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Together with Holt





Cover story

Buja Karume Elementary School has never had enough classrooms to accommodate all the students. Now it has two more classrooms and the children can study to fulfil their dreams in a better environment thanks to the support of Angel Network. (continued in Page 11)

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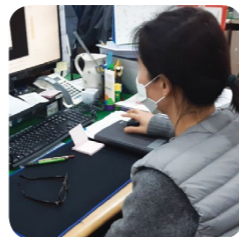
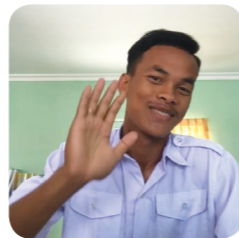
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Overseas residents and foreign residents in Korea who would like to donate to Holt Children's Services can be a Holt sponsor through the methods to the right.

Via bank transfer

- **Bank** : SHINHAN BANK, SUHKYO-DON BRANCH
(Address : 35, World Cup buk-ro, Mapo-gu, Seoul, Korea)
- **Account No** : 140 008 013005 (Holt Children's Services, Inc)
- **Swift code** : SHBK KRSE (When sending money from abroad)

By mail (certified check in USD or Euro)

- **Address** : Sponsorship Team, Holt Children's Services, Inc.
Yanghwa-ro 19, Mapo-gu, Seoul, Korea
- **Beneficiary** : Holt Children's Services, Inc

In person on a visit

Sponsorship Team, Holt Children's Services, Inc.
Yanghwa-ro 19, Mapo-gu, Seoul, Korea

For more information, contact Sponsorship Team

- **Tel.** +82-2-331-7073 / **e-mail** : sponsor@holt.or.kr

* Receipts and certificate are available but it is not possible to get an overseas tax benefit with those.

It Started Out of Love in 1955

Written by Woo Eun-young, Public Relations Team

Primary Emblem



Secondary Emblem



Harry and Bertha Holt founded Holt Children's Services (HCS) to fulfil their philosophy 'Love in Action' in realization that the best way to help orphans is finding them a new family rather than emergency relief. For 65 years since then, HCS has honored their philosophy and operated various welfare projects for neglected children. This year marked HCS's 65th anniversary for which our long-time talent donors HS Ad and calligrapher Kang, Byeong-in made an emblem and calligraphy works.

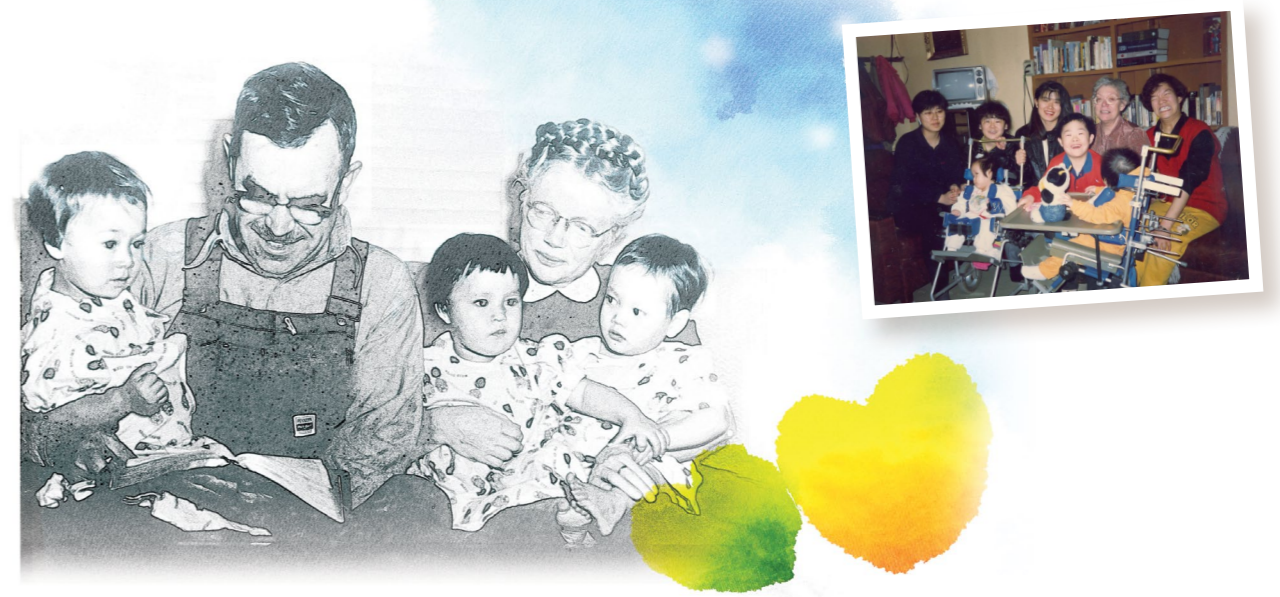
The emblem of HCS's 65th anniversary symbolizes 'connection, love and happiness' in harmony of the main dark blue color with sub-color mint. HS Ad has donated its talent since 2013, having agreed to participate in social contribution projects and worked closely with us on numerous projects including CI design and radio ad scription. The agency also helped setting up the brand image and radio scription for HCS's sisterhood program of domestic and overseas children called 'Fragrant Sisterhood, Herb.'

