



## They Grew Up... We Grew Together

### A Decade of Sharing Love in Korea

BY ANN LEE

It all began in 2014, with a little-known children's home called Sinaewon. It's now been 11 years since our very first visit, and who could have imagined that this visit would change all of our lives. Meeting the children of Sinaewon Children's Home in 2014 gave us the spark to start our non-profit in 2015, and Sharing Love in Korea (SL!K) was born. Some of the children we first met, have graduated from college, have been certified in social work, and now work at Sinaewon as teachers and mentors.

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Sharing Love in Korea presented a plaque of appreciation to Director Kim Miyoung at Sinaewon's 70th Anniversary Sponsor Appreciation Night. The photo includes fellows who visited the United States through SL!K's Summer Vision Trip over the past 10 years.



Sponsors, donors, and volunteers gather at SL!K's second fundraiser on February 24, 2018. Nearly a decade later, that commitment carries forward as we prepare to celebrate our 10th anniversary at our fundraiser on February 12, 2026.

## 2026: A Year of Big Dreams, Bold Music, and Global Vision

BY CAROLINE SIM

2026 will be a huge year for the kids of Sharing Love in Korea. We are currently planning to do something we've never done before – bring the Sinaewon Orchestra to Los Angeles to perform at the Walt Disney Concert Hall in August 2026. This endeavor would be *in addition* to our annual Vision Trip where several high school students come to the United States for 2 weeks to expand their vision about the world as well as their future.

Our hope is that up to 15 orchestra members and 3 staff from Sinaewon can come to Los Angeles this August. The orchestra would tour Los Angeles for several days while getting acclimated to the weather, time zone, and culture. The climax of the trip would be their performance on the biggest stage of their lives – the Walt Disney Concert Hall – when they would perform in conjunction with the Well Mission on August 23, 2026.

Music is the centerpiece of Sinaewon's programming that aims to bind up wounded and fill up hungry hearts. The instruments the children play with their fingers seem to translate the pain in their hearts to beauty for our ears. The SL!K Board members were privileged to hear them play during our Korea trip last month, and our hearts were set on fire to make this dream a reality. Would you like to partner with us in helping each member of the Sinaewon Orchestra to shine brightly and receive a standing ovation – a memory sure to last a lifetime?

Please join us on Thursday evening, February 12, 2026 at Yongsusan for our very special fundraiser. More details to come!

## Sharing Love Creates Connection: Chai Family's Sponsorship Journey

FROM LYNA CHAI

Hello fellow SL!Kkers!

We are a family of five - me, my husband Jimmy, Anthony (5), Athyn (3), and Dooly (8) - and we are so excited to be the new sponsors of two young boys at Samshin Green Hills Children's Group Home (삼신늘푸른동산), Su Hyun Lee (5) and San Kim (4).

While I had worked with children for many years prior to marriage, becoming a mother gave me a whole new perspective on the preciousness of every human life, especially our youngest ones because they are so vulnerable and hold so much potential at the same time.

As I watch my own children grow up, I wonder deeply about the mysteries of life, and why different children are born into such different circumstances... one thing I do know is that at a basic fundamental level, Su Hyun and San are the same precious extensions of Life as are my own children, and while we may be their "sponsors" I see us as simply different strands in the same tapestry of humanity, connecting to share our energies, experiences, and love.

I don't have many expectations. In fact, I'm curious to see how this journey will unfold, but my hope is for our boys to become good friends with Su Hyun and San, and for them to learn and grow together over the years.

As for myself, I'm simply here to learn about them, contribute what I can, and be grateful for this experience, because whatever we may be able to contribute to their lives, I have already gotten more in return with this opportunity to simply do what I can, where I am, for the betterment of this world.

Our new sponsor family  
(from left to right):  
Jimmy Chai with  
Anthony, Athyn, and  
Lyna with Dooly.



## Shared Smile, Shared Stories: Our Visit to Korea



Reunion with Sinaewon Summer Vision Trip Fellows

Last November, we reunited at Sinaewon with past fellows of the Summer Vision Trip Program—now automotive technicians, physical therapists, social workers and college students—each moving forward with purpose. We are grateful to SL!K's sponsors, donors and friends who have faithfully walked alongside them on this journey. Back row, from left, clockwise: Lim Kyung-min, Jayoo Sung, Jeong Min Seo, Daegeon Choi, Wooram Lee, Gwanggyu Mo, Ann Lee, Boseok Yoon, Yonah Hong, Siyeon Yoo, Chorong Kim, Nicole Chang and Caroline Sim.



Although they arrived at Sinaewon later, Nuri Han (center left photo) and Minjung Kim (center right photo) are also thriving—Nuri is focused on his college studies, while Minjung is busy building her career in the workplace.

