



2023 Annual Report

Milo and Jolie, Snowflakes® #1073 and 1074



nightlight®

Christian Adoptions

Stepping Out in Faith



Nightlight's mission is to "Share God's love through foster care and adoption."

This year we stepped out in faith as we served nearly a thousand children, expectant parents,

and foster and adoptive families nationwide.

One act of faith was to invest in foster care by hiring staff in states where we did not previously have a foster program. For instance, we hired foster staff in Indiana, Texas, and Kentucky. Given our success in other states with foster care over the last three years, we knew that if we staffed these positions for an entire year we would eventually get some spectacular families recruited, trained, and ready for placement. And the efforts have begun to show success as we had our first placements in Texas and Kentucky!

We also stepped out in faith by starting our Anchored in Hope program, which is focused on matching children from foster care whose case-plan is adoption. These children are typically photo listed on HeartGalleryofAmerica.org or AdoptUSKids.org. Because it is a uniquely challenging task to navigate the various state laws and contracts that are inevitably involved, Nightlight quickly gained a nationwide reputation as the go-to agency for this type of placement. The numbers are still small, but we have attracted some of the most ministry-minded adoptive parents who are willing to take in children who have special needs, or belong to larger sibling sets, or who are older.

We took a leap of faith by investing in new international adoption programs in Portugal, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, and the Philippines. We are featuring waiting children

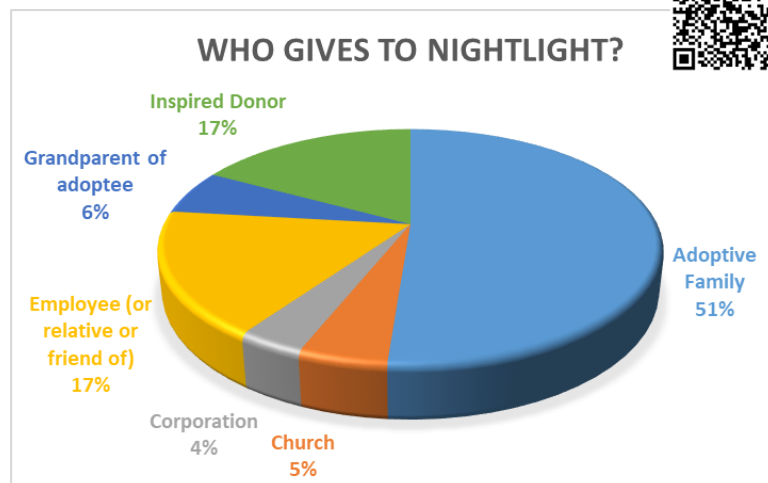
from many of these countries, hoping to attract the right prospective adoptive parents.

Our domestic infant adoption program benefitted from our step of faith asking every office to make over 100 visits to pregnancy care centers and other referral sites this year. We began this initiative a couple years ago, and each year we have completed over 1200 visits to partner clinics or agencies who work with expectant parents. We know that these visits have been worth our time because we have seen a sharp increase in the number of birth parents referred to us.

God remains faithful to the 1,000s of embryos in frozen storage throughout the nation. The Snowflakes® program welcomed nearly 190 new adopting families who are excited to help those embryos be born. Joining our life-giving God in this unique program established 26 years ago has allowed over 1,100 Snowflakes babies to be born because placing families lovingly gave their embryos to another couple. Each year our program steps forward to help more placing and adopting families welcome life!

The word Nightlight connotes a warm, safe place for children. We are lighting the path of adoption, and the way home for children in need. This Christmas, you can make a donation to Nightlight knowing that your gift will allow us to continue moving out in faith next year.

Make a gift here <https://nightlight.org/donate> or use this QR code
Daniel Nehrbass, Ph.D. | President



A Story of Survival and Providence

Beginning late last year, I began working with expectant mom, Stephanie. Stephanie was pregnant with her baby boy and after establishing regular prenatal care, it became evident that her son would be born with several health conditions impacting his heart, lungs, and kidneys. We were told on multiple occasions that her son may not survive once he was born. Stephanie went into labor on January 6, 2023, and her son, Josh, was born on January 7th.