Love
in
Action
러브인액션

더큰가족 홀트아동복지회

Kang, one of Korea's representative calligraphers, has donated his talent for HCS's many projects including 'Love in Action,' 'Children Are Most Beautiful When They're Loved' and 'Brave Mothers.' He has also shared his artistic talent at calligraphy classes for overseas adoptees visiting Korea through HCS programs, which further improved HCS's reputation greatly. He once again breathed a new life into HCS's mission and vision with his talent donation for 'Love In Action' and 'HCS, A Greater Family' to mark its 65th anniversary.

HCS plans to publish a book titled 'Who? Special: The Holts' to let the world know what Harry and Bertha Holt had done their whole lives for Korean war orphans.



HCS could not have done so many works for those in need for the last 65 years without the consistent support, attention and love of numerous sponsors. They have reached out to the neglected children in need of a family and struggling mothers in need of support. They gave them a new world and an opportunity for a better future. HCS will be a greater family in every aspect of the society and make sure that under its warm wings every child could have a happy childhood.

Overseas Centers Coping With the Pandemic

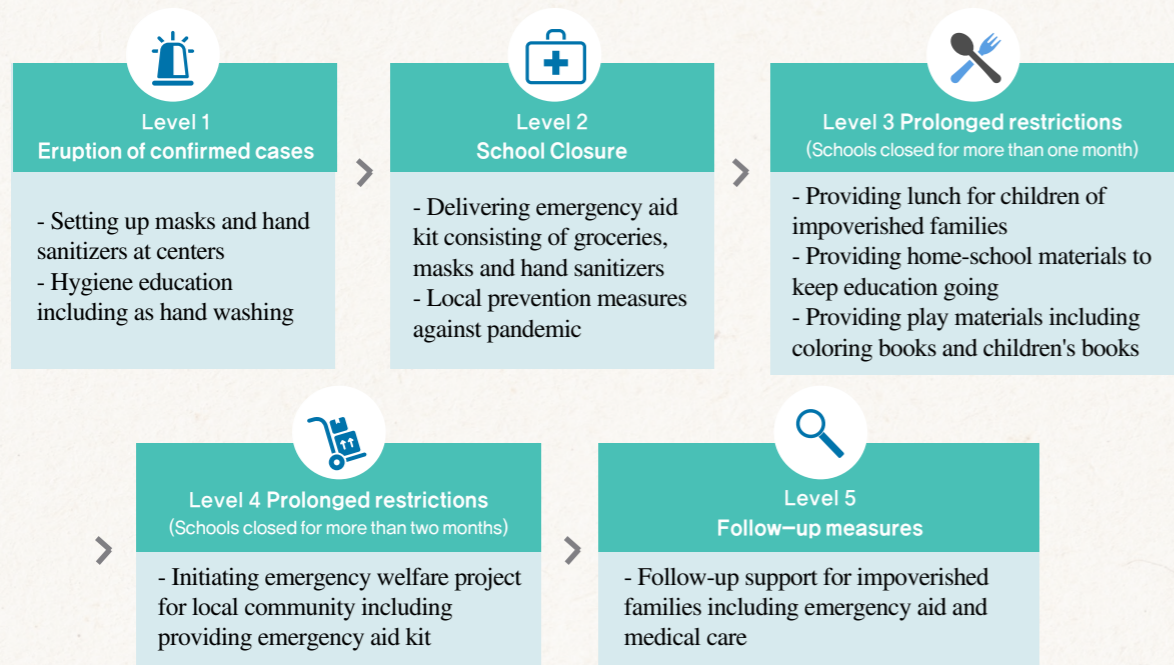
Written by Han Se-hee, International Cooperation Team

