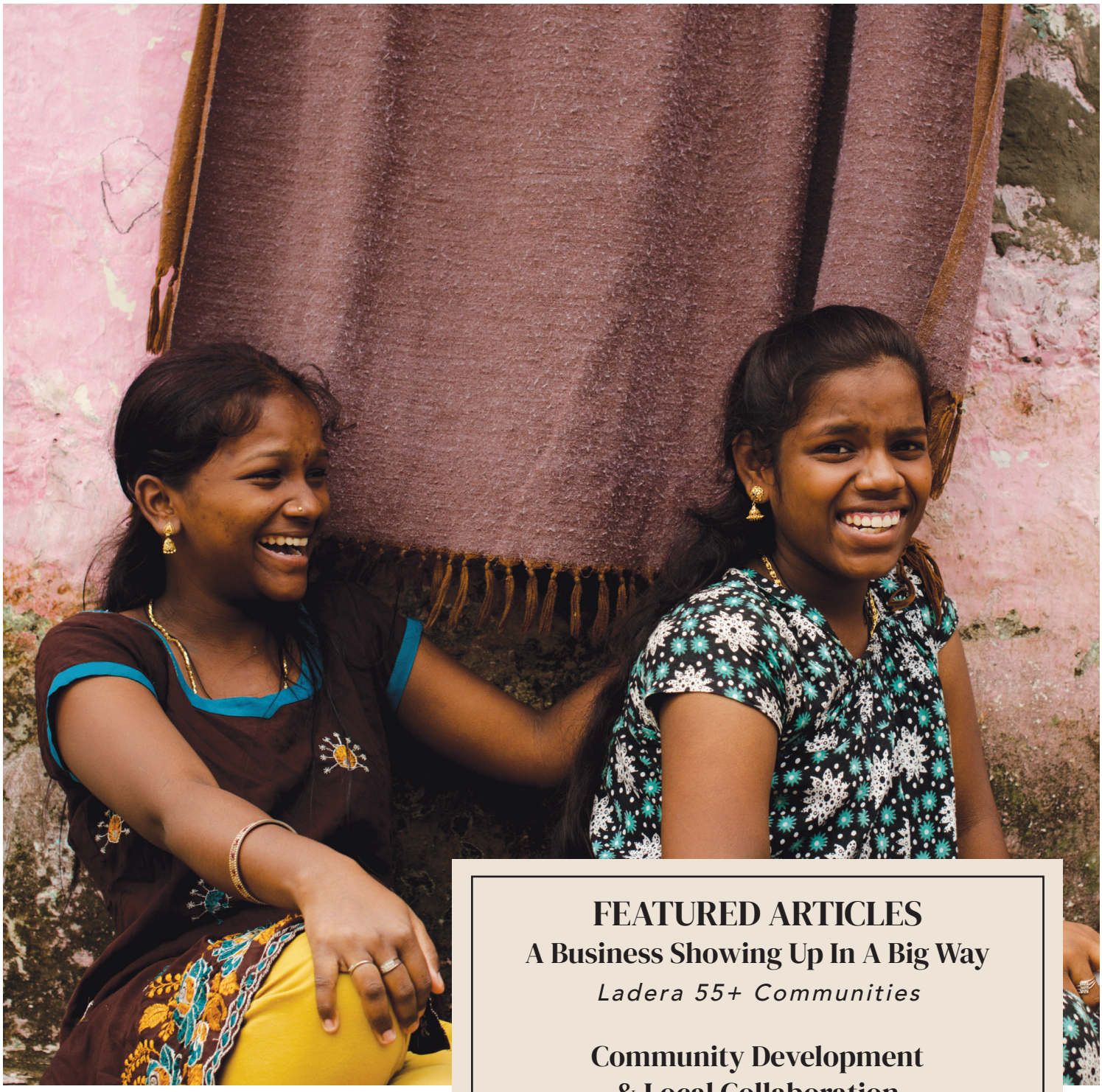
SOS INTERNATIONAL

COLLECTIVE HOPE

2024 IMPACT REPORT: HOW YOU SHOWED UP



FEATURED ARTICLES

A Business Showing Up In A Big Way

Ladera 55+ Communities

Community Development & Local Collaboration

Written by: Dwayne Weehunt

THE POWER OF SHOWING UP

Seventeen years ago, my world turned upside down through an encounter I had in a red light district. I stood in one of the darkest corners of the planet, shoulder to shoulder with an incredibly courageous woman who had survived the horrors of trafficking. We were in a large red light district, surrounded by broken lives, in the very place where she had faced personal devastation. **Over many years, she had found freedom and healing for herself, and she was now bringing hope to others.** As I walked with her through the red light district, she shared her story and her commitment to give the days of her life to helping other survivors find the same freedom she had. That day, I realized there was a place for me in this fight too. That I could walk with her to help ensure that places of safety and healing were available, so that as girls were ready, they could step into freedom and healing.

That commitment didn't start and doesn't end with me. There are so many of us standing in this space. **We are surrounded by an incredible community walking this road together, standing in the belief that children aren't commodities to be bought or sold and that real change and healing can come in the lives of young survivors of trafficking.**

That's the power of showing up. Multiplying the work of freedom into new places and more people. Studies confirm that when we work together, we become more effective, more joyful, and more impactful. It's the collective strength of people linking arms around a shared vision that makes lasting transformation possible.

This is part of SOS' story. It's why our core values - **See, Engage, Belong, and Build** - are active, not passive. They reflect a posture of leaning in and asking, "How can I help?" and **a commitment to stand with the broken and vulnerable children to meet needs and provide protection.**

As I reflect on 2024, I'm in awe of how you show up. This annual report is dedicated to telling stories of how you make a difference in the lives of at-risk children around the world.

When I first stepped into the role of Executive Director, I was nervous about the weight of the responsibility - and to be honest, some days I still feel that way.

But over the past two years, I've been so inspired by the incredible community that surrounds SOS. **Having you in this fight with us - as a friend, partner, and advocate - makes all the difference.**

You are part of the story God is writing! It is one of freedom, healing, and restoration. Through you, so many at-risk children receive food, water, loving care, freedom, and hope. Day by day, lives are being changed. Thank you for showing up! I look forward to continuing to bring light to dark places with you.