Josh was immediately rushed to the NICU and placed on the highest strength ventilator. He was connected to all the tubes, wires, and machines that you could possibly imagine. His lungs were not working correctly and the doctor I spoke with just a few hours after Josh was born told me that his lungs might not be strong enough to sustain him and that he would likely die.

His heart on the other hand was not an issue like the doctors originally thought. The days and weeks following Josh's birth, his lungs began to improve and he was eventually weaned off the ventilator. But when one problem resolved, another presented itself. Josh's kidneys were not functioning and weren't able to filter fluid. He also had a bladder obstruction, making it impossible for him to release excess fluid. There was so much extra fluid in his body that he was extremely swollen and weighing much more than he should have. After weeks of ups and downs, his doctors prepared Nightlight and Stephanie for the possibility that he once again, may not overcome this.

In the midst of Josh's most severe spell, an adoptive family came forward wanting to be Josh's parents.

Eric and Dana traveled from Missouri and met Josh in the NICU in Louisville. They immediately opened their hearts to him and saw Josh as their son from day one. After about 1.5 months of fighting and battling in the NICU, Josh became more stable and was able to tolerate dialysis. His lungs became stronger and he started gaining healthy weight,

beginning to eat from a bottle. Josh bonded extremely quickly with his new parents and was so happy to have visitors every day. On March 28, 2023, Josh was transferred to the NICU at St. Louis Children's so that Eric and Dana could obtain the proper equipment and begin training on how to administer Josh's dialysis when he was ready for discharge.

After a little over a month at St. Louis Children's, it was determined that Josh could be discharged

and wait for a kidney transplant at home. He was discharged from the hospital on May 5, 2023, after a long 4 months in the NICU! Baby Josh (now Benjamin) has overcome so many odds and has proven to be a strong fighter. He defeated his odds and his life is a true miracle and a testament to how good our God is. Even when we thought he might not survive, we knew that Benjamin's life was in God's hands.

Now Benjamin is home with his forever family. He will be able to receive a kidney transplant when he is over 20 pounds. I know there were several people within Nightlight praying for this little guy, and those prayers were answered. Praise the Lord!



The Cokenour Family

Welcome Home!

Nov 2022 to Oct 2023

International Adoptions

Alexander
Amelja
Amosi
Andrei
Ania
Anika
Anishka
Any
Archana
Ashley
Benjamin
Berline
Carlos
Cecilia
Chibelson
Christian
Chun Wai
Danna
Eden
Elena
Emily
Emma
Esther
Evelyn
Findy
Fleurina
Gabriella
Galin
Guerlineda
Guyto
Hidaya
Iris
Isaac
Ivana
Jesus
Jiya
Joshua
Josiah
Juan
Julian
Kevin
Luna
Lynn
Manuel
Marilyn
Mateo
Marely
Mary
Matthew
Mayra
Melanie
Miabella
Nicolette
Novella
Olakunle
Oleksandr
Pepi

Rebekah
Regina
Rene
Renata
Rowena
Salome
Sebastian
Shadzi
Shahan
Sofia
Stefany
Tabita
Taliyah
Tesia
Tsubasa
Ty
Valentina
Valeria
Violet
William
Yasna
Yenifer
Yu-Han

Domestic Adoptions

Aaron
Abigail
Adalynn
Ahmed
Alexander
Alexandra
Andersen
Ares
Arkadian
Athena
Aurora
Astraea
Alissa
Benjamin
Bishop
Boston
Brynn
Cailan
Carter
Cashel
Casia
Charlotte
Cooper
Cosima
Crew
Enid
Eliana
Elizabeth
Elijah
Esther
Everett
Faith
Finley

