



Sierra Leone

Hassan was 7 years old when he went to live at the SOS Village in Freetown. He was shy and spent a lot of time alone in his room. Today, as a result of the security and love he has gained from being part of an SOS family, he is helpful, outgoing and holds the position of Head Boy at his school. His SOS Mother is proud of the boy that he has become.



Armenia

Adrine spent the first few years of her life growing up in a Armenian orphanage. She had met some SOS children who lived nearby and was impressed by their politeness and kindness. When she was told that she was going to live at an SOS Village too, she was overjoyed. She enjoys learning about nature, music and science.



India

Sisters **Sirisha** and **Amita**, aged 10 and 9 came to live at the Pondicherry SOS Village after their mother was killed in the tsunami. Both girls were very withdrawn after their traumatic experiences and their SOS Mother has worked hard to help them to look towards the future again. Both of them love dancing, skipping and playing chess!



Burundi

Jacques, aged 3 was accepted into the Bujumbura SOS Village in 2009 after his mother died giving birth to his younger sister. At first he found it very difficult to be separated from his SOS Mother to attend Nursery School, but now he loves playing with the other children and knows that his SOS Mother and family will all be there for him at home time.



Argentina

Pablo, aged 5, used to live on the streets. He arrived at SOS Children's Village in Lujan 3 weeks before his 3 younger brothers were able to. Pablo could not wait to see them. His SOS Mother, Maria, described their arrival as the happiest moment in Pablo's life; "He was certainly the happiest child in the world".



Cape Verde Islands

Joyce was one of 9 children, and her family weren't able to afford to look after her. She was 9 years old when she went to live at the SOS Village in Assomada. As she grew up, Joyce was supported by SOS Children to train as a Nursery Teacher in the SOS Nursery. She is now engaged to another teacher, and they live in Assomada, near the Village.



Belarus

Dima, came to the SOS Children's Village Borovljany from a local orphanage. He remembers it as a place where there was never a chance to be alone. Some of the children tried to escape because they wanted a real family. Now Dimitri has a real family, with 6 brothers and sisters and a mother. The Village also has a Health Centre where treatment for radiation damage is given.



Cambodia

Kiri was 4 years old when he came to SOS Children's Village Angkor-Siem Reap. His mother died when he was 2 months old. His father was terminally ill and could not take care of him. Kiri had never seen a sofa, bed or dining table. He remembers that his new mama was smiling with open arms and all the children wanted to see him. He wants to become a doctor.



Estonia

Tanel, aged 13, came to SOS Children's Village Keila 5 years ago, along with his 2-month old brother, after their mother went into a nursing home due to ill health. Because of the age difference, they wouldn't have been able to live together in a state-run orphanage. Fortunately, SOS Children's Villages always keeps siblings together.





Ethiopia



Zenaye grew up in SOS Children's Village Addis Abeba. She remembers many times spent standing in front of the stove stirring a pot, carrying her baby brother Erimas on her back and reading her geography textbook. Her firm belief in education and hard work paid off; Zenaye is now an Advisor for SOS Children's Villages in Zimbabwe.



The Gambia



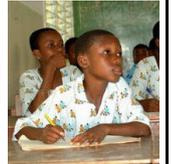
Oumou, a 13-year-old girl from SOS Children's Village Bakoteh, loves living there because "It is safe. It is well-organised. We are given support in our education. We celebrate all the feasts together, regardless of religion. We have a clinic. We are cared for and loved; I have a family that I can call my own, and we have many fruit trees!"



Ghana



Emmanuel was admitted to SOS Children's Village Tema when he was 5 years old. He had been living in dire conditions with his grandmother. At the Village, he had a real family life. Now aged 29, he is about to complete his studies and will soon get his engineering degree. Without SOS Village intervention, Emmanuel says 'life probably would have been very questionable'.



Indonesia



Twin brothers **Yusri** and **Yusrani**, like most of the children who live at SOS Children's Village Meulaboh, are survivors of the 2004 Boxing Day Tsunami. They were just 5 when the powerful tsunami killed many people in their home town, including their parents. The Children's Village in Meulaboh is one of six built in Asia following the tragedy.



Jordan



Massar, aged 18, lives at the youth house of SOS Children's Village Amman. Living in the SOS Youth House gives older teenagers an opportunity to become more independent. When she sets a goal, she works hard to achieve it. Massar believes that education is a girl's best weapon.



Malawi



Lahema is an 8 year old girl who nursed her parents as they each died of AIDS. She is now the main carer for her 2 younger siblings, who are also dying of AIDS. An SOS Community Nurse, Lonnie, visits 3 times a week, bringing food, medication, support and love to Lahema's little family.



Swaziland



Margaret is an 8 year old AIDS orphan, who was being cared for by an aunt who couldn't afford to send her to school. The SOS Family Strengthening Programme in Mbabane, which works with families funded Margaret's return to school. SOS Children has given Margaret a chance to break out of poverty and make a future for herself.



