

**YOU AND YOUR FAMILY ARE
ABOUT TO CHANGE THE WORLD.**



WELCOME TO STARS OF HOPE®

Stars of HOPE® is a joint project of
New York Says Thank You Foundation
and Groesbeck Rebuilds America

EST. 2007

YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN

AND ANYONE ELSE YOU WISH TO EMPOWER WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE STARS OF HOPE®

ARE NOW PART OF A GROWING “PAY IT FORWARD”
SERVICE MOVEMENT THAT IS BRINGING HOPE AND HEALING
TO PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD EVERY SINGLE DAY.

BUT THERE IS ONE THING YOU SHOULD KNOW.
STARS OF HOPE IS NOT AN ARTS AND CRAFTS PROJECT.

These stars are not meant for you to keep.
They are meant to teach your children the importance of **giving**.
They are meant to teach **empathy**.
They are meant to teach the power of words and designs
when expressing **compassion**.

And these stars are meant to show your children
and their friends that they can make an impact
on any other person anywhere in the world
by asking one simple question:

WHO NEEDS HOPE?



COVER PHOTO: Annie, a 12-year-old girl from Canton, GA made this Star of HOPE that brought light into darkness for the families of Breezy Point, NY devastated by Hurricane Sandy



Stars of HOPE® is a Registered Trademark of New York Says Thank You Foundation

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★ See your pictures featured on our website StarsofHOPEUSA.org



The first time I saw some stars, I smiled. The second time, I stopped to read them. The next time, I found myself looking for them and excited to see new ones. That was the moment I realized your beautiful stars became my focus instead of the destruction that was once our beautiful life. Thank you for the beauty you are bringing back to us.

Dana C., Hurricane Sandy survivor, Sheepshead Bay, NY

Japanese schoolchildren who survived the Tsunami made Stars of HOPE that showed up on this tree in Breezy Point, NY. Kids from Breezy Point who survived Hurricane Sandy made Stars of HOPE that showed up in Newtown, CT. Kids who survived the tragedy in Newtown made Stars of HOPE that showed up in Moore, OK. Kids who survived the tornado in Moore made Stars of HOPE too.

Now it's your family's turn to give someone else HOPE.

SO LETS GET STARTED...

QUESTION #1: WHO NEEDS HOPE?

ASK YOUR CHILD, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS THESE QUESTIONS:

IS THERE SOMEONE IN OUR COMMUNITY WHO NEEDS HOPE?

Is there a lonely senior citizen in our neighborhood
who would appreciate a Star of HOPE®?

Maybe a children's hospital, a nursing home, a women's shelter,
a juvenile detention center, a volunteer firehouse, police station, army base,
or a family dealing with a tragedy?

IS THERE SOMEONE IN THE UNITED STATES WHO NEEDS HOPE?

Did you see a story on the news
about a community impacted by a natural or
man made disaster or a family in need that could really use
some hope now and in the weeks and months ahead?

IS THERE SOMEONE IN THE WORLD WHO NEEDS HOPE?

Tornadoes. Earthquakes. Hurricanes. Fires.
Violence. Accidents. Refugees. Disease.
What child – what adult – what community
or what organization serving people in need
could really use a boost to lift their spirits right now???



We have been blessed by so many volunteers from around the world who came to help us rebuild following the tornado. But I wanted you to know that no one did anything as inspiring for us as what you did with those Stars of HOPE.

– from a 5th generation resident of Greensburg, Kansas



220 CHILDREN from Kindergarten through High School transformed the emotional landscape of Greensburg, Kansas in the very first Stars of HOPE painting event in December 2007.

38,000 STARS LATER...

QUESTION #2: WHAT ARE THE WORDS, EXPRESSIONS, AND DESIGNS THAT CAN BRIGHTEN THEIR DAY AND PUT A SMILE ON THEIR FACE?