The pandemic of the novel coronavirus affects developing countries, too. These countries with poor health care infrastructure imposed harsh restrictions including school closures, border closures and curfews. In the meanwhile, the children of impoverished families suffer the most. They are easily neglected at home as schools are closed while their parents go to work. Besides, most of the impoverished families suffer greater financial difficulties because of loss of job or reduced income.

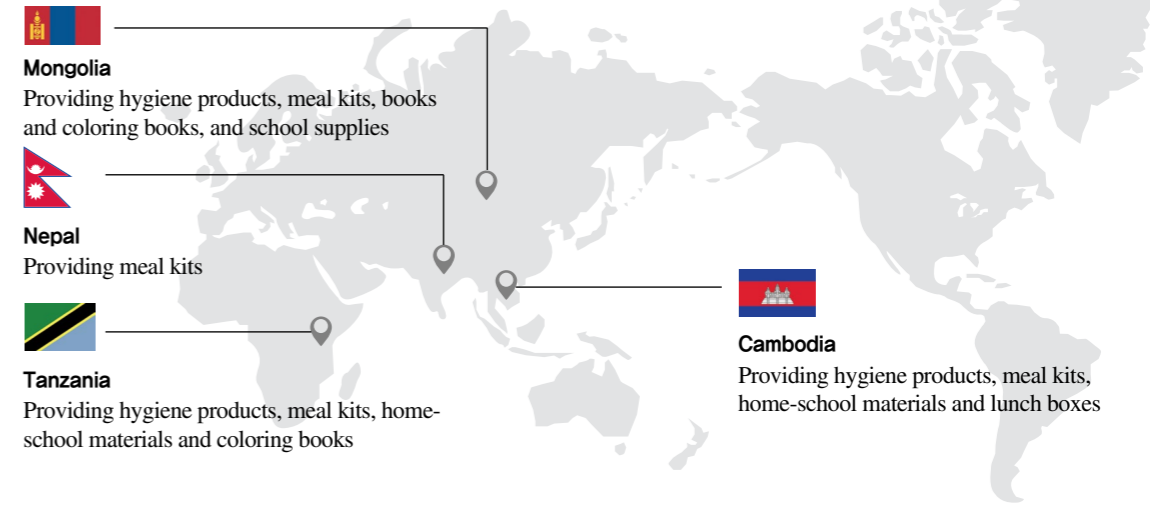
HCS established countermeasures according to crisis levels and delivered emergency aid for impoverished families and children in countries with Holt Dream Center.



Overseas Centers Prevention Measures Against Pandemic



Coping Status of Overseas Centers



Level 1. Eruption of confirmed cases : Hygiene Education

We have hygiene education for children at centers, teaching them the importance of disease prevention and hand washing as well as how to properly wash hands. We also have masks and hand sanitizers set up as a precaution measure.



Level 2. School closure : Providing Emergency aid kit

Schools were closed soon after the first eruption of confirmed cases. We provided the first group of 571 children with emergency aid kits consisting of masks, hand sanitizers and soap as well as groceries to keep the children neglected at home from infection and malnourishment.



Level 3. Prolonged school closure : Providing meal kits and home-school and play materials once a month

Prolonged school closures worsen the situation of neglected children of impoverished families having difficult times without income due to loss of job. We provided meal kits as well as home-school and play materials to help them cope with the government's restrictions and prolonged school closures.



Level 4. Prolonged restrictions : Providing emergency aid kits for local community

The pandemic's damage is harsh on local communities whose people has to endure reduced income and whose children are neglected at home often without meals. We provided emergency aid kits to help the local communities cope with the crisis.

Q. What a wonderful plan! But the center's closed due to the pandemic, isn't it? Do you have any problem preparing for the exam?

I'm a little confused as the exam was postponed from August to December due to the sudden change of situation. But I work hard, taking the online lessons the center provides.