Your friend in the fight,

Christie Anthony
Executive Director
SOS International

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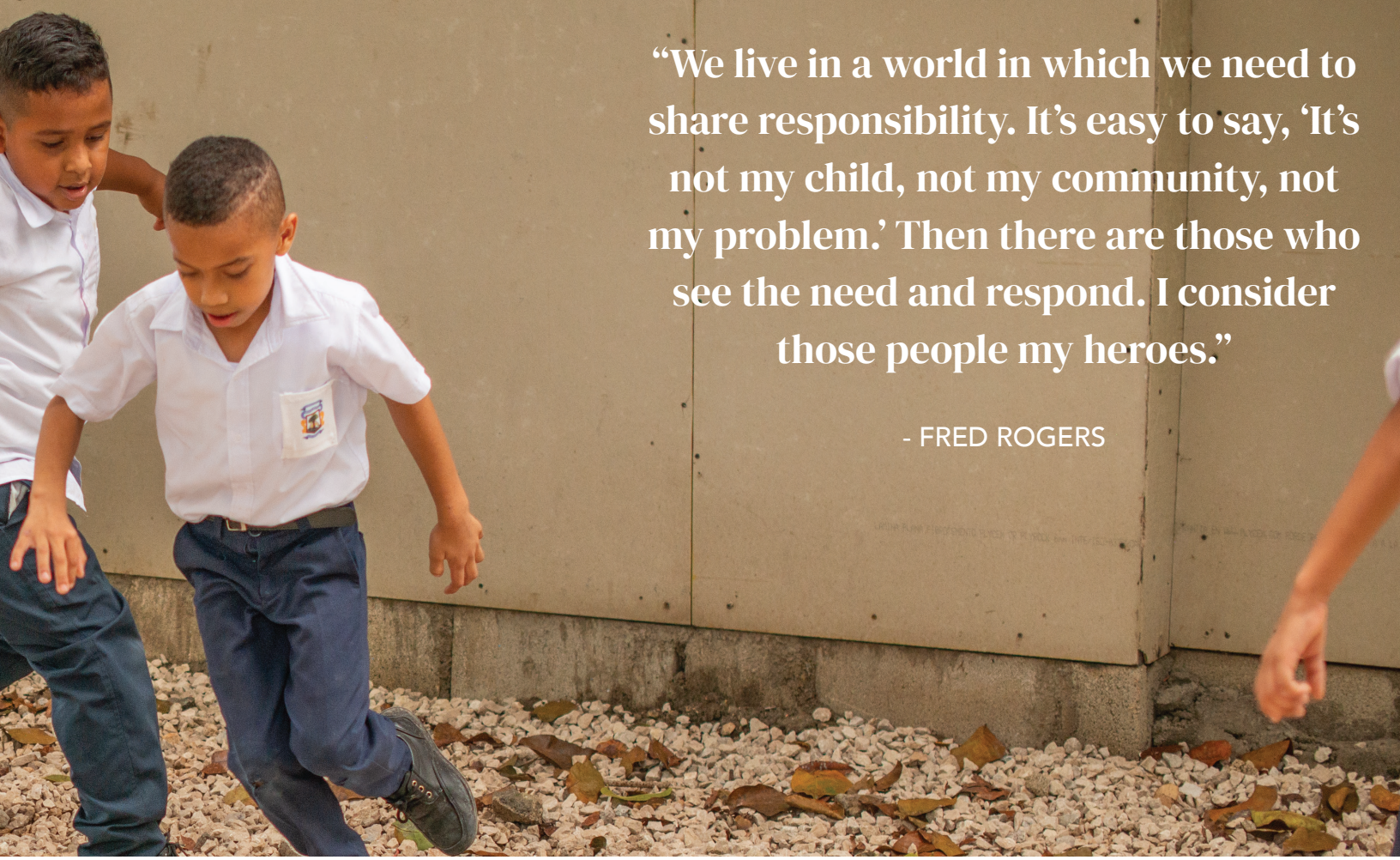
You showed up through food and water in a BIG way in 2024!

You served **5,120,929** meals to at-risk children and their families and providing **20,182** people with access to safe, clean drinking water. These are more than just numbers; these are daily burdens being lifted and futures secured!

Recently, at an outreach, we were talking with a young lady who was orphaned at the age of 8. With nowhere to turn, she found herself vulnerable to traffickers, who eagerly took advantage of her situation. She was removed from school and was being sold for others' profit. Now, at the age of 16, she finds herself trapped in a cycle of abuse with no hope or education to lean on in order to provide for herself. As she shared her story through tears, she said, "Who cares enough to help?"

Thankfully, we could show and tell her that YOU DO! Because of you, food, water, and hope are finding their ways into the lives of those who need them most.



"We live in a world in which we need to share responsibility. It's easy to say, 'It's not my child, not my community, not my problem.' Then there are those who see the need and respond. I consider those people my heroes."

- FRED ROGERS

In 2024, you volunteered *4130* hours and distributed *$5,388,939* worth of Gifts in Kind, including *184,368* bottles of water, into North Texas Communities

"It's a blessing to see so many good people and organizations making a positive impact in their communities. I'm blessed to be in a position at SOS that allows me to help support each of them in carrying out their missions in their respective communities. It's always been hard to turn potential partners away because we do not have enough donations to include them in our network. We have been fortunate to have some great donation partners, both financial and in-kind, but we continue to see the demand for assistance outpace our progress. We're always in the middle of this challenge, trying to keep up with the demand. However, I believe that with the support of individuals and businesses who partner with us now and who will partner with us in the future, we will eventually be able to consistently keep pace with demand. "

– Elisha T., Director of Community Outreach

YOU SHOWED UP IN THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM!

141 survivors were relocated out of red light districts and into safe homes in 2024!

These survivors include girls who were **trafficked as young as 4 years old.** And while the reality of walking out rehabilitation from such devastating abuse is challenging, we are SO thankful for the way you show up and make relocation and rehabilitation possible!

364 trafficking survivors are currently in residential care in Asia & Latin America. You provided **132,860** nights of safe sleep for trafficking survivors in 2024! **512** at-risk children are being secured through education.

