

[View this email in your browser](#)



## Building a Bridge to a Brighter Future

**SERVE - HEAL - INSPIRE - NURTURE - EMPOWER**

Dear Friends,

**SHINE is SHINing!** This 3rd quarter newsletter shares how we are on the move to meet our goals in building an organization that focuses on supporting youth who age out of foster and orphan care, as they are thrust out on their own unprepared for adulthood.

Over the past several months we have connected local non-profit and local government agencies to discuss how we work together in support of youth. We all have the same goal of being committed to building a bridge to a better future for the lives of these young adults as we provide the support needed to help them successfully transition to a stable adulthood. Our focus is on providing the ability for these youth to continue their education and provide skill and career development and ensure that these young adults are given real-life skills to be contributing members of their local communities.

We will be sharing specifics of how you can help as we partner to build these programs to support, protect and provide for youth in our community through volunteering, prayer and donations.

[Click Here to Join our Support Team](#)

---

## Our Mission



**SHINE exists to Serve, Heal, Inspire, Nurture and Empower** vulnerable children, both domestically and internationally, who are transitioning from foster and orphan care or impoverished environments.

**SHINE's mission is to bring individuals together to support these children** by creating a bridge from their current environment to a future that allows for access to the necessities of a productive life: food, water, shelter, and employment. With a focus on education, skills development and career development, SHINE endeavors to ensure that these young adults are given real-life skills to be contributing members of their local communities.

---

## Why SHINE?

*The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. John 1:5*

- 23,000 Youth Age Out in United States annually
  - 50% of the Nations homeless population are former foster youth.
  - There is a direct correlation between trauma experienced in child welfare to involvement in the juvenile justice system.
  - Increased likelihood of criminal activity, gang affiliation [direct, indirect, or by proximity]
  - Higher chance of experiencing mental health problems, including an increased risk of suicide
  - Heightened risk of being trafficked
  - 47% Unemployment
  - 46% Experience homelessness by age 26
  - 50% Substance use dependency
  - 70% Girls pregnant by age 21
  - 71% Earn < \$25,000/yr
  - 25% High School Dropout rate
  - 70% Would like to go to a University, only 4% will, compared to 36% of general population
- 

## SHINE is Moving Forward!

aging out of foster care and suddenly found on their own. Our organization recently held an inaugural golf tournament at Cross Creek Plantation in Seneca, SC and the event was a great success!

*The top goals were:*

- Raising community awareness of the struggle of young adults who age out of foster care, with a goal of helping them create a foundation for a successful future of self-reliance.
- Raising awareness of **SHINE** and our mission to support and provide hope for a future for those at-risk youth.
- Building a foundational budget that will allow **SHINE** to start providing that support in Oconee County in the most cost-effective ways.
- Supporting our local Oconee Memorial Hospital resident program in their desire to provide international medicine as part of their training, while also serving the youth **SHINE** currently supports in Honduras.

Of the \$14,000 raised over 80% will be utilized on programs supporting Oconee County youth, as a primary stated mission. **SHINE** leaders are working with three local organizations to see where we can best fill current gaps toward building life skills, skills development, trade or technical training, or providing support to allow program participants to stay on a current education path.

The youth **SHINE** helps support in Honduras currently have education sponsors from multiple cities across the United States, as a means to further education and embark on a brighter future. The resident medical training trip will help our local Oconee hospital retain medical talent, which is difficult for rural hospitals nationwide. **SHINE** will be paying the residents travel expenses for this mission trip.

**SHINE** currently operates on a 100% volunteer basis, with no employees and no overhead, meaning that all funds can be directed toward helping those in need.

***Many thanks to all of the golfers, raffle supporters, and donors as well as a special thank you to the businesses who helped make this event a success:***

Turner's Jewelry, Wine Emporium, Tiger Spirits, Ingles, Publix, Food Lion, Emily's, Painted Fern, Raines on Exchange, Gypsy Wine Bar, Blue Heron, Big D's BBQ, Sister's, Strickland's, Windsor at Walhalla, Cross Creek Plantation, Keowee Key Club, Keowee Key Golf Course, Pixie and Bill's, Los Amigos, Tuscany Salon, Lighthouse Restaurant

---

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

*Copyright (C) 2023 Shine For Your Future. All rights reserved.*

Our mailing address is:

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)