Q. How do you feel about leaving the center for the college?

I'll miss my teachers and friends a lot. I spent most of my childhood at this place that I love so much. I'm just grateful for the opportunities and valuable memories I got from culture experiences and others.

Q. What would you say to the sponsor who has supported you all this time?

A sponsor gave me a lot of support, attention and love as well as many presents and letters. Thanks to the support, I have been able to continue studying and going to the center without worry. I wish the sponsor all the good luck, happiness and health in the world.



Twelve senior students at Holt Dreams Center Cambodia never gave up hope and kept studying hard despite of their poor family situations. Please support them to go on and advance into college as they wish.

* Holt Dream Center Cambodia's scholarship program supports the students with their tuition from elementary school to college so that they would never give up their dream because of poverty.



Dream Classrooms Made of Angels' Love

Written by Han Se-hee, International Cooperation Team

Buja Karume Elementary School in the Temeke district of the Dar es Salaam region of Tanzania has only nine classrooms for 1,225 students, so that one classroom is crammed with about 100 students and that the school is run on double shift.

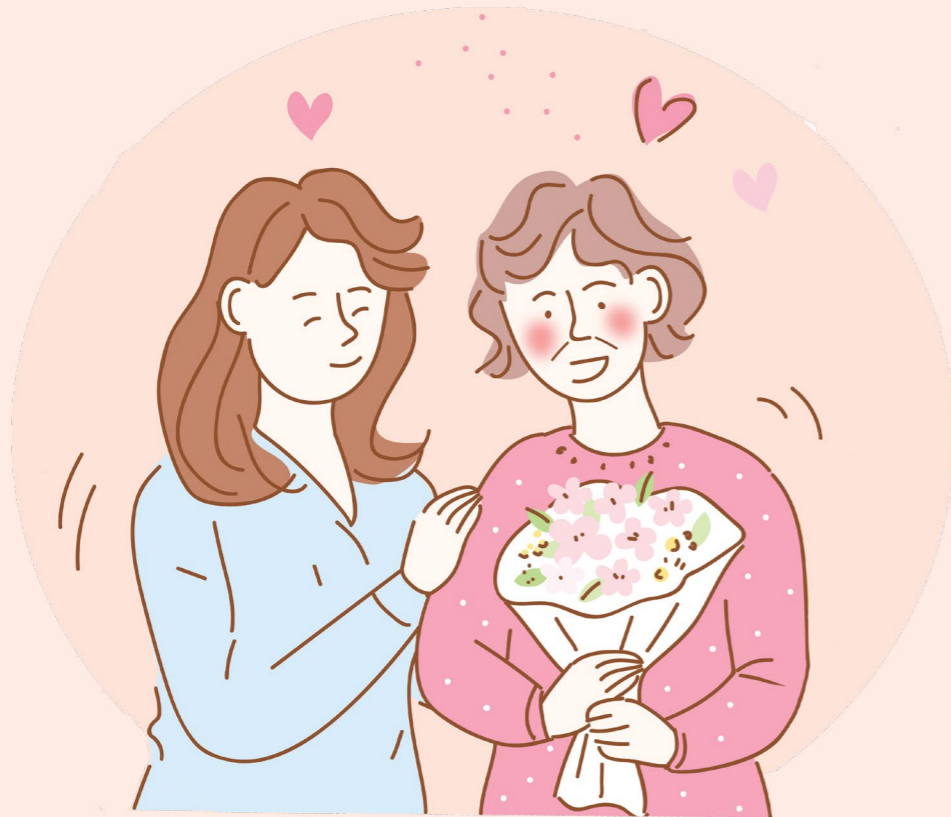


Angel Network, Suwon volunteers' group, has sponsored HCS's overseas projects since 2017, and this time reached out to the children of Tanzania. They sponsored the construction of two new classrooms at Buja Karume Elementary School. The new classrooms are the only places with power grid in the district, where the students can study under a bright light even in monsoon season. And the roof above them provides a shelter from the scorching sunlight. As the seventh grade students use the new classrooms, the school's accommodation improved enough to end the double shift for the fifth and sixth graders. We would like to extend our thanks to Angel Network who presented wonderful classrooms where the students can study in a comfortable environment.