Outreaches were facilitated for women and children in **94** vulnerable communities. Allowing us to secure children born in the brothels, while their mothers are still on their journey. The power and impact of these outreaches cannot be overstated! They are where the deep work of trust and hope is built as a woman takes steps towards freedom.

What does an outreach look like?

Medical Care
Meal Programs
Childcare
Educational/Vocational Training
Special Events
And so much more

As you continually show up and empower outreaches, you actively engage in the fight against human trafficking.

A Note From a Survivor

"The day I arrived at the safe home, I remember looking out the car window at all the people living there. I was shocked because ***it was the first time I had ever seen people who looked happy.***" - Born in a red light district, male survivor

Born in the brothels, this brave survivor lived his first 13 years of life experiencing the brutal realities every child born into a red light district must face. ***It is because of friends like you*** that outreach operations came into contact with this young man and were able to offer him a bed, education, and hope inside a safe house.

"They gave me food and my own warm bed. They even gave me the first pair of shoes I ever had. They gave me everything I needed that I had never had before." - Born in a red light district, male survivor

At the safe home, he was welcomed with open arms and reunited with his sister, who was relocated to the safe home years before.

"When I finally met my sister, we hugged each other. I'll never forget what she told me: she told me that she prayed for me *every day that I would someday join her here in the home.* Being cared for and wanted for the first time in my life, I realized that God is real and that he cares about me… Because my sister prayed for me to find safety in the home, I figured I would pray for my Mom to find safety here, too. I had seen it work for me, so I believed in prayer." - Born in a red light district, male survivor

Every time you partner with us to empower freedom, you change the legacy of families! Scan the QR code to hear this brave survivor's full story in his own words on the Disruptive Hope Podcast.

LISTEN NOW
Human Trafficking 101 -
Male Trafficking Survivor Interview

A NEW WAY TO EMPOWER FREEDOM

2024 brought the launch of SOS International Worship! In partnership with amazing artists who offer their time, talent, and influence to join us in releasing songs of hope and freedom over the lives of those trapped in slavery. All royalties from this project go towards supporting our freedom initiatives. Stream our English, Spanish, or Hindi album today and help provide freedom for a trafficking victim!

Listen to SOS International Worship

> **Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.**
> – Helen Keller

525 Communities Developed!

Developing communities helps secure at-risk children and transform their lives. Through community development, holistic, sustainable solutions are developed that bring about widespread transformation that changes lives and creates the conditions for children to grow into healthy, productive adults.

In 2024, you showed up and empowered transformation through community development in **525 communities!** These communities, all around the world, are forever changed because of your yes.

29,500 Shoes Distributed in 2024

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
& LOCAL COLLABORATION

Written by: Dwayne Weehunt, Founder & Chairman of the Board, SOS International

Community development thrives on the active involvement and investment of local people. I've witnessed over the years that community ownership is a fundamental aspect of successful projects. Local people understand their communities better than anyone else. When they participate in decision-making processes for local projects, they become passionate advocates for these initiatives. When a community is ready to embrace the responsibility through a local partnership, real development can kick off.

Building trust is essential in community development. Trust is the foundation upon which future collaboration rests. If the community sees that their interests, rather than external agendas, drive the development project, they are more likely to work together to overcome challenges and keep the initiative alive.

Every community has its unique set of challenges, values, and resources. Projects that are designed or implemented without considering these nuances can fail to resonate with or serve the community's actual needs. Local partnership ensures that the proposed solutions align with the specific goals, culture, and realities of the community.

