



*The Kennedy Family, with Snowflake #331, Cole*

2013 Annual Report



nightlight<sup>®</sup>  
christian adoptions





## Adoption Milestones of 2013

This year Nightlight has continued to create a legacy of uniting waiting children with loving families. Here are a few highlights:

Brenda and Steve are expected to be Nightlight's first family to adopt from Haiti. They will soon have their court date to adopt Didi and Dada, eleven year old twins. Nightlight received accreditation to work in three new foreign countries in 2013: Latvia, Haiti, and Kazakhstan. We now have twenty families in the process of adopting children from Haiti. Over Christmas, in partnership with Project 143, we are bringing twelve children from Latvia for an orphan host tour. We expect many of these kids will find adoptive homes as they come in contact with our wonderful adoptive families who meet them and fall in love with them.

Ken and Alina are in Romania at this moment, and they are nearing the completion of adopting their five year old daughter Mara. Over ten years ago Romania halted intercountry adoptions. But this year Nightlight became one of the first agencies to receive accreditation to process adoptions there. Adoptive families must be Romanian citizens, but there are hundreds of thousands of Romanians living among us, so we expect this to be a robust adoption program. Mara may very well be the first Romanian child adopted by an American family in this new program!

Roy and Shaundra welcomed six year old Elanna into their home as they became Nightlight's first foster/adopt family in our Colorado office. Of the 400,000 children in the US foster care program, 100,000 of these kids are immediately available for adoption. In our effort to help more kids find permanent, loving families, we have expanded our services to include foster care.

The Snowflakes® program continues to receive wide exposure in the media. Katie Couric featured the Gassman family on her ABC daytime talk show. And the largest English speaking newspaper in the world, the UK Telegraph, featured a story about Snowflakes this fall. This year our programs were also featured in World Magazine, the Orange County Register, Voice of America, and many other outlets. As a result, traffic to Nightlight's website has tripled in the last couple months! In addition, we recently celebrated the opening of our 1000th Snowflake donor family file.

Nightlight began offering a "Certificate in Openness" to domestic adoption families. This certificate involves specific training about open adoptions, and the participants commit to having an open adoption. We expect that birthmothers will have greater confidence in working with our agency, as we set ourselves apart in our commitment to pursuing lifelong healthy relationships that are in the best interest of all parties in the adoption "triad."

For eleven years Nightlight's Embryo Adoption Awareness Center has enjoyed financial support from a government grant instituted by President George Bush. The funding for that grant has diminished over time, and we were braced for a complete loss of that income. Much to our delight and surprise, however, we secured not one, but two federal grants. In fact, the Department of Health and Human Services was so convinced of our superior ability to provide these services, that we received almost 2/3 of the total funding allocated for this program.

Snowflakes often receives inquiries from people living in other countries, and has completed embryo adoptions for people from Canada, France, India, New Zealand, and Australia. In light of the need for embryos throughout the world to find loving homes, we opened a Snowflakes office in Striling, South Australia, and have already received a few inquiries.



*Ken and Alina with Mara*

This year Nightlight increased home study services for Americans living abroad. As the world gets "smaller" more US citizens are living in other countries, and as they fall in love with orphaned children they pursue adoption. Nightlight is willing to send social workers to these foreign countries to complete the education and investigation for the home study. This year Rhonda Jarema completed two home studies in Haiti.

Thank you for your continued interest, support, and love for Nightlight and our mission of getting more kids adopted by loving families. **If you would like to make a year-end gift you can give online at [www.nightlight.org/support-nca](http://www.nightlight.org/support-nca), or send a check in the envelope provided.**

Daniel Nehrbass, Ph.D. | Executive Director

# Welcome Home!

*Snowflakes 326, 327, 328: Brynton, Henry, and Charlie*

## Domestic Adoptions

George Jennings  
Casey Anne  
Simeon  
Piper Kelly  
Jonathan  
Caleb  
Lila Marie  
Sylvia Ann  
Savannah Grace  
Zurielle Emma (in heaven)  
Charlotte Grace  
Henry Paul  
Rowan Isaac  
Austyn Harper  
Zechariah Michael  
Baby Girl Johnson

## Snowflake Babies

Cally Rose  
Charlie Ann Jr.  
Brynton Elyse  
Henry Nathan  
Charles Benjamin  
Riley Trees  
Bryce Stanley  
Cole Michael  
Blake Edmund  
Zane Bradford  
Keegan Ryan  
Violet Kathleen  
Mikayla Suzanne  
Micah Walther  
Hannah Naomi  
Zane Micah  
Quinn Alexander  
Grace Anne  
Quentin James  
Dashel Jacob  
Emi Anneli  
Luke Alexander  
Hudson Daniel  
Sara  
Sara Rose  
Carolyn Joy