Griffin
Isaac
Isabella
Jacob
Jayne
John
Josephine
Joshua
Jovie
Katharine
Keller
Leo
Liam
Liam
Lina
Maloree
Maverick
Melissa
Merida
Mia
Mia
Michaela
Miley
Miles
Milo
Myla
Naia
Naomi
Natalie
Nico
Olivia
Peter
Rosie
Samuel
Selah
Sha'Nyah
Sylas
Tauriel
Thaddeus
Ulica
Weber
Wyatt
Xander

Snowflakes® Babies

Aarav
Adeline
Aiden
Amos
Alianora
Andrew
Annie
Arabella
Ashton
Autumn
Autumn
Ava
Azariah
Aziel

Bellamy
Benedict
Beth
Blake
Blakely
Brecken
Brooklyn
Cadence
Caleb
Canyon
Chloe

Harris
Henry
Hunter
Isaac
Jacob
Jack
Jackson
Jackson
Jaxton
Jayla
Jensen

Lauren
Layne
Liam
Lillian
Lincoln
Logan
Lorelai
Lottie
Lucas
Lucy
Mackenzie

Mallory
Mary
Maya
McKenna
Meara
Millie
Milo
Nicholas
Novalie
Oliver
Parker
Quinlee
Rachel
Raya
Reagan
Reagan
Riley
Samuel
Scott
Sean
Selah
Smith
Sophie
Sterling
Texx
Theodore
Titus
Tucker
Waylen
Zealand
Zella
Zoe

Foster Placements or Foster Adoptions

Aaliyah
Abel
Agnis
Aiden
Ambrasha
Alaina
Alexander
Alexander
Alissa
Amayrani
Amiya
Anahisha

Andrew
Athena
Aubrey
Aubriella
Autumn
Avery
Bentley
Betty
Billy
Bratlin
Brentlee
Brian
Bryce
Carter
CaseNo
Cayden
Charlie
Charlotte
Daisy
Dallas
Damonee
Daniel
Denis
Dixie
Drace
Dustin
Elias
Elizabeth
Elijah
Ezequiel
Finley
Freyja
George
Gracelynn
Greyson
Gunnar
Hailey
Hannah
Hope
Isis
Isabella
Jacob
Jacob
Jacquelyn
Jahirah
Jah
Jamie
Jaxon
Jayden
Jazmin
Jhon
Joseph
Joshua
Jordan
Julia
Kailey
Kalayla
Kayden

Kayleigh
Keila
Khaniya
Kingston
Kiralena
Kortlyn
Kyleigh
Kyra
Leah
Leon
Liam
Lorelai
Luke
Majesty
Makayla
Malachi
Malaki
Marcos
Mariana
Megan
McKayla
Michael
Molly
Nicholas
Nida' Lynn
Nova
Olivia
Ophelia
Parker
Pharoah
Phillip
Phoenix
Piper
Reyvin
Ricky
Robyn
Rosaline
Roy
Rylan
Rylee
Ryleigh
Saily
Santiago
Schaniyah
Selina
Serenity
Skylar
Skyler
Sophia
Sylvia
Talena
Texas
Tristan
Tylen
Ujanae
William
Yunior
Zacharia
Zechariah



Bernardo (Mexico), looking at a photo of his future family.

Keeping Siblings Together



An Oklahoma foster family previously had a two year old boy in their care for about 1 year. This little boy had two older siblings that were placed in separate homes. When it became clear that reunification was not a possibility, the department of social services began making plans for permanency with the goal of placing all three children together. During this time, the foster family caring for the oldest of the three siblings disrupted their placement. The middle child was placed with a single mom who agreed to welcome the oldest into her home. This mom began working with Nightlight's foster family to do weekend visits so that all three siblings could be together more often. As a result of these visits, the single mom decided that she was interested in adopting all three children.

