

## Friends of Holt - Korea Summer 2025

I was delighted that Robert and I could recently travel to Korea for a little more than a week. This marked 51 years since the first time I traveled there in 1974 with my husband Bob! Holt Childrens Services will celebrate 70 years since its founding this September.

Over the years there has been dramatic changes in Seoul and in South Korea. Likewise there have been changes in Holt programs. The biggest change is that as of July 1st, 2025, Holt will no longer be placing children for adoption! The Korean government has taken over all adoption services!

Harry and Bertha founded Holt as a service to help needy children. Holt Childrens Service in Korea is still carrying out that mission with the programs they currently provide for needy children and their families.

Since 2020 Holt had worked in orphanages to give children guidance and hope for their future after orphan life. These orphans will be able to choose their path and gain the education they need for their future career. This is made possible through Holt's **Youth Orphan Program**.

Another program Holt sponsors is the **Emergency Support Program for Pregnant Women in Crisis** which was begun in 2024.

Furthermore a program which Holt initiated in 2018 is the **365 Kids Kit**. This 365 program aids needy single parent families by providing educational materials so that their children won't fall behind in school.

Mrs Lee, Eun Jeong, Director of Social Services at Holt in Seoul, has written examples for you to read on how Holt has helped needy single families.

Please be as generous as you can to help Holt reach out to more children and needy single families.

Many thanks for your generosity throughout the years. Holt-Korea is very appreciative and thankful for your support!  
Love and Thanks, Jinny and Robert

PS: I'm proud to share with you that Robert graduated from the University of Illinois at Chicago Medical School in May! He is now a Resident doctor at University of Illinois Health in Chicago pursuing a career in Anesthesiology.



Mrs. Lee, Eun Jeong- Director of Social Services  
Dr. Cho, Byung KuK- Long Term Pediatrician  
Mrs. Shin Mee Sook- President of Holt

Please make checks out to Friends of Holt-Korea, and not to me.  
IRS tax# 77-0112624  
22365 Carta Blanca  
Cupertino, CA 95014

*Holt provides school supply kits with the hope that children from low-income single-parent families can grow up healthier and happier.*

The majority of single-parent families in Korea face numerous challenges in raising their children.

In particular, many heartbreaking stories stem from the inability to provide proper learning opportunities or educational materials due to financial burdens. To support the healthy learning development of all children, Holt Children's Services has been operating the 365 Kids Kit support program since 2018.

Through this program, children of school age in single-parent families receive educational supplies such as backpacks, learning materials, and stationery.

Starting this year, children will be able to personally choose the supplies they need once a year.

"After my child entered elementary school, I couldn't afford to buy any workbooks besides the official textbooks.

But thanks to the support with learning materials, my son—who dreams of becoming a scientist—received great help.

Now he has a solid foundation to build on!"



– Lee ○An, 365 Kids Kit participant

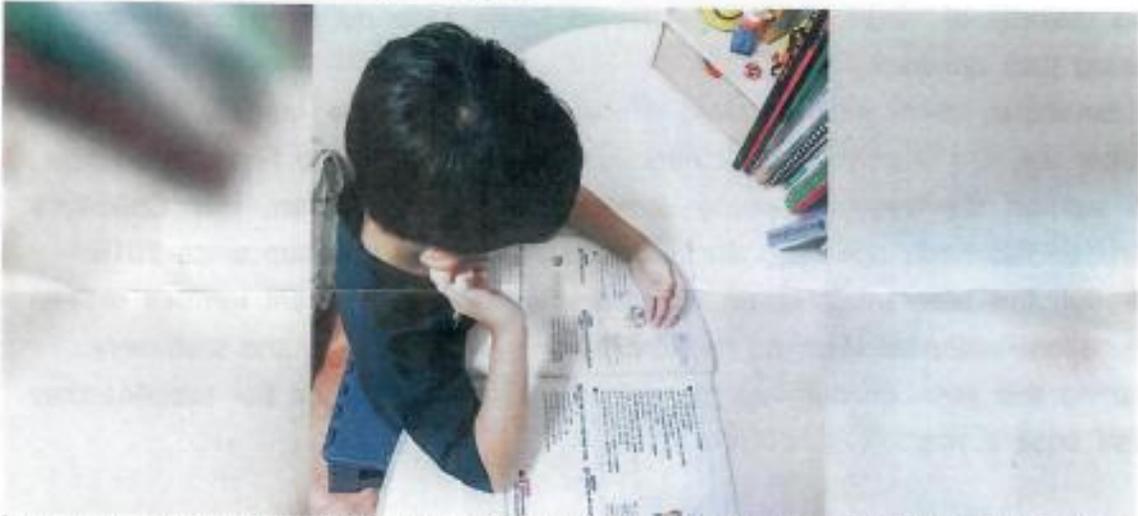
"I was so grateful that someone celebrated my child's entrance into elementary school.

My child was incredibly happy to wear the new backpack received as a gift to the entrance ceremony.

We've also been having fun practicing writing together using the worksheets you sent.

The support has really eased my financial burden and helped me buy additional supplies my child needed.”

– Lee OOn, 365 Kids Kit participant



Last year alone, 365 Kids Kits were delivered to a total of 130 children from single-parent families.

The children were thrilled to receive their very own new backpacks, and the parents felt relieved knowing their kids could use the study materials to review and prepare for school.

*Since 2024, Holt has launched the Emergency Support Program for Pregnant Women in Crisis.*

*This program provides childbirth expenses and emergency living support to ensure that no woman—regardless of whether she is single, married, or in a non-marital relationship—has to give up her baby due to financial hardship.*

It started out ordinary, but it was filled with excitement.

I met the person I loved, dreamed of a happy future, and welcomed our angelic first child into the world.



However, after I became pregnant with our second child, my husband left me, and that future became something I could no longer dream of.

Unable to receive any child support, I started working part-time cleaning pensions just to get by.

But nothing was easy while being pregnant, and I was overwhelmed with anxiety as I couldn't even afford the essentials for the baby who was about to be born.

Though I have parents, they were in no position to help, and we weren't in contact, so I couldn't reach out to them.

I had to face both childbirth and parenting entirely on my own.

Once my second child is born and grows a little, I plan to find a job and devote myself to raising my children.

Because I'm a mother who wants to raise both of them healthy with my own two hands.

But the current reality, where I can't even work, is unbearably harsh.

What worries me the most is the baby supplies for my child born in February. Raising a child requires many things, but since I have no income at the

moment, I couldn't prepare any of the necessary items.

My baby is getting ready to enter this world with all its might, and yet as a mother, I feel helpless and depressed for not being able to do anything for them.



Just as I was growing weary of the difficult reality, I learned about Holt Children's Services' Emergency Support Program for Single Mothers in Crisis. Through this program, I was able to obtain the supplies I needed to raise my baby and prepare for the arrival of my second child.

Without this support, I would have faced serious hardship due to the lack of even the most basic items needed to care for my newborn.

Thanks to the help from Holt Children's Services, I'm slowly starting to move forward.

I will do my best to ensure that both of my children grow up healthy, and someday, I hope to become someone who can offer help to others.

Holt Children's Services' Emergency Support Program for Single Mothers in Crisis gave me great hope, and I sincerely wish it can be a source of support for other single-parent families as well.

I hope it allows them, too, to dream of a better future.