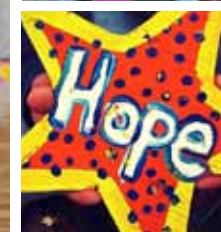
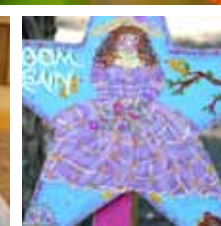
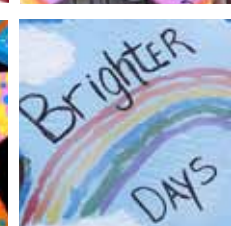
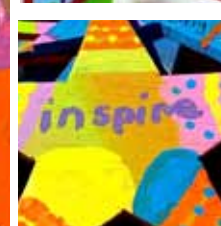
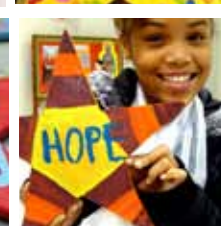
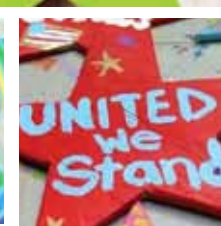
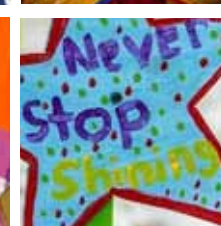
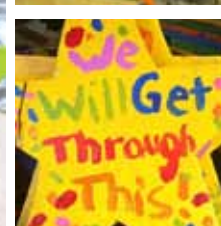
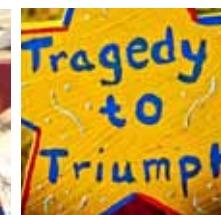
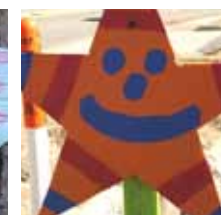
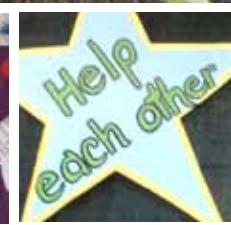
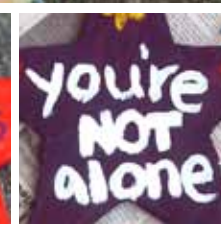
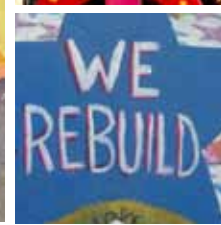
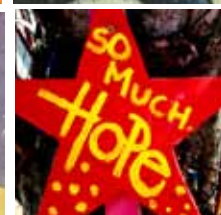
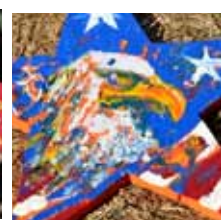
Now that you and your children are thinking about who needs hope in your community, the country, or the world – **challenge your children** to think of the words, expressions, or designs that can lift the spirits of the people you will be sending your messaged stars. Remember, people will see your Stars of HOPE® every day and be reminded that your family and friends truly care about them too.

WORDS. EXPRESSIONS. DESIGNS OF HOPE... GO!



💖 As a mother of two girls I want them to grow up strong, to be part of something important, and to know you can and should make a difference in someone else's life. A very bad thing happened to our family and this is a way for us to give back to another community struggling for normalcy. It's our way to Pay It Forward. 💖

Beth H., Hurricane Sandy survivor, Massapequa, NY



QUESTION #3: HOW CAN WE GET OUR PAINTED STARS OF HOPE® TO PEOPLE IN NEED OF HOPE...

ASK YOUR CHILD, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS THESE QUESTIONS:

IN OUR COMMUNITY?

Can we take our Stars of HOPE down the block
or across town and deliver them ourselves
or hang them with ribbons from fences, poles, or trees?



IN OUR COUNTRY?

If we decide to make our Stars of HOPE for another community in the United States,
can we drive there and put them up ourselves?

Are we part of a service organization or faith based group
that has a local presence where we want to send them? Is there a local school
or firehouse in that community we can find an address for online?

Can we send our Box of HOPE to them, and empower folks in that local community
with the opportunity of spreading hope by putting up our messaged stars?



IN THE WORLD?

Same thing with overseas. Can we find an address on the internet for a local school
or firehouse or house of worship – or maybe a volunteer organization helping
those people – and send our Box of HOPE and all our love directly to them?



Make sure to check with your local ordinances before putting up stars on public property.

The Google logo and search box images are copyrights of Google, Inc. If you work for Google please don't sue us. We are just trying to bring more HOPE into the world!