* Tanzanian government eased social distancing restrictions in June, and President John Magufuli of Tanzania announced on July 20 that the novel coronavirus was eliminated in the country. Nevertheless, HCS does not let its guard down on the pandemic situation while running Tanzania Holt Dream Center.

We Are Family Again

Written by Chief Lee Eun-jeong, Post Adoption Services Center



A heavily pregnant woman cautiously knocked the frozen door of a maternity clinic in a small Busan neighborhood in the darkest night of January in 1984. She left her eight-year-old and two-year-old sons with his husband bed-ridden for over a year after surviving a risky stomach surgery. After giving birth to a baby girl by herself at the clinic, the mother wept in silence over the poor little thing with nobody to hold onto. Her whole family lived off a friend in a small room, and could not pay the rent for ten months. Her oldest son would start to go to school in March. She did not know what to do now when she had a new baby.

Knowing her dire situation, the midwife took the hard part and suggested, "Honey, the baby can be adopted to a family who wants one but cannot have their own. They'll take good care of her with the wellbeing, education and all."

Whether it was the advice that her baby girl would not starve or her situation which forced her to make a decision for her two little sons at home, she did not know. The mother sent her five-day-old baby away for the best wishes. Ever since, she had lived her life day by day suppressing her guilt and longing for her baby girl who would live somewhere out there. Having lost her husband when her oldest son turned 18 and the very son by an accident when he was about 40, she endured her fate as an atonement for sending her baby away, only working hard, so hard that her fingerprints were worn out. She thought that working hard would bury her sorrow. However, her longing for her daughter only deepened as the wrinkles around her eyes. She consoled herself by helping neighbors in need and children in impoverished countries and believing that her daughter would have a happy life under the care of good parents.

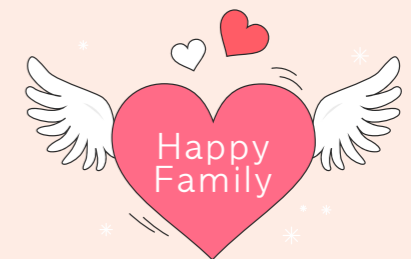
The baby girl grew up as an only child cherished by loving parents. Although she had always complaints about not having siblings, she grew up as a happy and confident woman fully loved by her parents. She met a man decent enough to get married, and one day her mother started a conversation with a voice and expression that she had never saw before. Her mother said, "I think it's time to tell you the truth now that you're about to make your own family. I'm not your biological mother. But there was not a single moment that I didn't think you're my own." It was like a movie playing in front of her. The woman, who had always been there for her for the 33 years of her entire life, kept saying 'I'm sorry,' shedding tears.

Even though her mother had done nothing wrong, she resented everything. The adopted daughter had been wallowing in great sadness year after year, breaking her mother's heart badly one day and then caressing her the next day. It was only after getting married and going through a difficult journey to get pregnant that she came to understand little by little what her two mothers had to endure. Her confusion and resentment turned into gratitude and sad affection and then to courage. "What if I look for the woman who gave me birth?"



The biological mother now owned a restaurant but still did not pass a single day of her life without atonement. One day, she found a letter addressed to her farm where she stopped by after a long interval to check the vegetables she had planted a while ago. Her heart dropped to the ground when she saw the sender 'Holt Children's Services' on the envelop. The letter said, 'Ms. OOO is eager to meet you.' She took the phone, called HCS, and barely said, choked with tears, "I am the person whom she's looking for."

On the clearest spring day after long-awaited rain, the mother reunited with her daughter who had been sent away by her own hands but now was pregnant with a beautiful daughter in a beautiful family. The mother could not even look at the eyes of her daughter who grew up to look just like her biological father. While the mother sobbed, biting her lips, the daughter gently caressed her, saying that she understood and forgave everything and that she grew up just fine thanks to her. The two of them became a family again on a sunny May day in 2020 under the sunlight as warm as their longing and love for each other.



Please Support Single Mothers Keeping Their Babies

Written by Department of Cooperation and Domestic Adoption Team



* Here are the stories of mothers who changed their minds to keep their babies.

Birth is a blessing deserved to be celebrated. However, the first things that unwed mothers experience are fear and isolation. Many unwed mothers decide to put their babies up for adoption due to complex reasons including financial difficulties, the prejudice the child would have to endure being raised by an unwed mother, and wish for their child to grow up in a stable and better environment. But some of them change their minds to keep their babies in the end after spending some time in agony. These courageous mothers need attention and support to not give up their babies again due to financial difficulties.



