



# HELPING ALL WE CAN...ONE AT A TIME.

### **DIRECTOR'S NOTE**

Deanna WallaceJ

AAO Executive Director

Well, we made it through 2016! That's an accomplishment I'm celebrating, since there were so many times when it didn't look possible. Thanks to YOU, the children still have a home – and we're hoping you can help us make 2017 a year of turning things around. We need your generous support as we continue to work on ways to be self-sustainable.

I'm thrilled to share the news that three of our kids have now graduated from Senior Secondary School, and will be going to university soon! They've been AAO kids all through their school years, and are all exceptional scholars. We are beyond proud of them!

## \* AHMED

Ahmed came to live at AAO when he was 4 years old. He is a very good soccer player, as well as a brilliant student. He's also active in his church, and has a good heart. He's a very well-rounded young man.

# \* MONJAMA

Monjama was 6 when she came to AAO. She is a beautiful singer, and is sometimes asked to perform at local events. She is also very good with the younger children at the Center, and is always a big help.



Isata came to live at the Children's Center when she was 5. She is an accomplished artist, and won a national art contest when she was only 14.





We want to thank **Selina Smyth** for sending gifts to the children, and also for providing the funds toward a holiday party for them, in December. We are so very grateful, and, as you can see from the photos, the kids had a wonderful time! Thank you, Selina, for making such a special event for them!

#### Thanks to our first time donors in December 2016:

Bally Humanufactured LLC - Campbell Hutchinson - Carol & Drue DeMatteis - Carol Franco & Kent Lineback - Eleanor Graham Frank & Shirley Hirsch - Gail & Joel Bernstein - George Bayless - Helene Murdy - Ivy Ross - Jenna & Wilson Scanlan Johanna Boyles - John & Rhonda Chartier - Kritter Kare by Kim - Leslea McCabe - Nancy James - Nansy Carson - Polly White Ron & Hope Morrison - Sherry Cannon - Sophie Celton - Thomas Meyers - Thomas Sutcliffe

#### Thanks to those who gave over \$500 in December 2016:

Billy Daly & Selina Smyth - Chris Briers - Drew & CJ Ebersole - Elliot & Beth Raizes - Jim & Sherri Wallace - John Scanlan Nicholi & Fallon Long - Robert & Joanne Lovelace - Yvonne Katter

And thank you to our regular monthly supporters, who make our work possible!