Jeremiah Sumner  
Everlee Maria Lynn  
Ian Samuel  
Alex Brooks

## Expecting

Robert and Kelly  
Ron and Marla  
Richard and Jennie  
Dan and Carrie  
Doug and Betsie  
Phil and Alison  
James and Ashley  
Michael and Tania  
Paul and Tamy  
Anonymous  
Luke and Joni  
Rhea and Shannon  
Michael and Imelda  
Dan and Kelli  
David and Renee  
Timothy and Krystal

## International Adoptions

Joseph Lee  
Philip Kelly  
Eliza Katarina  
Julia Elizabeth  
Emma Catherine  
Jenny Li  
Aaron Sergei

## Foster/Adoption

Elanna

## A Helping Hand

## International Adoptions

Shelby  
Aubrey  
Katherine  
Layla  
Tula  
Ashley  
Aaron & Enoch  
Addlee  
Meghan



Maya  
Joshua  
Noah  
Jessica  
Suubi  
Zephaniah & Zebulun  
Kaydee  
Molly-Grace  
Lucie  
Eileen  
Jack  
Lucas  
Hope  
Kaden  
Kevin  
Mia  
Korben

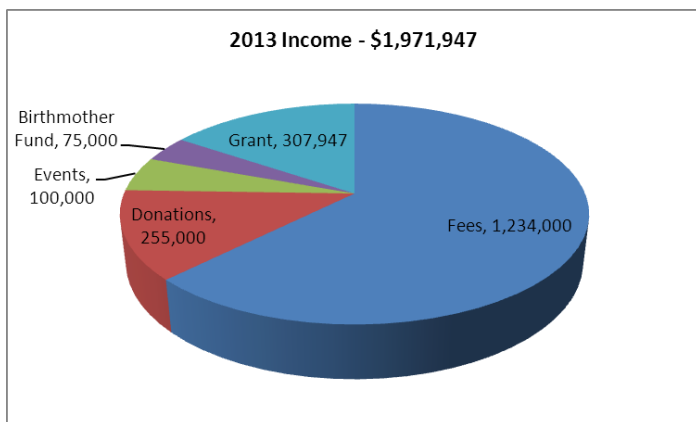
## Domestic Adoptions

Collin  
Jaxon  
Lukas  
Liliana  
Evangelia  
Zoe  
Zander  
Baby Girl Edmonds

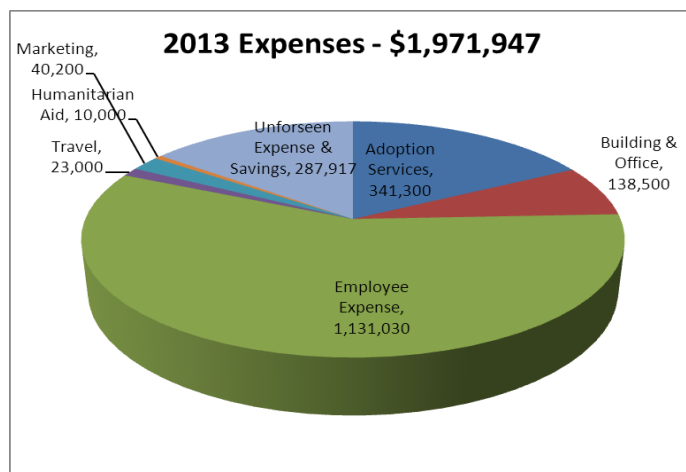
# Financial Information

Thanks in large part to your financial help, Nightlight has been able to serve over a hundred families this year. Below is a graph explaining where our revenue comes from, excluding grant income and matching expenses. You can see below that only 63% of our revenue came from adoption fees, which means we are **dependent upon donations to help subsidize the costs**. Thanks to your generous ongoing support, we are able to help more families adopt by making it a little more affordable.

You can give online at [www.nightlight.org/support-nca](http://www.nightlight.org/support-nca), or send a check in the envelope provided.

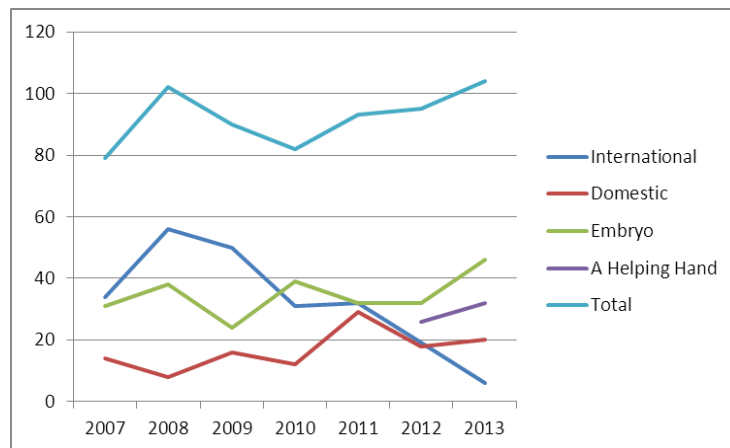


People often wonder why adoption is so expensive and whether Nightlight is able to lower the fees. As you can see in the next chart, 17% of our expenses are paid directly to other companies, organizations, or governments as a part of the adoption. Nightlight incurs these costs with each adoption, so a large portion of the fees we collect are not retained as operating expenses. The majority of our remaining fees are for the salaries of our 29 staff members who work tirelessly to complete adoptions.



