

SUMMER 2020 NEWSLETTER

Boys' & Girls' Towns of Italy | Boys' & Girls' Towns of Ethiopia | Boys' & Girls' Towns of India | Boys' & Girls' Towns of Latin America



I've Got Some News

In the first months of the COVID-19 pandemic, our partners in India sent us the colorful photos (see above) of 'kolam' art made by the girls in the program. Our courageous young women drew complex designs with colored chalk, including healthcare workers as knights with swords and a doctor defeating a coronavirus monster with a spear. Faced with uncertainty and fear, they responded by creating something beautiful and encouraging.

This year, we wanted to celebrate our 75th anniversary with all of you at our three major events: the New York Annual Gala, the San Francisco Ball of the Year and the Wine & Spirits International Dinner. With the arrival of COVID-19, our commitment to your safety forced us to make the hard decision of canceling all in-person events for this year.

Like the young people of our Towns, however, we are creating something new and hopeful out of this difficult situation. We are combining these three major events into a spectacular celebratory show that you can enjoy from the comfort of your living room! A Chance In Life's 75th Anniversary Virtual Gala will take place on Wednesday, October 28 (6pm PDT/9pm EDT). The show can be watched on your computer, tablet or Smart TV and will include performances by celebrities and a message from Pope Francis! You can celebrate with us directly from your home - just bring your favorite drink to toast to all the lives changed by our organization and donors like you over these past 75 years. We count on your presence. Read inside to explore the many ways you can be a part of our Virtual Gala. I can't wait to hear the good news of your participation in this event!

Gabriele Delmonaco
President/Executive Director



UPDATE ON OUR PROGRAMS



Gratitude from Around the Globe

We could not be more grateful for the generosity of our A Chance In Life family, which raised \$112,920.15 for our #MonthofMeals fund. This support has allowed us to continue providing families with the emergency food supplies and safety information they need to stay safe as their communities struggle with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our program partners on the ground have put every penny you raised to work, feeding over 6,000 children and family members across eighteen programs and seven countries. We have received messages of gratitude from around the world; two of them are pictured to the left. Thank you for being there for our children when they needed you most.

We'd like to offer our own sincere thanks to Ariane Slinger and the Caritas Pro Vitae Gradu Charitable Trust for their generous grants in support of our #MonthofMeals campaign. We're also grateful to celebrity chefs Marc Forgione, Elizabeth Falkner and Padma Lakshmi (pictured bottom right) for their support of our Home Together virtual feast on May 19.

En Primera Persona (In First Person) Series



We are excited to announce that A Chance In Life has partnered with Equidad para la Infancia (Equity for Children) to produce a series of videos about life during the pandemic for the communities A Chance In Life supports across Latin America.

The testimonials from the mothers pictured below have been powerful reminders of the hunger, unemployment and inaccessibility of remote education that many families face.

A Chance In Life continues to work with our program partners to find sustainable solutions as these families weather the pandemic. To learn more, visit achanceinlife.org/enprimerapersona.



Señora Fuño Diaz, Peru



Señora Aura, Guatemala



Señora Roxana, Peru



Señora Leidy, Colombia

UPCOMING EVENTS & INITIATIVES



A Chance In Life's 75th Anniversary Virtual Gala

Save the Date for Wednesday, October 28, 6pm PDT and 9pm EDT

For the first time in our 75-year history, we are bringing together all of A Chance In Life's supporters from around the world for one celebratory show! There will be performances, a raffle, messages from the young people of our Towns and opportunities to support our life-saving programs. Journal ads, raffle tickets, individual tickets, event tables and corporate sponsorships are all available online at one.bidpal.net/acil2020.

Join us in celebrating Marc Taub and Ariane Slinger as this year's honorees!

We are thrilled to announce two of our esteemed honorees, Marc Taub of Palm Bay International and Ariane Slinger of the Caritas Pro Vitae Gradu Charitable Trust.

As President and CEO of Palm Bay International, Mr. Taub has been a decades-long supporter of our annual Wine & Spirits International Dinner and a generous supporter of our young people. As Trustee of the Caritas Pro Vitae Gradu Charitable Trust, Mrs. Slinger has been a crucial partner of our #MonthofMeals campaign to provide food relief to our young people during the COVID-19 pandemic. (You can read a recent interview with Mrs. Slinger on A Chance In Life's blog here.)

We are so grateful to have such committed philanthropists as our honorees, and hope you all will join us in celebrating them both on October 28!

