

# Because donors like you care, Carlos and Felipe will never be alone again

Felipe\*, age 12, and his brother Carlos\*, 9 became separated from their father while relocating to Columbia. The two young boys found themselves all alone, far from their mother who was still in their native Venezuela.

Through the A Tu Lado (On Your Side) project, an international reunification effort in which SOS Children’s Villages is a partner, the boys’ mother was found. She was eager and ready to bring them home.

After many steps to ensure all was prepared for the boys’ return, SOS Children’s Village staff were able to take Carlos and Felipe home. Overjoyed to finally see and hug their mother and grandmother after being apart for over two years, Felipe told an SOS staff member, “Thank you for bringing me back to my family. I will never be alone again.”

Today the boys are healing from their ordeal, studying hard at school and happy to be playing football with their friends.

**Through a gift in your will, you can create more happy endings for children, far into the future.**



*\*Names have been changed to protect the children’s privacy.*

## Frequently Asked Questions

### How does a gift in my will help children around the world?

With your gift, SOS Children’s Villages strengthens families to prevent child abandonment, provides loving homes for children who lack parental care, educates and empowers children to reach their full potential and advocate for children’s rights so their voices can be heard.

### What about my loved ones?

It’s important to care for those we love. Many people find that they have enough in their estate to care for family members and allocate a share to causes that are most important to them.

### Do I need to change my entire will?

Even if you already have a will, you can include SOS Children’s Villages using a special legal clause called a codicil. Many people choose to update their will when a major life event happens, like the birth of a new grandchild. You can simply add your gift as part of your next update!

### Does SOS Children’s Villages accept other types of planned gifts?

Yes! In fact, gifts of life insurance are an increasingly popular method of support. It’s a type of gift that not only multiplies your support to a cause you cherish, but in some cases, it also can provide significant tax benefits. If you’re interested, we encourage you to speak to your financial advisor and visit [www.soschildrensvillages.ca/planned-giving/life-insurance](http://www.soschildrensvillages.ca/planned-giving/life-insurance) for more information.

# Your Special Donor Report

A Legacy of Caring



SPRING 2025

## Protecting Children for Generations to Come

Somewhere in the world, there is a child looking forward to a brighter future, thanks to your kindness. Your caring spirit has helped them find a loving home in an SOS Children’s Village, a quality education and the opportunity to pursue their dreams.

Unfortunately, we all know the world will not be solving all of its problems anytime soon. New generations of orphaned, abandoned and other vulnerable children will continue to need our support. As someone who cares deeply for these children, you have the power to help them even beyond your lifetime, with a gift in your will.

**To discover how a gift in your will to SOS Children’s Villages Canada protects children far into the future, read on!**

## You’re building a better world, one child at a time

Moesha\* was first enveloped into the loving arms of an SOS mother in Jamaica when she was three years old. The steady care and support that you helped to provide throughout her childhood and teen years enabled Moesha to blossom into a successful and self-reliant adult.

Today, the 25-year-old social work graduate is employed at the Restorative Justice Branch of the Ministry of Justice in Jamaica, specializing in dispute resolution. Moesha is passionate about helping others find constructive solutions to the challenges they face in life.

Reflecting on the solid foundation she received from her SOS mother, Moesha says she has gained a deeper appreciation for the supportive environment that she came to know as home.

*“It was more than just a place to live, it was a nurturing community that set me on a path toward success,” she says. “My upbringing shaped my approach to challenges and setbacks, cultivating the resilience that continues to guide me personally and professionally.”*

**Your dedication is changing lives all around the world!**



## A Champion for Vulnerable Children

Through a gift in her will, Alicia will transform children's lives long into the future.



Alicia Quesnel grew up in a loving and close-knit Ukrainian family on the Canadian prairies. She fondly remembers large gatherings with her extended family, where they would share wonderful food, music and memories.

So, when a family friend told her about the work of SOS Children's Villages, she was heartbroken to think of a child being alone in the world. *"I had to take action,"* says Alicia.

She immediately began sending donations, and not long after, began to volunteer her time raising funds for SOS Children's Villages Canada. She continued volunteering as a member of the Board of Directors, eventually becoming Chair.

"From my insider's view, I've been able to appreciate how carefully each donated dollar is spent to help vulnerable children around the world," says Alicia.

**She also learned the power of making a gift in her will to transform the lives of vulnerable children even after she's gone.**

"I feel a great peace of mind knowing that through my legacy gift to SOS Children's Villages Canada, I will be able to help vulnerable children far into the future," says Alicia.



## How you're helping keep families together

Your compassion doesn't just help give orphaned and abandoned children a forever home – you help prevent families from being separated at all!

Zehara\*, lives with a disability in Ethiopia. She was providing for her two young children alone, after her husband disappeared and another child died in a tragic accident. She was determined to care for her children even in the face of incredible heartache and hardships. That's when she connected with our SOS Family Strengthening Program.

Through that program, Zehara and her family were seen at our nearby Early Childhood Development and Community Centre. The Centre provided essential support for her children and access to new opportunities for Zehara. She attended business classes that introduced her to budgeting, marketing and management. With this life-changing knowledge and supported by a start-up grant, Zehara launched a coffee and teas business.

Today, Zehara has built a thriving business through hard work and persistence. She encourages other single mothers to achieve their own financial independence and stability. And she is thrilled to be building a brighter future for her children.

**A gift in your will can help women like Zehara to change their family's lives forever!**



**To learn more about making a gift in your will, you can contact Dave Greiner at 343-633-0837 or via email at [d.greiner@soschildrensvillages.ca](mailto:d.greiner@soschildrensvillages.ca).**