Nightlight Christian Adoptions is blessed to have connected thousands of children with loving parents for fifty-four years. Below are some statistics for our adoptions in each program. Because international adoptions are the most costly, they have declined nationwide since the economic crash a few years ago. But there is a new wave of momentum, fueled by compassion and awareness. Many of these new applicants do not have the ability to finance adoption alone, and it has become very common for them to ask friends and family to donate through online fundraising campaigns.

The **Nightlight Foundation** is designated to offer scholarships for couples who have a financial need. Contact our office if you would like to donate to the **Nightlight Foundation**, or if you'd like to hear about a couple with financial needs who you may be able to help.







## Kate and Bruce's Angel

Our journey together started much like that of your older brothers. First, we wanted you. Well, it wasn't you yet, but it was the thought of a child. Then you were there! Just as a baby grew in my belly, we grew to know you slowly. First it was a photo. We smiled when we looked at it, and wondered about your personality and laugh. We dreamed about being together and what you would sound like, what will interest you? Then like seeing the first movement on a sonogram screen, dad found a video of you on YouTube! Joy filled our heart when we heard your voice! Little pieces of you were coming together for us, and we fell in love even more!

We filled many hours talking about you, thought about your hopes and dreams, what you would think is silly in our house and would make you laugh. It seemed like forever waiting for the call that we could move forward to meet you. Each step was an eternity, but we spent the time in wonderment, looking at your photo and video over and over, lovingly anticipating the first time we see you in real life. Endlessly we talked about you, wanting you to be happy in your new life, just like we did with your brothers.

It didn't take nine months and morning sickness (thankfully!) to meet you. You weren't a wiggly little pink baby. You are a beautiful young girl that we caught a glimpse of across a school cafeteria. We weren't suppose to get to see you, but there you were, in your Aero sweatshirt. We couldn't take our eyes off you, though we had to pretend to be looking around so as not to be so obvious! You weren't suppose to know about us yet. We had known about you for months. Everyone needed to know that we were sure and secure in bringing you to our home. You couldn't be hurt, it wouldn't be right, so we had to know in our hearts and let everyone know we were

certain. It was easy to be sure, because from the time we learned about you, you settled softly into our hearts. We protected and loved you the only way we knew how, through prayers and blowing kisses into the wind at night.

The day after we met the people who love and care for you; Tracy, Chelsea, Jeanna and your foster mom, we were allowed to tell them if we wanted you in our lives. DUH! Both dad and I couldn't sleep that morning, waking up early and anxious to finally be allowed to say YES! I thought dad wrote them the most beautiful message: "Angel is a very special, precious young lady. Kate and I are humbled and honored by your trust in us to give us this opportunity to provide Angel her forever family." I gently begged them to hurry and bring you the family photo album we made you and let you in on the fact that you were being very loved somewhere! We knew after that we'd finally be able to meet you. But it is kind of sad for me too, because I know it will not happen as quickly as I want. I want to know you now, to hug you and let you know you are safe, loved and cherished. But I trust God's timing. And we have a whole lifetime that we can build together! There is so much to be thankful for!

Then I went on the Colorado Heart Gallery to look at your picture and video, as I have done every night. And the smallest little thing made me smile with such a special warmth inside. Your picture now has a little heart beside it. I knew what that meant... that it is finally becoming real! When I clicked on your picture, there was that little heart again, with a note beside it that I knew so well, "I've been placed with my forever family." I had dreamed of seeing your photo with that little heart and having you with us... I didn't expect the world to know before you did! But it gave me great joy, I quickly took a picture of the computer screen and made it my phone's wallpaper. It may take a while to meet you, but nothing is stopping us now!

People say that when you adopt, a hole is filled that you didn't know existed. While I love this sentiment, the more I think about it the more I feel there is more to it than that. Thinking about this I realized that what we're doing is adding a pocket to the beautiful family fabric we've been weaving, another pocket of love! I don't know who said it, but when you love someone new, love is not divided, it is multiplied. So very true!

## Major Donors

*Many thanks to our major donors whose names have not been included on this list either because they have not consented to being listed or would like to remain anonymous. Please contact Daniel if you consent to having your name listed and we would be happy to add you!*



### Individual Donors over \$1000

Torrey and Susan  
Johnnie and Anneke DeJong  
Devon and Sarah Sowell  
James and Carol Light  
Gerry and Tricia Esser  
George and Judith Brink  
Nina Wallestad  
Dr. Jeff and Priscilla Nelson  
Dave and Lindy Powell  
Rebecca Henderson  
Susan and Jim Colombo  
Judy and Kevin O'Neill  
Laura and Ray Godwin  
Ron and Linda Stoddart  
Kate and David Feedback  
Del and Elaine Larsh  
Daniel and Kristina Nehrbass

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*The Bentley Family (Domestic)*

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Providence Church of Denver, NC  
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