

Save a Child's heart is an organization that builds bridges and knows no boundaries. Tonight is an exceptional example of the distances save a child's heart travels to make a difference.

Being a part of save a child's heart has changed my life in many ways. During my time in the SACH house there was a little 6-month baby boy there from Kenya. His name is baby Brian. He was there with his mother Meredith. It was easy to communicate with her because her English was very good. She told me the story of how it was that she and Brian came to the SACH house. When the SACH team came to Kenya, Baby Brian was assessed and put first on the waiting list. Before him on the list was another child who did not end up coming because his parents did not believe that someone would pay for them to fly to a country they had probably never even heard about and they would live in a house for three months in this country, and during which time, their son would be given, free of charge the heart surgery that he needs to survive. They refused the offer, because they wouldn't believe it could be true. They did not trust. This meant that baby Brian was pushed up on the list and two weeks later was in Israel. I spoke to Meredith about a month ago and her and baby Brian are back home in Kenya, she told me he has grown so much and is now a

beautiful, healthy, happy one year old with a full head of hair. SACH has reminded me about trust and love for humankind, Meredith and her husband chose to trust. Now I choose to trust.

Save A Child's Heart has also reminded me about the value of each individual life. No matter race, religion, culture, class, distance, age, cost. Each life has such potential, each life deserves a chance and in today's ruthless, unforgiving society, it is so easy to forget the value in the individuals. Save a child's heart realizes that in the statistics are personalities, faces and lives. Each life is as important as your own.

To end off I just want to thank save a child's heart, because I am the luckiest recipient of the organization. The amazing doctors save lives, the administrative staff make the saving of lives possible, but I got to meet these individuals, live with them and bond with them and have them touch my heart, and for that, I am the luckiest.

Thank you.