Zambia



Joice, a 14 year old girl from Lusaka, lives with her grandmother. Joice had been unable to attend school as her grandmother could not afford the fees. Her school fees are now funded by SOS Children and she goes to the SOS School in Lusaka. Joice particularly enjoyed the school's 'Adventure Unlimited' programme where she learnt about child rights.



Tanzania



Anna's mum died in childbirth and her dad drowned as he tried to cross a swollen river. Anna was found, aged 5 or 6, locked in her house a week after her father went missing. She was rescued by neighbours and is now part of a happy family at the SOS Village in Arusha. No one knows her real birthdate, so she celebrates on 2nd June, the day she arrived at SOS Arusha.





Ecuador



Elsy is a woman who decided to devote her life to being an SOS mother, passing through all the training and gaining her diploma. She now has 5 children in her SOS family, and while the early stages of life together were sometimes challenging, the children are now settled, relaxed and happy in their new home. Elsy feels that her role is the most rewarding thing she's ever done.



Zimbabwe



HIV+ 9 year old **Esther** and her sister, baby Tino, were featured in a 2010 BBC documentary called "Zimbabwe's Forgotten Children". Their mother was dying of AIDS and Esther was both nursing her and caring for Tino. Some days they went hungry. After Esther's mother died, a place was found for the girls at SOS Village Bindura, where they now thrive; being well cared for, loved and educated.



Uruguay



Luis grew up in an SOS Village and then moved into an SOS Youth Centre at 17 years old. He is using the money sent to him as gifts by his sponsors, saved up over the years, to build his own house. Even though Luis goes to work for 8 hours a day, he finds time to work on his building project. Luis is building for his own future and for that of the children that he may one day have.



Uganda



When 4 year old **John** arrived at SOS Village Entebbe, he was malnourished, suffering from malaria, and had jiggers (parasitic insects that lay eggs under the skin). He was so ill that he couldn't speak for his first 3 months with his new mother and family. Now, John is like the other children; curious, chatty, smiling, and sometimes naughty!



Togo



Therese is 34, unmarried and lives with her own 3 children and her sister's 3 children. They are supported by the SOS Family Strengthening Programme which provides the children with food, clothes, school fees and free medical care. When one of the children was badly injured whilst out playing one day, Therese was very relieved and grateful that they would be able to get treatment.



Sri Lanka



Mali, who grew up in SOS Village Piliyandala, recently graduated from Edinburgh University in Scotland, with a degree in Accounting. She feels lucky for the support of SOS. "At my graduation ceremony I felt on top of the world with all the well-wishers. But I was missing my SOS mother and family; if only they could have been around at the graduation ceremony too!"



Rwanda



In 1994, most of **Brigitte's** family were killed in the Rwandan civil war. Brigitte escaped death on more than one occasion. In 1999, she became an SOS Aunt (family helper), and then a year later, an SOS Mother. Brigitte knows that she needs the 10 children that she is now mother to, just as much as they need her. "They became my new reason for living because I became a mum again."



Paraguay



Elvira has been an SOS Mother for 19 years and has raised a total of 21 children. She says that her role often brings new challenges: "I have a deaf child in my family, so I learned sign language. It was hard to learn it, but being able to communicate with my son was certainly more important than the struggle. Patience is a quality in all of us, so being a big family is not a problem at all."



Mongolia



12 year old **Skinetuya's** parents moved from the countryside to Ulaanbaatar in search of jobs. Now his mother washes cars and earns about £8 a day. Skinetuya has never been to school and the SOS Social Centre is teaching him how to read and write. In a year or so, he hopes to be able to go to school. On Fridays. The Centre provides medical check ups.



Find someone who is Head Boy at his school.	Find someone who used to live in an orphanage.	Find someone who likes playing chess.	Find someone who goes to Nursery School.
Find someone who used to live on the streets.	Find someone who is now a Nursery Teacher.	Find someone who wants to be a doctor.	Find someone with 6 SOS brothers and sisters.
Find someone who was able to live with his brother in an SOS Village.	Find someone who has fruit trees.	Find someone about to become an engineer.	Find someone who survived the Boxing Day tsunami in 2004.
Find someone who lives in an SOS Youth House.	Find someone who is an 8 year old carer.	Find someone supported by the SOS Family Strengthening Programme.	Find someone who has been learning about child rights.
Find someone who doesn't know their real date of birth.	Find someone who became an SOS child after appearing in a BBC documentary.	Find someone who is building their own home.	Find someone who was suffering from malaria and jiggers.
Find someone who looks after her own 3 children and her sister's 3 children.	Find someone who went to university in Scotland.	Find someone who escaped death in a civil war.	Find someone who learned sign language.
Find someone who is learning to read and write at an SOS Social Centre.		Name:	