



*The Bakers - A Pathways Family*

# PATHWAYS NEWSLETTER

JULY 2015

## DEAR FRIEND,

Every Wednesday at 9:30am, I attend my favorite staff meeting of the week: Pathways for Little Feet. Here, the staff reviews, discusses, recommends, and then approves applications from families needing financial assistance to finalize adoptions of orphans from around the world. In our last meeting, for instance, five (?) families were approved. Afterwards, Heath Pressley called each family and gave them the good news.

Take a look on the back page of this newsletter, and you will see a synopsis of the families I just mentioned, and the reason why I look forward to this meeting each week! The tears of joy flowing from those calls deeply moves me. I believe anyone listening in on one of those calls would quickly understand how much it means to a family of limited financial resources to have Pathways come alongside it and turn a fervent hope into a joy-filled reality. Many families who receive these calls use the word "miracle". Our \$5,000-\$7,500 interest free loans to loving families instantly change lives. Our newsletter highlights Heath Pressley, a talented leader who joined our team two years ago. Heath has made a very positive impact on Pathways. I don't think I have ever met such a humble and joyful man: please read Heath's story of redemption: it is what we hope will be the path 100's of our children will make/take, with your help.

Last month we announced we are building

"Pathways Institute", which will (use Heath's description). I want to thank those who have stepped up to make this dream a reality. Please read Heath's letter to, once again, see our hope turning into a joy-filled reality!

Our "Little Plates for Little Feet" event is one of the best celebrations in the city of Houston. This year it will be held at the Houstonian on \_\_\_\_\_ and will feature \_\_ of the top chefs in our city. Many have told me that "Little Plates" is their favorite charity event of the year: Great fun, incredible food and lots of laughter! We have included a sign up card in this newsletter: Don't wait. I am confident it will quickly sell out.

All of us at Pathways are optimistic and enthusiastic about building our organization, and we look forward to striving each day, with God's help, toward a bright future for orphans around the world.

H. Kerr Taylor

Chairman of the Board  
Pathways for Little Feet

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Kerr Taylor".



## Malachi

Jonathan and Erin, married for 14 years, already had 3 biological children, but felt so strongly that God's heart was for the orphan that they set out to bring an orphaned child into their family through adoption. After depleting their savings, receiving some adoption grants and doing fund-raisers they were still short of the funds needed to complete their adoption. Thankfully Pathways for Little Feet was there to help.

Pathways for Little Feet provided the Bakers with an interest-free adoption loan. This loan came provided the funds they needed for them to complete their adoption and bring their precious Malachi home.

The Bakers are paying back the loan with payments that fit within their budget. They understand that in doing so, their payments are being placed back into the Perpetual Family Fund and will be used to help another family complete their adoption.

"We love Malachi so much, and we could not have been able to bring him home without the help of Pathways for Little Feet."

-Erin Baker



## HEATH PRESSLEY

Adoption is a beautiful thing. Children who were once alone and on their own now are loved and secure in their very own family! Beautiful indeed. But adoption, while beautiful, can be very difficult. It is difficult because the beginning of the adoption story always begins with brokenness and tragedy - a child who should be loved

and kept safe in their birth family isn't. Whatever the cause, it is tragic whenever a family is broken. Adoptive children have had to experience trauma, and that trauma has some pretty devastating effects on their lives and impacts the healthy functioning of their new adoptive family.

Much like a soldier returning from the trauma of war with PTSD, adopted children also suffer from the residual effects of their traumatic events. They, just like our wounded warriors, need help. As an adoptee and an adoptive father, I know personally that this is true!

That is why Pathways for Little Feet is creating the Pathways Institute for Post Adoptive Care. The need for healing is great and the demand from adoptive families is huge, so in response Pathways is developing this ministry to meet the demand. Over the next couple of months we are going to build a world class team that provides resources, support and professional counseling to adoptive families.

Our goal is to raise \$125,000 to kick start this new ministry. We have already raised \$25,000 and we have a \$50,000 matching gift committed! Would you join us in our efforts to help families with kids from hard places heal from their emotional trauma? *Your financial gift to the Pathways Institute will be matched!* Your gift will double its impact and allow Pathways to care for wounded families. Please join us today.

If you would, please let us on the response card included in this newsletter, or go to our website and you are able to give through our secure online giving portal - [www.pathwaysforlittlefeet.org](http://www.pathwaysforlittlefeet.org).

Thank you so much!

Heath Pressley

President

## PATHWAYS FOR LITTLE FEET

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