On the morning of Thanksgiving Day 2012, Evan and Josh woke up and decided to give HOPE to families in the Rockaways who lost their homes in Hurricane Sandy. Marcelle from Georgia, Eva from Texas, and Kelly from Chicago showed up in New Jersey to give HOPE too. Kids in Texas and New York gave HOPE to Massachusetts after the tragedy at the Boston marathon. And children in Kansas gave HOPE to Kessenuma, JAPAN on the 1-year anniversary of the Tsunami.

Compassion knows no age limits or geographic boundaries.



CHECKLIST FOR A GREAT STARS OF HOPE® EVENT.

1. Cover all **TABLE** surfaces with either plastic drop cloths or newspaper.
2. Cover the **FLOOR** under chairs and table with plastic drop cloths.
3. Pour some of the **PAINT** into plastic cups, bowls, or containers.
4. Have separate bowls of **WATER** near the paints, so brushes can be rinsed. **PAPER TOWELS** or **RAGS** are helpful too.
5. Have multiple **BRUSHES** for each color of paint. It's good to have a variety of brush styles too with wide, thinner, and pointy tips.
6. Before you start painting, have the kids use **SHARPIES** to write their first name and hometown on the back of the star. Also write StarsofHOPEUSA.org on the back of the star (the back is the lighter color).
7. **DISCUSS** with the kids **WHO** the Stars of HOPE will go to and **WHAT** words, expressions, and designs will give someone HOPE!
8. Make sure the hole is on top point of the star and **START PAINTING!** 
Don't forget to paint the edges too!
9. Select a spot big enough where all the stars can **DRY** and place them on a **PLASTIC DROP CLOTH**.
10. Depending on temperature, humidity, and how much paint is used, it could take **15 MINUTES** to **1 HOUR** for your Stars of HOPE to dry.
11. **ONCE THE STARS OF HOPE ARE DRY** you can cut 1-foot lengths of **RIBBON** to thread through the hole and tie a knot to make the stars easy to hang once they get to their final destination.
12. **FILL OUT THE NOTE FORM** on the inside back page to explain why you and your friends made these Stars of HOPE. Make sure to put the note on top of your stars so it's the first thing people see when they open the Box of HOPE.
13. If you like, you could also copy and **MODPODGE** the **QR CODE** on page 14 of this booklet to the front of your stars once they are dry. This way people with smart phones can scan the code and instantly be connected to the Stars of HOPE Facebook page!
14. **PUT** your painted stars and note in the box, **FILL OUT** the front flap of the box, **TAPE** your shipping label over the original one, **RE-TAPE** front bottom edge of the box, and **SEND** your Box of HOPE to someone who needs HOPE!



SEND US PHOTOS OF THE STARS OF HOPE® YOU MAKE SO WE CAN SHARE THEM WITH THE WORLD!
[FACEBOOK.COM/STARSOFHOPUSA](https://www.facebook.com/starsofhopeusa) AND [STARSOFHOPUSA.ORG](https://www.starsofhopeusa.org)



MATERIALS CHECKLIST

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stars | <input type="checkbox"/> Paper towels or rags |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paints | <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic garbage bags
(cut holes in them to make them smocks) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brushes | <input type="checkbox"/> Ribbon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic drop cloth | Optional: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic cups, bowls, containers | <input type="checkbox"/> Modpodge |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water | <input type="checkbox"/> QR code stickers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sharpies | |



AND NOW FOR ALL THE
OTHER GOOD STUFF...

HOW YOU CAN MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR STARS OF HOPE® EXPERIENCE

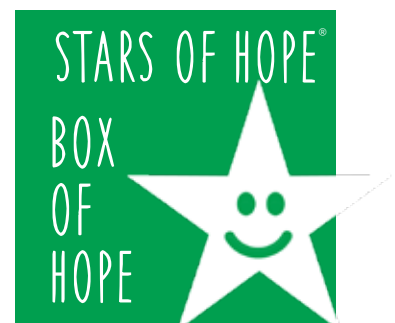
MAKE THIS A FAMILY TRADITION.

THINK GLOBAL. ACT LOCAL.

JOIN OUR GLOBAL COMMUNITY.

MEET THE STARS OF HOPE FAMILY.

VOLUNTEER. SUPPORT. SPONSOR.