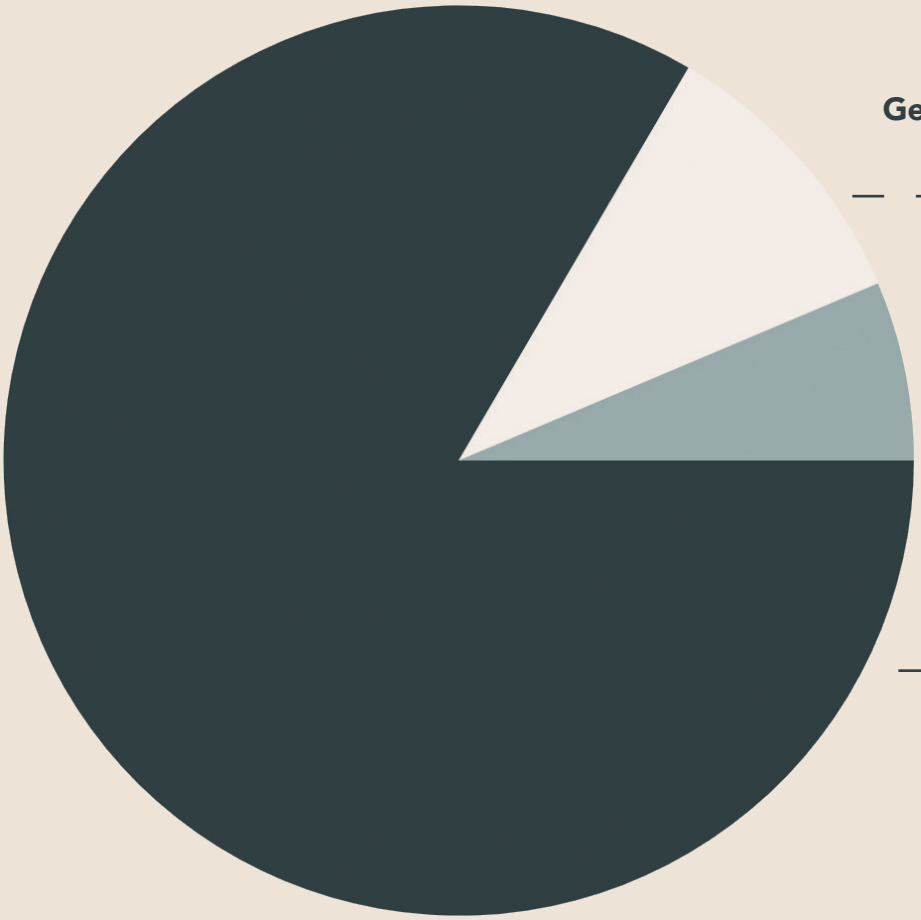
The success of a development project often depends on its ability to adapt to unforeseen challenges. When local stakeholders are involved in the process, they become vital partners during the project's implementation. Their firsthand knowledge of the community's unique circumstances allows them to identify potential roadblocks early on and work collaboratively to address them.

Local input and partnership in community development not only strengthen the implementation and impact of the project but also build long-lasting relationships, encourage sustainable growth, and ensure that development is truly reflective of the community's needs. It's a key ingredient for projects that are both meaningful and effective in the long term.

Here at SOS, we have the privilege of working with incredible Local Care Networks all around the globe to implement effective and transformational community development.

2024 IN REVIEW

YOUR GENEROSITY DIDN'T JUST MEET NEEDS -
IT TOLD A STORY OF HOPE.



General and Administrative
$935,459

Fundraising Activities
$582,488

Outreach Program Expense
$7,639,988

Total 2024 Expenditures: $9,157,935

Board of Directors

Paige Allen | Christie Anthony | Phil Caldwell
Charles Carr | John Chalk | John Delin | Mark Mueller
Brent Pennington | Carrie Rodgers | Scott Sailer
Toby Slough | Dwayne Weehunt | Leslie Weehunt

ECFA

Charity Navigator
FOUR-STAR

Platinum Transparency 2025
Candid.

SOSRESPONDS.ORG

MEET THE TEAM

THE SOS INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE TEAM

Dwayne W.
CEO and Founder

Leslie W.
Co-Founder &
Chief Program Officer

Christie A.
Executive Director

Shelly H.
Director of
Development

Elisha T.
Director of
Community Outreach

Hannah W.
Director of Marketing
& Communications

Janie W.
Director of Finance
& Operations

THE SOS INTERNATIONAL TEAM

Natan C.
Marketing Associate

Ellen D.
Donor Relations Coordinator

Jaylen H.
Warehouse Manager

Daniella H.
Office Administrator

Tammy H.
Administrative Coordinator

Danielle L.
Red Light Rescue Chair

Isaiah M.
Warehouse Associate

Braxton O.
Community Outreach Coordinator

Christina P.
Marketing Coordinator

Javier P.
Marketing Coordinator

Robert Q.
SOS International Worship Manager

Janice S.
Development Engagement Coordinator

Tyler T.
Warehouse Associate

Noah W.
Marketing Coordinator

Ladera

LADERA LIVING 55+ COMMUNITIES

A Business Showing Up In A Big Way

Our friends at Ladera Living are building more than homes - they're securing futures.

