

## Shoe Box Record

Because of Life Care Centers of America and the communities it serves, Christmas will bring some love and hope to 252,556 needy children of the world. That's the grand total of our Operation Christmas Child campaign, as the results from around our company are now in. That compares with 217,363 shoe boxes in 2003.

That is an amazing -- and wonderful -- achievement! Lives will be changed because of this investment of time, money and compassion, channeled through a simple shoe box to children who find themselves in desperate circumstances because of war, famine, poverty and disease. Life Care associates have demonstrated dramatically that they care personally as well as professionally for people of the world by their leadership in this endeavor.

Life Care's official collection center in Cleveland received 55,072 shoe boxes, up from 35,437 a year ago. That outcome was aided immensely by the contribution of gifts of toys, school supplies, personal hygiene items and small articles of clothing amounting to 20,580 boxes from Operation Compassion, an affiliate of the international offices of the Church of God, and through the assistance and preparation of Ocoee River Transport, a Cleveland trucking company that yearly supplies trailers and drivers to transport the boxes to processing centers.

And here is an incredible figure, announced at Life Care's corporate Christmas party Thursday evening. Since 1995 when our company became a national sponsor of Operation Christmas Child, Life Care has produced -- in partnership with churches, schools, civic clubs, businesses and families of our service areas -- 1,266,132! It is truly inspiring to realize that we have impacted that many lives.

Life Care and American Lifestyles centers have reported great results. Here are the top 10 performers:

1. Life Care Center of Columbia, South Carolina (Carol Cordan, executive director), 27,000.
2. Garden Terrace at Overland Park (Debra Biehl, executive director), 19,559.
3. Life Care Center of Scottsdale (Barbara Brown, executive director), 18,127.
4. Life Care Center of Cleveland (Esmerelda Lee, executive director), 5,500.
5. Life Care Center of East Ridge (Trevor Matchim, executive director), 4,685.
6. Life Care Center of Lawrenceville (Bart Walker, executive director), 4,466.
7. The VossWood Nursing Center (Mark Johnston, executive director), 4,170.
8. Life Care Center of San Gabriel (Eunice Fletcher, executive director) and The Bridge (Scott Walters, general manager), 4,120.
9. Mitchell Manor (Douglas Hurlbut, executive director), 4,112.
10. Green Valley Care Center (Jill Spurgeon, senior executive director), 3,626.

To all who contributed in any way, thank you, thank you, thank you.

--Beecher Hunter