During this time our foster family experienced a high risk pregnancy that resulted in the mom being hospitalized for over two months. Once we knew that she would be hospitalized, our foster care team began working with the department of social services on a plan to transition the foster child to join his older siblings with their foster mom. With everything happening at once it was clear that God

was doing something big! After the foster child was moved to join his siblings, our foster family closed their home to focus on their newborn baby girl and the health of the mom. Today they are both perfectly healthy!

In the summer of 2023 the family decided to come back to Nightlight and reopen their home as a foster family. During the initial interview with Oklahoma's foster care advocate, the family mentioned that they had been able to keep

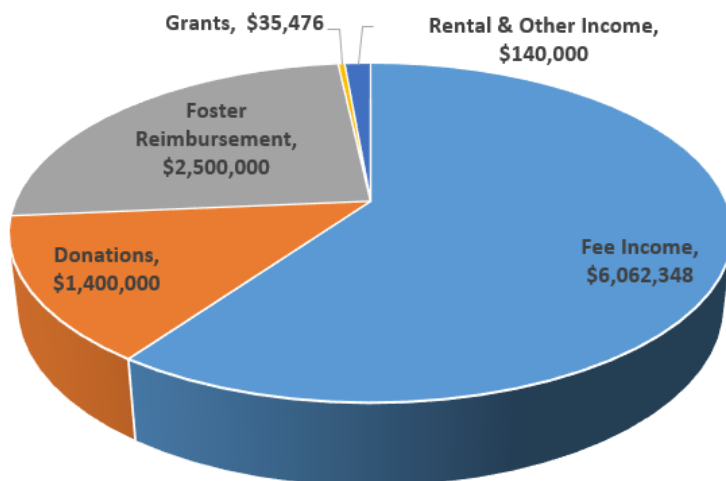
in touch with their former foster child and his foster mom through texts and pictures and he was still in the same home with both of his siblings!

At the Oklahoma Top Golf fundraising event, the foster family shared with staff that the he was officially adopted by his foster mom along with his two older siblings in September!

The family has been so blessed by their continued contact with him and are so excited for him! Attached Although this child was not adopted by Nightlight's foster family, it is an encouraging story of the impact and connections that families can have through fostering! We are so excited to see what God has been doing in the life of this mom and her three kiddos. We are so happy to know that he has found his forever home and that he is with his siblings!

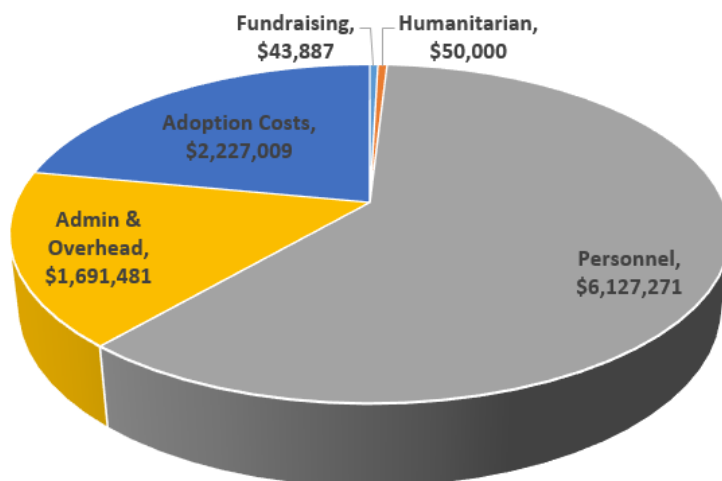
—Mandi Lattie, Foster Care Advocate for Nightlight's Oklahoma Office

