



For immediate release: Wednesday February 5, 2025.

Hope and Homes for Children's mission to help 5.4 million children get #BackToFamily - boosted by UK Aid Match funding

THE UK Government has announced it will match all eligible donations to Hope and Homes for Children's Back to Family campaign until March 31 - and with an anonymous donor matching the same amount, donations made today could be tripled.

An estimated 5.4 million children around the world are currently separated from their families and confined in orphanages, even though over 80% of them are not orphans.

Orphanages expose these children to abuse, trafficking, and physical and psychological trauma that can last a lifetime.

By working with families, communities, local authorities and governments, Hope and Homes for Children has helped get thousands of children out of orphanages and back to family.

Its work will now be boosted, with all eligible donations up to £500,000 to the Back to Family campaign being matched until 31 March as part of UK Aid Match. With an anonymous donor matching the same amount, this will triple the charity's impact to help get 5.4 million children out of orphanages and back to family – as 80% of these children have living relatives.

UK Aid Match brings charities, the British public and the UK Government together to collectively change the lives of some of the world's poorest and most vulnerable people. Over the last six years, 62 organisations from across the UK have run UK Aid Match projects in 35 countries, helping around 7.5 million people directly all around the world.

This follows the launch of the UK Foreign Secretary's global campaign on children's care reform earlier this month.

Foreign Secretary David Lammy said:

"Every child deserves to grow up in a loving family environment where they can flourish and reach their full potential. I am therefore delighted to announce we will match all public donations up to £500,000 to this vital Hope and Homes for Children campaign.

The harsh reality is that too many children around the world are trapped in harmful institutions where they face neglect and abuse. This has to stop.

"Hope and Homes for Children's tireless work to reunite separated children with their families is precisely the kind of positive change we need to see globally. Together we can transform the lives of vulnerable children ensuring they get the care, protection and opportunities they deserve."

Mark Waddington, CEO of Hope and Homes for Children, said:



HOPE AND HOMES FOR CHILDREN

“Being institutionalised harms children, full stop. Millions of the most vulnerable children also face trafficking, abuse, and neglect as a result of being confined to orphanages and institutions around the world. Today’s announcement of UK Aid Match offers hope for ending this global scandal.

“UK Aid Match will supercharge our efforts to help get children back to family in Rwanda, Kenya and South Africa, and to help prevent children being separated from their families in the first place.

“It’s fantastic to have the UK Government recognising the importance of our work, as it leads the way in global care reform for children.

“Together we can triple our impact in helping children grow up in loving homes and making orphanages history.”

To donate to Hope and Homes for Children’s visit www.hopeandhomes.org.

ENDS

About Hope and Homes for Children

- 5.4 million children are shut away in orphanages around the world, despite 80% having living family.
- Orphanages expose children to the ever-present dangers of trafficking, abuse and neglect that result in lifelong mental and physical health issues.
- Since 1994 we’ve been inspiring multiple governments the UN, EU and Commonwealth to close the doors of orphanages forever.
- We fight for children to get them Back to Family, by reuniting them with relatives. And when that’s not possible, we train social workers to find families to foster or adopt.
- For more information visit www.hopeandhomes.org, or look out for @hopeandhomes on Twitter and @homeandhomesforchildren on Instagram.