### Organizational Timeline

**June 19, 2015** – Sharing Love in Korea filed its nonprofit incorporation documents with the California Secretary of State.

**February 14, 2016** – Sharing Love in Korea publicly launched as a nonprofit organization.

**July 2016** – The 1st Summer Vision Trip Program held with **Chorong Kim** and **Pyunghwa Sung** (Sinaewon).

**February 2017** – The first annual fundraising event held at Yongsusan Restaurant in Los Angeles.

**July 2017** – The 2nd Summer Vision Trip Program took place with **Jeong Min Seo**, **Kyung Min Lim**, and **Jayoo Sung** (Sinaewon).

**February 2018** – The second annual fundraising event was held at Yongsusan Restaurant in Los Angeles.

**July 2018** – The 3rd Summer Vision Trip Program was held with **Taeyang Yoon** and **Daegeon Choi** (Sinaewon).

**May 2018** – A sponsorship MOU was signed with **Emmanuel Children's Group Home** in Gimcheon.

**July 2019** – The 4th Summer Vision Trip Program was held with **Jinguk Choi** and **Minjung Kim** (Sinaewon), and

## Shared Smile, Shared Stories: Our Visit to Korea

**Sanggu Yoon & Sinyoung Lee (Emmanuel).**

**2020–2022** – The Summer Vision Trip Program and fundraising events were suspended due to COVID-19 Pandemic.

**September 2021** – A sponsorship MOU was signed with **Chunyangwon Children's Home** in Daejeon.

**July 2023** – The 5th Summer Vision Trip Program resumed with **Buyoung Ko** and **Jungsoo Oh** (Chunyangwon), and **Hanuel Lee** and **Nuri Han** (Sinaewon).

**August 2024** – The 6th Summer Vision Trip Program held with **Yuju Kim** and **Soojeong Cheon** (Chunyangwon) and **Syeon Yoo** and **Boseok Yoon** (Sinaewon).

**November 2024** – A sponsorship MOU was signed with **Samshin Green Hills Children's Home** in Buyeo.

**August 2025** – The 7th Summer Vision Trip Program held with **Yunji Choi** (Chun Yang Won) and **Gwanggyu Mo** and **Woram Lee** (Sinaewon).

**November 15, 2025** – SL!K attended Sinaewon's 70th Anniversary Sponsor Appreciation Event in Korea.



Each year, we host a pizza party during our visits to the children's home, creating joyful memories for the children. Pictured here, children from Emmanuel share pizza and laughter together.



Soojeong Cheon, who visited the United States from Chun Yang Won in 2024, is now working as an intern at Seongsimdang, one of Korea's most renowned bakeries. During our visit, we delivered a gift from the host family who welcomed her during her stay in the U.S.



**Help Us Expand Our Circle of Care:** Pictured with the children of Samshin Green Hills Children's Home, where we hosted a pizza party during our visit. While five children are currently connected with sponsors, about 60 children are still waiting to be matched with sponsors. We invite you to be part of their journey.

## A Father's Faith and a Legacy of Prayer

BY YONAH HONG

I would like to offer a tribute to my beloved father, Rev. Choon Man Hong, who went to be with the Lord on November 30, 2025, at the age of 87. He was a faithful servant of God until his final breath, a man who truly lived what it means to be godly. His life reflected the words of Scripture: "For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain" (Philippians 1:21). He loved the Lord God with all his heart, soul, mind, and strength, and he loved his neighbor as himself—faithfully living out God's greatest commandments.

More than 20 years ago, my parents introduced me to Sinaewon Children's Home during a family visit to Korea. Over the years, whenever I traveled back to Korea, I would stop by to visit the children, often bringing small gifts like candies. What began as simple visits eventually grew into something far greater. During our single girls' trip (with Ann, Caroline, and Nicole) to Korea in November 2015, a seed was planted—one that would later grow into Sharing Love in Korea (SL!K).



Rev. Hong prayed daily for his sponsored child Kyungmin Lim.



From right to left, Rev. Choon Man Hong shares a warm meal with sponsored children Kyungmin Lim (second from right), Jayoo Sung, and Jeongmin Seo on the first day of the 2017 Summer Vision Trip Program. A founding sponsor of SL!K, Rev. Hong also opened his home to the students as their host family during the visit.

When SL!K officially launched, we began searching for sponsors. We reached out to close family members and friends, and when I asked my dad, he immediately and joyfully said yes. He became a sponsor to Kyungmin Lim, who was 16 years old at the time. In 2017, Kyungmin was selected to participate in our Summer Vision Trip, and my dad had the opportunity to meet him in person. On Kyungmin's very first night in Los Angeles, he stayed with our family. I vividly remember my dad gently and lovingly praying for Kyungmin before we shared dinner together.