Partnership with FreeWill

If there's a will, there's a way! In honor of our 75th anniversary, A Chance In Life has partnered with FreeWill to bring all of our supporters a free, online tool to help you create a legally valid will in 20 minutes or less.

A will is the best resource you can have for the people you love, and it is also a powerful way to consider your legacy and give children across the world a chance in life. Planned gifts can have a tremendous and lasting impact on a nonprofit's work.

August is National Make-A-Will month, so there's no better time to begin your legacy. Get started today at freewill.com/achanceinlife. If you have any questions about this resource or the impact of planned gifts, contact Claire Gallagher at claire@achanceinlife.org.

A Chance In Life's New Podcast

We are releasing our own podcast! Providing children with a chance in life for 75 years has given us endless stories of travel, culture and hope. Our President and Executive Director, Gabriele Delmonaco, will be exploring these subjects and A Chance In Life's history with the help of some amazing guests.

Our first guest, author Carla Gambescia, will bring her extensive knowledge of Italian culture and history to the show.

Look to our website and social media platforms in the coming weeks for our release date and link to listen!

Are you interested in joining us as a guest on our podcast? Write to us at office@achanceinlife.org!



SPOTLIGHT ON OUR DONORS

A few weeks ago, we were honored to speak with Mark Quattrocchi, our 2021 San Francisco Honoree of the Year and longtime supporter of A Chance In Life. Mark Quattrocchi is the founding partner of Quattrocchi Kwok Architects, a 65-person Bay Area firm. With his educational design experience, Mark is a renowned industry authority on designing environments for 21st century teaching and learning. In our interview, he shared memories from his years as part of San Francisco's A Chance In Life community and spoke of his passion for education and giving back. (You can read his full interview on A Chance In Life's blog here.)

How did you become involved with A Chance In Life, and what draws you to the mission today?

Nearly ten years ago, I was invited to the San Francisco Ball by my good friend and past Honoree of the Year, Rick Martellaro. That night, I was profoundly moved by the compassion for children in need that Monsignor Carroll-Abbing showed when he founded La Città dei Ragazzi (Boys' & Girls' Towns of Italy). Today, I am no less committed to the mission of A Chance In Life, as I see so much need globally for children who are victims of civil unrest and war, and now a global pandemic. To be of service to those in need is our highest calling. All of us as supporters are blessed in our personal and professional lives and can make a difference for vulnerable ragazzi (boys and girls) – who among us does not see them as our children, too?

As head of your firm, you made the decision to focus on educational design to improve the education experience for students. What inspires your passion for education? What advice would you give other professionals on how to match their philanthropic passions with their work?

My career as an architect focuses on designing schools, where I am fortunate to work with teachers who are dedicated to making a societal difference that impacts generations of children. Since my first school project over 30 years ago, I see designing places for students to learn not only as my profession but also my personal passion, making a difference in the lives of students and teachers. At its core, philanthropy is personal. For those who support the mission of A Chance In Life, giving is part of who they are. As I discovered in the design of schools, within each of our professions there exists a nexus between our work and our giving. One need only look up to see opportunities to volunteer for at-risk youth, offer pro bono services in your field, or simply contribute. My only advice is to find a cause that you are passionate about; this will not only help you succeed in business but will sustain and enrich you beyond expectations.

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has challenged all of us to find new, socially-distant ways to connect. A Chance In Life, for example, has transitioned its traditional in-person gala to virtual celebrations this year. What are some ways you have continued to stay connected during this time, either with loved ones or some of the charitable organizations you support?

Like everyone, my personal and professional connections these days focus on video chats. It's remarkable how connected I can feel in a simple video chat with friends. While not the same as being across the table from them, I've been grateful to "see" them in our occasional happy hours or group video chats where we catch up on new hobbies (the gardening is amazing!), our children and how we're all managing the isolation. I cannot imagine how people of past pandemics managed before Zoom. I strive not to let the pandemic limit my charitable support. I see the organizations I support pivot, nearly on a dime, to create remarkably creative virtual events. A Chance In Life with its upcoming October virtual event is a perfect example of such resourcefulness. One only needs to read A Chance In Life's newsletters or emails to see how the pandemic has impacted so many families. I implore us all to give now more than ever.



Mark and his wife, Tina Kelly, at the San Francisco Ball of the Year



With Mark's help, students contribute to the design of their new school



Mark Quattrocchi and his (adorable) dog, Hope



Mark leads a vision session with a group of teachers

Do you have a favorite story from your time as part of the A Chance In Life family? In celebration of our 75th Anniversary, we are collecting stories from our many decades of history. Submit your story and photos at www.stories-achanceinlife.org today!