

Can there truly be a bond between the sponsor family and their sponsor child?

One of the biggest learning curves Founder Carl Ralston experienced at Remember Nhu was the first Christmas Party in 2007 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. This was the first year that the first Remember Nhu children's home opened.

Carl and his wife, Laura, had asked people to give Christmas gifts to their sponsor children. As the children opened the gifts, Carl noticed some of the sponsor families had given photos of themselves to their sponsor child.

“

At first I thought it was kind of arrogant for the sponsor families to think that their child would want a picture of them,” Carl remembers. “Well, very quickly, God showed me the error of my thoughts. During the next few days, the children would take their sponsor family photos to the American Team who was visiting and ask, ‘Do you know my sponsor family?’ In reality, the most treasured gift the child receives, is a photo of their sponsor family. I had terribly underestimated the value that a child places on their sponsor family and how they view their sponsor family. Many of our children are orphaned or affectively orphaned, which means their parent(s) have abandoned them and the child will never see their parent again. The children actually look at their sponsor family as their moms and dads. So, yes, emotional bonds are formed between the sponsor child and sponsor family!

”

If I would like to see my church sponsor a children's home, what do I do next?

Please contact carl@remembernhu.org immediately to start the process.



Remember Nhu

Ending child sex slavery through prevention

For more information, visit our website:

www.remembernhu.org



How can my church partner with Remember Nhu?



What does a church-sponsored children's home look like?

Remember Nhu has several churches that sponsor entire children's homes, which is mutually beneficial for both churches and Remember Nhu.

In such partnerships, Remember Nhu provides the expertise and staffing to run a children's home by doing the following: locating children who are at risk of being sold into the sex trade; hiring, training, and managing house parents / helpers; finding a location for the home; coordinating relationships between the children's home and the church.

The church is asked to allow a representative of Remember Nhu to speak at the church in order to explain the Remember Nhu Child Sponsorship Program. If there is interest in the congregation and we can obtain sponsorship for between 7-12 children, Remember Nhu will start a children's home dedicated to that church being the entire sponsor of that home.



What does it cost the church?

Remember Nhu asks the church to request potential sponsor families within their congregation. Each of the sponsor families is asked to give \$60 per month, which will provide for their sponsor child's physical, educational, emotional and spiritual needs to be met. Remember Nhu does not ask the church to give anything other than the opportunity to find sponsor families within the church.



How do we start?

Step 1: Remember Nhu asks the Pastor, Elder Board, or Missions Director to approve Remember Nhu speaking to the congregation.

Step 2: A meeting is held with Remember Nhu and church representatives to answer any questions.

Step 3: Remember Nhu speaks to the congregation and offers the opportunity to sponsor a child.

Step 4: Remember Nhu determines if there is enough interest to start a children's home. If so, Remember Nhu receives commitments from sponsor families and then begins the process of finding indigenous house parents and a location for the home. Once those are established, Remember Nhu begins interviewing children to live in the home. Sometimes, people will start giving funds to Remember Nhu before the home opens; these funds go toward the set up of the home, which costs between \$10,000-\$20,000. These costs cover the renting of a facility, bunk beds, appliances, utensils, and everything that is needed to start a home. Remember Nhu does not ask the church to pay for the home start-up costs. Again, the children's home will open with 7-15 children.

What happens after a Home is opened?

After a children's home is opened, communication begins between the church and children's home. Sponsor families receive biographical information about their child, as well as updates about that particular child and the progress of the entire home. Sponsoring families also have the opportunity to provide Christmas gifts for their child (a gift that can fit into a one-gallon plastic bag, along with a photograph of the family, and notes or cards; value should range from \$5-50.) Often, the church or some of the families decide they would like to visit the children's home.

How big does our church have to be to start a children's home?

The answer to this question depends on the commitment of the congregation: we have had homes start from congregations that were smaller than 150 people. If your church wants to sponsor a home but does not have 7 -15 sponsor families, Remember Nhu can match you with another church and the two can go together to start a children's home.

What are the benefits for our church?

There are numerous benefits of a church-sponsored children's home with Remember Nhu. As sponsor families start talking about the children's home, community grows and flourishes. God opens eyes and hearts to other missional works because they have been exposed to a developing country and needs in the world. If they choose, sponsor families can develop adult bible studies or home groups with a focus being the children's home, which interconnects those people within the church. Remember Nhu also has seen people get focused on the children and needs within a developing country. James 1:27 describes perfect religion as caring for orphans and widows, so this partnership allows for an opportunity to live out that command.