



**“I love God and church! We’ve learned about the beatitudes and the fruit of the spirit. My favorite fruit is strawberries, but my favorite fruit of the spirit is PEACE!” - Sahira**

Dear Friends,

Arms of Hope-Medina Campus has been blessed the last six years with the beautiful faces and spirits of Sahira and Dartan’ on. With smiles and laughter that can light up any room, these siblings are making great strides in our Residential Child Care Program. Before coming to Arms of Hope from the San Antonio area, their lives were filled with abuse, neglect, extreme poverty and domestic violence. Needless to say, Christmas time was not a time of joy, peace or fond memories for them.



Arriving at Arms of Hope and enjoying Christmas on campus became a time to remember! Memories of their first Christmas at Arms of Hope in 2013, involved experiencing the joy of attending the campus wide Christmas party and devotional, which even included a visit from Santa Claus (pictured below). Shy and timid at first, the Christmas party was the perfect remedy for them to feel like part of the Arms of Hope family. Sahira joyfully remembers, “I loved the cookies, the hot chocolate and pumpkin pie!” Dartan’ on recalls, “We celebrated Jesus’ birthday and the other boys in my cottage became my friends!” The presents provided by our supporters added to the excitement

of the occasion.



Sahira remembers in detail her favorite gift, “I wanted a new pair of shoes and I got an amazing pair of Adidas!” Dartan’ on agrees, “I wanted a pair of Nikes that bend when you run and I actually got them!” Such a small thing to bring such a large amount of joy. The Holiday traditions that we may take for granted, are some of our residents’ favorite part of the Christmas season.

Both Sahira and Dartan’ on are eagerly awaiting Christmas. “We’ll get to watch Polar Express and The Santa Clause and decorate the Christmas tree! One year I caught one of the employees dressed up like Santa. He was wearing the same sneakers that he wore every day around his office,” Sahira recalls with laughter.

Both children love going to church and Sahira is an active participant in Bible Class on Sundays and she loves learning about scripture and God. She lovingly shared, "I love God and church! We've learned about the beatitudes and the fruit of the spirit. My favorite fruit is strawberries, but my favorite fruit of the spirit is PEACE!"



Peace, what a perfect word to describe Christmas and because of you the word that embodies what Arms of Hope provides for all of our residents. The peace of having a safe home to lay their head, clothes on their back and not having to go to bed hungry. Equally important is the peace of unconditional love poured out by employees, volunteers, donors and partner churches. Most importantly, there is the peace of being told every day how much God loves them.

So, I once again humbly ask you, as you count your many blessings and enjoy peace, to please make a tax-deductible Christmas donation to Arms of Hope so we can continue each year to provide peace to hundreds of children lives like Sahira and Dartan'on.

I hope and pray your Christmas is an amazing time of joy and peace. As you prepare to remember the birth of Christ and celebrate with family and friends, I hope you will agree with all of us at Arms of Hope that giving to those in need is the true meaning of the Holiday season.

Thank you so much for your support of Arms of Hope! We are truly grateful, but we have so many more children and families that need the gift of peace and we can only do that with the caring financial support you give. Please make a Christmas donation to Arms of Hope today.

Thank you and have a Merry Christmas!

Troy Robertson  
Chief Executive Officer



***ArmsOfHope.org***

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