

STORIES OF REDEMPTION

Nothing beats a story of redemption. A savior coming to earth to save his creation from sin and evil. In the same way, adoption is an illustration of taking something broken and making it whole again. Acknowledging and redeeming the value of each individual who is hurting and in need of healing. This newsletter issue is **dedicated to the children God brought to Robin's Nest and who have found forever homes.** It will give you a glimpse of how your support of the ministry truly makes a difference. **Enjoy the stories. Share the stories. And be a part of the continuing story on the Jamaican mountaintop.**



JAHAEIM first arrived at Robin's Nest in November 2013 at age 9 and left March 17, 2017 as a teenager. He now resides in the United States, outnumbered by three older sisters in his family, with parents to call his own. His mom shared, *"He's been adjusting remarkably well so far. He loves to be outside riding the 4-wheeler, shooting the BB gun, and playing soccer and basketball when the weather is warm enough for him. He is also enjoying American food. It's great to have him home and we are blessed to have him here with our family."*



SHANTAE & KARTEL have been with their forever family for over a year now. Shantae is 12 and Kartel is 13, both in the 6th grade ELL Program at McGovern middle school. Their mom shared, *"They are both doing well. It is a challenging, exhausting journey but we know that this is God's plan for us."*



IAN was placed at the Nest when he was only 18 months old. His family fell in love with him years later when they visited on April 15, 2008. His mom shared, *"We saw that God had planted an amazing spirit into this physically challenged boy (wheelchair bound with cerebral palsy). He continues to be a joy and a light to all who know him."* Ian is a popular student at a junior high in Indiana where he plays Unified Basketball, Unified Track, and Tippy Stars baseball. His loves are driving games on his iPad, racing anyone in his power chair, any type of transportation, and especially fast cars, big trucks and construction equipment. His mom added, *"He continues to improve his communication skills by using his AAC device. We are so very thankful that God's plan was for Ian to have such good care at the Nest until He led us to him!!"*



DEAN joined this loving family on December 21, 2010. He arrived on a medical visa and then was soon adopted. Dean is now 14 years old and is in junior high (8th grade). His mom shared, *"He enjoys spending time with family and friends, running track, swimming, and playing Xbox."* And this family continues to grow as they are in the process of adopting again from Jamaica and giving Dean a younger brother to grow up with in the States. It will soon be Dean's turn to be a big brother.



MARK moved to Minnesota to become part of this forever family nearly six years ago! He is now an 11th grader who stays busy with school, sports, and friends. He is beginning to look at colleges which *"kind of freaks his mom out"*. *"We thank God for him and have been blessed to have him in our family,"* shared his mom.

GIFTING FORM

It's never too late to **MAKE A DIFFERENCE!** We need your support to continue to provide a safe, loving and Christ-centered home for hurting children in Jamaica. Your tax deductible donation will change lives!

"... Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Matthew 25:40

ONE-TIME DONATION

- Donate online at robinsnestchildrenshome.org (ACH or credit card)
- OR -
- Mail check payable to "Robin's Nest Children's Home"

MONTHLY / RECURRING DONATION

- Visit robinsnestchildrenshome.org
- Click DONATE to enter donation information

SPONSOR A CHILD

- Visit robinsnestchildrenshome.org
- Choose MAKE A DIFFERENCE from top tool bar
- Choose SPONSOR A CHILD and enter donation information



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ON-LINE GIVING

changes to remember

CHANGE: The Nest has moved to a different online service provider making online giving EASIER while offering new options like online E-check (Automated Clearing House). ACH is a safe, efficient, and cost-effective way to give. Our credit card fees are now 2.89%, a significant lower rate than the 6.9% fee from the previous provider . . . Thus allocating more funds directly to the ministry!!!



ACTION STEPS: To ensure your gifts continue without interruption:

- 1) Go to robinsnestchildrenshome.org
- 2) Click on DONATE on the home page
- 3) Update your preferred method
- 4) Then, cancel your recurring gift option through GiveMN.org

THANKS: Thank you so much for your continuing generous support of Robin's Nest Children's Home. If you have any questions, please email us at robinsnestja@gmail.com.



AARON is 19 and is walking the stage for his commencement in May! He enjoys spending time with other kids and listening to music with a Caribbean rhythm. His family was happy to share that he is walking independently without braces and only standby assistance. *"We are down to just his annual checkups so no big medical issues that we know of. God is so good and we have been truly blessed,"* shared his mom.



ENOCH joined his forever family in July 2009. His parents have watched him quickly grow into a 6 foot, 11 year old 5th grader who wears size 14 shoes! Enoch's loves include history and basketball. His mom shared, *"He has a sweet spirit, is always asking questions, and is full of life. I pray daily that he continues to keep Christ in the center of all he does!"*



SHEILA became a member of this family in 2006, right before her 6th birthday and gained a Jamaican brother (who was 16 at the time). They just now celebrated her "Sweet 16"! Her mom described her as a *"laid-back yet dedicated student with lots of friends."* She added, *"Her giggle is still as contagious as it was the day we met! She is such a joy!"* The family continues to grow as they just adopted another member . . . Paco the guinea pig.

SPRING IS IN THE AIR

NEST BOARD CHANGES



The change of seasons creates beautiful scenery but it's not always easy to say goodbye to every element. In the same way, the Nest board had a recent transition as two board members stepped off and a few new people were added (*Craig Cole, Lisa Baltes, and Pauline (Victoria) Wint-Malone*). We are incredibly grateful to **Paula Merkouris** who served for over 12 years as the Stateside Coordinator. Her heart for the Nest is evident in all she does and she'll remain on the advisory board helping adoptive families stay in contact and create a community of support. **Jessica Ambuehl** has also stepped down as Board President to focus on other life avenues. She will remain on the advisory board to continue her work with the Nest providing photojournalism, graphic design, and marketing. Please keep all of these dedicated people in your prayers!

PROJECTS ON THE HORIZON

FROM THE SKY TO THE GROUND

Last year, the Nest received a large Jamaican grant to install a solar system for the entire facility thus drastically reducing our utility costs. We desire to be good stewards of the resources God has given us by incorporating this sustainable energy source. The first required step was an energy audit which was completed in December 2016. The report outlined our electrical usage and requires us to upgrade panels and wiring, replace old and inefficient appliances, switch to LED light bulbs, as well as update and change windows before we can install the solar panels and receive funding from the Jamaican grant.

The approximate project cost with all the upgrades and repairs is \$197,740. With generous support and the JA grant, we have raised \$131,940 . . . leaving only **\$65,460 to go!** We have already started upgrading the electrical panels and wiring as the current system did not meet our requirements and will be completed this Spring.

Our trusty green truck has over 280,000 miles and the countless trips up and down the mountain has taken its toll on the vehicle. The truck is on its last leg and needs to be replaced. Thanks to incredible donors, we are inching closer to meeting our goal with **\$19,000 remaining.**

To make a donation or learn more about these exciting projects, simply visit us online at robinsnestchildrenshome.org.

DONOR INFORMATION (FOR CHECK DONATIONS)

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☐ I would like to continue to receive the Robin's Nest newsletter by **mail**.

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(personal information kept confidential)*

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GIFTING FORM

THANK
YOU!