That prayer never ended. From the day my dad became Kyungmin's sponsor until the day he went to Heaven, he prayed for Kyungmin every single day. My father was a faithful prayer warrior, and I believe that his constant prayers were the most meaningful and powerful gift Kyungmin received.

I recently saw Kyungmin again in Korea at Sinaewon's 70th Anniversary celebration, and my heart overflowed with joy and gratitude to God. Today, Kyungmin is a successful mechanic and manager at the Mercedes-Benz Korea Truck Division. At 26 years old, he is thriving—

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and glowing. Even more beautiful is the impact he now has on others. Many of the younger boys at Sinaewon told me they want to become mechanics, just like their “big brother” Kyungmin.

I know that Kyungmin is who he is today because of God’s goodness and faithfulness. Yet I also know that God works through His people to encourage, uplift, and intercede for others—and He did exactly that through my father. My hope and prayer is that, like my dad, many of our sponsors will one day meet the children they support. But even more importantly, I pray they will faithfully remember to pray for these children—children who do not have parents present to offer the love, guidance, and support they need.

Many of you know that my mom went to be with the Lord on December 20, 2014. Now my dad is reunited with her in Heaven, in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ. I praise and thank God for this truth, yet I also carry a deep sorrow in my heart because I miss them both so dearly. For the first time in my life, at the age of 53, I truly understand what it feels like to be an orphan. I cannot begin to imagine the pain endured by children living in orphanages—some who never knew their parents, and others who suffered abuse at their hands. These children are incredibly resilient, yet they need immense love, care, and support.

I thank God that Sharing Love in Korea was established ten years ago to do exactly that. May we continue to love, bless, and faithfully pray for these precious children. Through God’s love, lives are transformed and broken hearts are healed.



Rev. Choon Man Hong (holding a sign with Dr. Aeri Moon) welcomes participants of the 2017 Summer Vision Trip Program at the official welcome party.

## Letter from Korea: “Thank You”

FROM KYUNGMIN LIM



Kyungmin Lim (left) works with his team at the Mercedes-Benz Trucks examination lab.

**Hello**, I hope you are doing well. The weather has been getting colder lately, so please take care and stay healthy.

After going to the United States and experiencing so many new things, I feel that my perspective on life has truly changed.

While visiting an automobile museum in America, I realized that I wanted to pursue a career as an engineer. After that, I earned my certifications, and I have now been working as a team leader at Mercedes-Benz Trucks for five years.

I would like to sincerely thank everyone at Sharing Love in Korea for guiding me to have the right values and direction in life.

I wish you happiness and good health. I also wish you a joyful and blessed New Year. Thank you.

“미국에 가서 많은 걸 보고 체험하면서 생각이 많이 바뀐 거 같습니다. 자동차박물관을 다녀오면서 정말 엔지니어라는 직업을 갖고 싶다고 생각해 자격증도 취득하고, 지금은 벤츠트럭에서 5년간 근무하면서 팀장으로 지내고 있습니다. 제가 이렇게 올바른 생각을 가질수 있게 해주신 SLIK 관계자분들께 감사드립니다”

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This year, we were invited to take part in Sinaewon's 70th anniversary celebration. For this celebration, past Summer Vision Trip Fellows had been invited back to Sinaewon. It was so amazing to see all of these familiar faces, but now, all grown up!

All of the past Summer Vision Trip Program Fellows whom we met that night have blossomed into confident young adults, making their way into the working world.

As Sinaewon celebrated their 70<sup>th</sup> year, SL!K celebrated our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. When we first started SL!K in 2015, all we had were hearts full of love. But in the past 10 years we have partnered with four Children's Homes throughout South Korea, sponsored more than 184 children and 22 of Summer Vision Trip Fellows. Seeing the impact our small organization has had on these children's lives and in their future is not only gratifying, but also truly humbling.

As SL!K ventures onwards to partner with even more Children's Homes, I hope you will continue to take the journey with us!



Ann Lee's first sponsored child, Ha-yeon Jeong of Sinaewon, has graduated from high school and begun her college journey.

## Financial Report of 2025

As we reflect on 2025, we are deeply grateful for the generosity and trust of our donors and supporters. Your faithful contributions made it possible for Sharing Love in Korea (SL!K) to continue serving children across our partner children's homes. This financial report reflects our commitment to transparency, stewardship, and the responsible use of every gift entrusted to us.

Income	Expense		
Monthly Sponsorship	\$34,500.37	Monthly Sponsorship	\$34,500.37
General Donation	\$12,300.00	Summer Vision Trip	\$11,266.82
Birthday & Christmas Gift and Dinner	\$3,779.21	Birthday & Christmas Gift and Dinner: Total 184 children	\$15,380.00
		Pizza Party for 4 Children's Homes	\$1,798.04
		Office Expense (including bank fee/ filing fee/mailing)	\$2,051.71