First Story

Hello. I am Lee, Na-heui (alias). I am Ga-hyeon's (alias) mother. I am an unwed mother in my early 20s who raises an infant alone. I told the father about the baby when I first found out that I was pregnant but he was not at all willing to take the responsibility. However, all I could think of was that I had to protect the baby. So I gave birth to Ga-hyeon with the help of the shelter for single mothers. But I got completely clueless when I thought about the future with the sleeping baby beside me. I decided to put her up for adoption because I thought that it was the best way for her to grow up in a stable environment. In fact, I also wanted to escape from everything as I was exhausted from giving birth and raising an infant. I even had the stupid idea that I could live more freely without the baby.

It turned out, however, that I was never happy after sending her away. I was always tears whenever babies appear on TV. I missed Ga-hyeon terribly but on the other hand I was in agony over my situation not at all suitable to raise a child. Then I consulted my HCS counselor, pondered deeply about my baby's happiness, and changed my mind to keep her. HCS helped me a lot, supporting items enough to raise a baby and sufficient information.

Now I cannot imagine my life without my daughter. I once sent her away for her to grow up in a better environment with prepared parents, but I am her mother. I may be an immature and unprepared one but I know now that there is nothing I cannot do for my baby.



Second Story

I am Kim, Yeon-ji (alias) and a 23-year-old mother of Seong-hoon (alias). My family vigorously dissuaded me from raising him myself after his birth. My sister told me

that it was overwhelming to raise two children even though she had a husband and that I could not possibly do it alone. She was very worried about the future of Seong-hoon and me. I, too, hoped that he would grow up being loved by both parents as I had grown up in a single-parent family after my mother died when I was little. So I decided to put him up for adoption. While I felt relieved to see him well and healthy in the good care of a HCS foster mother, I missed him more and more as time went by.

I thought that I would get over it and go on with my life without Seong-hoon if I kept myself busy, preparing for the qualification exam needed to start my own business. But sleepless nights continued as I missed him terribly when I got home exhausted at night and tried to sleep. After agonizing over it for a long while, I took the courage and told my HCS counselor that I wanted to get him back. When I took him in my arms again finally, HCS helped me a lot with all the information and items needed to raise a child. When I saw my baby's face again, I realized that I wasted so many times hesitating about our future and felt terribly sorry for even trying to send him away.

Now my life is all about my son. The physical and mental burden is literally overwhelming, but I am truly happy with my baby. I will get through any obstacles and let him know that I tried my best to keep us together and that he is the reason of my life when he gets old enough to understand. I am really grateful for HCS for helping me keep my baby.



* HCS prioritizes keeping biological family together and supports single parents to raise their children in a healthy environment.

'Ga-ga-ho-ho' Delivers Joy to Every Family

Written by Won Na-hyeon,
Single Parents' Support Center



"Raising a child and working for livelihood by myself is a lot more difficult than I expected. The government subsidy's cut now that I started working and the pay is ridiculously insignificant. It's never easy to pay the rent every month."

Housing expenses are a great burden on single parents struggling to lead an independent life. Therefore, HCS started 'Ga-ga-ho-ho' program to support housing expenses for single-parent families without a stable residence due to low income. 'Ga-ga-ho-ho' means delivering joy to every family. HCS subsidized up to 150,000 won per person every month for ten months

from last April to January this year. The recipients were selected based on the

record on career and education in order to find out how strong the recipients' will to have an independent life. The program helped single parents preparing for independence or struggling after independence in a practical manner.

One of the recipients said, "Thanks to the subsidy, I got a stable residence along with mental stability, solved one of the financial problems, and strengthened my will to get a job and an independent life." HCS will continue to deliver joy to every family this year. We would appreciate your support for single-parent families struggling to lead an independent life.



Messages from Single Parents Helped by 'Ga-ga-ho-ho'



"Thanks to the support, I started again installment savings that I had canceled and my kid started to take swimming classes again. All of these would have been nearly impossible without the HCS's program. Now I can move forward toward my another goal and dream of a better future."