Financial Information



How we fund our mission

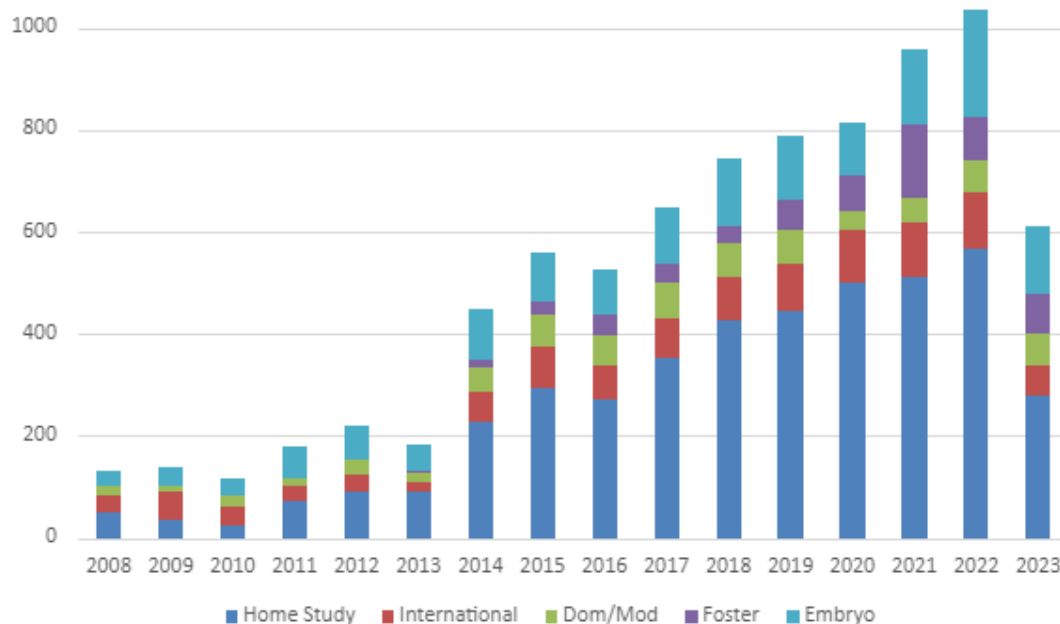
(2024 Budget)



The cost of our mission

(2024 Budget)

Number of Adoptions, Placements and Families Served



How do we spend donations?

Your donations enable us to

- Provide support to orphanages
- Fund adoption grants
- Offset the cost of adoption (families currently pay only 60% of the cost of their adoption)
- Start new programs that have no revenue stream (new countries, new foster care locations)

We Thought We Exhausted all our Options

The Russell Family

I remember the pain of infertility so vividly. There was a time when I thought I wouldn't be able to continue my career as a sonographer. Scanning pregnant women everyday felt unfair. I ached to relate to my patients. I wondered if I would ever know what the first trimester was like, how it felt to experience a baby move inside of you, the magic of birth, the chaos of motherhood.

My husband and I were young. Doctors were hopeful. But after three years of trying everything from pills to injections, an IUI, dozens of supplements, acupuncture, and two rounds of IVF resulting in one poor quality embryo, we felt like we had exhausted all of our options.

Our Reproductive Endocrinologist met with us over the phone since we were on vacation. He told us he was just as shocked as we were -- that on top of PCOS, a polyp removal and endometriosis, I likely had poor egg quality. We could continue to throw money at IVF in hopes we could find one good egg, or we could explore adoption or embryo adoption. We spent the remainder of our vacation processing and researching our options. A couple weeks later, I found myself calling Nightlight. I remember our phone call bringing me hope. We already had some diversity in the family through domestic adoption of our two nieces. My husband thought pregnancy would be a great way for him to bond and we both



thought it would be good for me to experience carrying a pregnancy, especially given my job. I was guarded as it would mean more chances of experiencing more negative pregnancy tests. But we were thrilled when we chose Nightlight, and I started to hope again.

Eager to begin, we sped through the requirements in two months. We were matched quickly and found out I was pregnant with one embryo after our first transfer of two.

When I met our first daughter, it was a redemptive experience for me. Now I'm chasing around her biological sister, too. While the heartache of infertility will always be part of me, I'm grateful for the path it led my husband and me to. I got to experience all those things I hoped for, and now I'm knee-deep in the chaos of motherhood filled with gratitude for Nightlight and our embryo adoption journey.

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!

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