At SOS International, we've seen again and again how powerful it is when a business uses its influence to create change for others. Our partner, Ladera Living, is doing exactly that.

With every home they sell, Ladera Living donates $500 to SOS International to provide food, shelter, safety, and support for at-risk children all around the world.

A Legacy of Generosity

Our partnership with the Delin family, the founders of Ladera Living, goes back more than 20 years. Long before Ladera communities existed, they stood with us - giving, advocating, and personally investing in the lives of children in need. John Deline, CEO and SOS Board Member, along with his two sons, Bryce, VP, and Ryan, President, and the entire Ladera Living Team, are all in on the mission of SOS. Additionally, His Daughter-in-law, Laura Delin, serves on our Hope Panel.

Today, through Ladera Living, that legacy has only grown stronger. Every homebuyer becomes part of this story. When someone chooses a Ladera home, they're not just investing in a beautiful place to live - they're joining us in changing the trajectory of a child's life.

From House Keys to Hope:
One Child's Story

Recently, a gift from Ladera Living helped us reach Aaron, a 7-year-old born to a trafficking victim, living in one of the poorest communities in the world. His family struggled to find enough food, and years of malnutrition left him small for his age, often sick, and unable to attend school.

Because of the generosity of partners like Ladera Living, Aaron now receives regular, nutritious meals, medical care, and the chance to go to school for the first time. He's gaining weight, his energy is returning, and he's starting to dream about what he might become one day.

That's what this partnership is all about - turning a home sale in North Texas into a life-changing gift for an at-risk child.

At SOS International, we believe lasting change happens when people and businesses work together to show up for the good of others. Ladera Living is proof of that!

Their commitment means that every home is more than a place to live - it's a seed of hope planted in the life of a child.

Learn more about our friends at Ladera Living at laderaliving.com

Meet Our Brand Ambassadors

TAKING A STAND TO SECURE AT-RISK CHILDREN

Daniel Calveti is one of the most influential singer-songwriters and worship leaders in Latin America. He is a four-time Latin Grammy nominee and, Dove Award-winning artist.

Daniel and Shari Calveti are authors and speakers passionate about families and marriages. They co-authored the books "Construyendo Un Matrimonio Saludable" and "Una Biblia Devocional para Matrimonios."

They are brand ambassadors for SOS International.

Johnny Rez, is an artist, songwriter, and speaker from Miami, FL.

Performing worldwide in both English and Spanish, Johnny, has been featured on networks and programs such as TBN, NBC, ABC, Telemundo, Latin Grammys, NASCAR, GWE, Jingle Ball, AMAs, Now Living US/UK, The Voice, and American Idol.

Johnny is a brand ambassador for SOS International and is passionate about using his voice and influence to help at-risk children.

The Hope Panel exists to eradicate human trafficking in our generation, restore hope and healing to its victims, and engage in the fight until all are free.

The Panel is made up of a hand-selected core group of people who help raise awareness and monthly support to fund freedom, restoration and prevention projects.

HOPE BUILDERS

Hope builders walk side by side with a trafficking survivor as they journey towards healing. Through monthly sponsorship, they empower reach and rehabilitation, securing a survivor today and helping them build towards their future. Real change starts when people like you become hope builders.

BECOME A HOPE BUILDER

DISRUPTIVE HOPE PODCAST

HOPE SEES. HOPE ENGAGES. HOPE BELONGS. HOPE BUILDS.

Our desire is that the Disruptive Hope podcast would challenge and encourage you as you become an agent of hope in unlikely places.

Where to Listen

music

Listen Now!

SOS INTERNATIONAL
“Do your little bit of good where you are; it’s those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.”
- DESMOND TUTU
@SOSRESPONDS
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