"I was able to use the money that I have saved for 10 months on my child's education as 'Ga-ga-ho-ho' helped me with some of the rent. It was really helpful financially that some of the fixed expenses were relieved."

"I had many financial worries as I was still a student but one of them was relieved thanks to the housing expense support of the HCS program. I'm so happy that I can support my child better and I will try to be a more responsible mother while I prepare for a qualification exam."

"Even after getting a job, it takes a long while to get fully independent. But once employment is confirmed, all the government subsidies are cut in a couple of days. I was terribly worried about how I pay for the living and the rent when the HCS program was a great relief for me. Now I can save some deposit money for the lease of a house and my child's tuition fees."





Top Leaders member Lee, Hyeon-jeong makes a special donation to commemorate her child's birth

Lee, Hyeon-jeong, a member of HCS's bid donors' club Top Leaders made a special donation of 3.65 million won to commemorate her child's second birthday as she did on the first birthday. The special donation was used to help many neglected neighbors.



Holt Nationwide Sponsorship Association delivers donation for families in pandemic-induced crisis across Daegu and Gyeongsangbuk-do region

Holt Nationwide Sponsorship Association (including 13 local associations of Seoul, Busan, Gyeongsangbuk-do, Daejeon, Gwangju, Incheon, Gyeonggi-do, Gangwon-do, Daegu, Hanam, Goyang, Dalgubeol and Bonri) delivered 9.7 million won of donation for families in crisis. The donation will be used for necessary items as well as health care and psychological support.



Collaborative expenses support association operates pandemic-related distribution project

Foster mothers were impossible to buy subsidized masks for the children to be adopted even though the children were under their care because they were not legally family relations. However, thanks to the masks and hand sanitizers which the association supported, the children to be adopted currently living in foster care are safely protected from the risk of infection.



Star lecturer Kim, Mi-gyeong donates the total amount of the royalty of the first edition of her book 'Kim, Mi-gyeong's Reboot'

Holt ambassador Kim, Mi-gyeong donated the total amount of 30 million won of royalty of the first edition of her bestseller 'Kim, Mi-gyeong's Reboot.' The donation was used to support smart learning device for children of single-parent families in order to address educational inequality.



HCS Chungcheong-do office holds 'Charity Concert for Single Parents' at BOK Art Center in Sejong

'Charity Concert for Single Parents' took place on August 13 and 20. Korean music concert was held on the 13th and opera gala concert on the 20th. All of the profits were donated to HCS Chungcheong-do office for single-parent family support.



Holt Ilsan Center's pandemic coping project 'Komjirak'

We set up movie theater, singing room, shopping mall and cafe for the residents of Holt Ilsan Center who had to deal with weary days as they were not allowed to leave the center due to the pandemic. Thanks to 'Komjirak' project, the residents were able to endure the quarantined days with delight.



Goyang City Service Center for the Disabled makes 'special pandemic kit'

As service centers were shut down due to elevated social distancing level, staff at Goyang City Service center visited regular center visitors' home with special pandemic kit. Thanks to the support of many sponsors, we are able to deliver the kits and make prevention efforts of epidemics.



Gangdong Holt Community Center delivers special pandemic kits to local small businesses

The center delivered special pandemic kits to 100 local small businesses in Gangil-dong. The business owners thanked, saying "We could feel the warmth of our neighbor's generous mind and are proud of a member of this community."



Daegu Clover supports discharged single-parent families

Due to the pandemic, residents of and those discharged from Daegu Clover, a shelter for single mothers and their babies, were faced with significant difficulties. Those still living in the shelter were cut off from all activities for independence while those discharged had to face worsened financial situation. The donations of many supporters were a great help for those single mothers.

Have you heard of Sponsorship for Single-Parent Families, HCS' social service project to spread seeds of love?



Among various HCS's social service projects, Sponsorship for Single-Parent Families encourages and supports single-parent families to achieve self-reliance. Its ultimate goal is to help children grow in a wholesome environment and eventually make the world brighter and happier. Here are the details of the project.

Professional and trustworthy counseling

HCS provides single-parent families with consultations for psychological issues and child development

To contact the Family Care Center for Single Parents Telephone: +82-2-331-7081/7082

*“The happiness of the child”
is the focus of welfare
services of
Holt Children’s Services. Inc.*