MAKE STARS OF HOPE® PART OF YOUR FAMILY TRADITION



BIRTHDAYS. FAMILY REUNIONS. THANKSGIVING. CHRISTMAS. CHANUKAH. KWANZAA.
BAR AND BAT MITZVAHS. GRADUATIONS. BLOCK PARTIES. ANNIVERSARIES.
MEMORIALS FOR LOVED ONES. FAITH BASED GROUPS. SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS.
CLASS PARTIES. CORPORATE TEAM BUILDING. HOSPITAL VISITS...

Birthdays are the best days to give someone HOPE.

Charle lives in Ellijay, Georgia and on her birthday she gave her friend Jeff a Star of HOPE. At the end of the day, Jeff gave Charle's star to Hudson, a 5-year-old girl outside Atlanta who is fighting Leukemia. Paying It Forward is what Stars of HOPE is all about!



Turning sad days into HOPE-filled days

Builder Bob from Archie, Missouri was a great man. Just weeks after he died, his wife Shirlene and her friends and family got together in their church on Bob's 74th birthday to paint Stars of HOPE in his memory. Even in sadness, we have the capacity to give HOPE to others.

You never know the moments when people need hope the most.

"Marc called me Monday morning to tell me his wife Jill was in the hospital. The end was near after her courageous seven year battle against cancer. I made Jill a Star of HOPE and brought it to her bedside. I feel so blessed to have shared that moment with this beautiful woman we will always remember." - JP



THERE IS NO LIMIT TO WHEN AND WHERE YOU CAN BRING MORE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD THROUGH STARS OF HOPE

THINK GLOBAL. ACT LOCAL.



WHEN HOPE IS TRULY NEEDED, SOMETIMES THE WORLD
IS JUST A FEW MILES OR A FEW FEET AWAY.



The Nepal earthquake happened on Saturday. On Sunday morning, families at the 9/11 Memorial in Manhattan painted Stars of HOPE for the people of Nepal. A few hours later, in the the “Little Nepal” neighborhood of Queens, a community leader explained to the grieving crowd at a prayer vigil *“These Stars of HOPE were made for you. Each one of them is a prayer from a child. Please accept them.”* Sometimes, when people are in need of hope, the world is just a few miles away.



“Josh, what’s the official language of Rwanda?”

Their next door neighbor was leaving for Rwanda on a medical mission. Josh created stars with the word “Hope” in the 3 official languages of Rwanda – *Kwizera*, *Espoir*, and *Hope*. A few days later, children, parents, doctors, and nurses in the middle of Africa knew that a little boy a million miles away cared about them too.

Thank you International Organization for Women and Development!

YOUR FAMILY CAN HELP US BUILD A GLOBAL COMMUNITY OF HOPE AND HEALING



Groesbeck, Texas



Ireland



Greensburg, Kansas



Japan



Little Sioux, Iowa



Kenya



Mena, Arkansas



Israel



Ellijay, Georgia



Poland



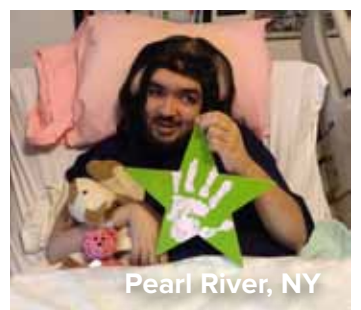
Columbia, Mississippi



Charleston, S. Carolina



Rwanda



Pearl River, NY

STAY CONNECTED! If you like, Mod Podge the QR code on to the back or front of your star so anyone who sees it around the world can say hi to us via Facebook! Post your pics to Facebook.com/StarsofHOPEUSA or to Pinterest, Instagram, or StarsofHOPEUSA.org. **The more people who connect through Stars of HOPE the better our world will be!**



Hello, My name is Rob and I live here in Breezy Point NY. I just wanted to say thank you for your great work. After Sandy myself like many of my neighbors lost everything. I will never forget the first day I saw your Stars of HOPE. At first I was taken back as I was standing by what's now known sadly as the fire zone. Everything was black from the fires, but this colorful star caught my eye so I approached it. I don't recall what it said, but I do recall how it made me feel. I felt comfort, healing and happiness someone was thinking of us because at that moment in time it sure didn't feel like it.

Looking into destruction and seeing people digging through soot to find a plate from their grandmother was something I will never forget. But these stars were a constant reminder to keep our heads up as many of us have.

After a few months construction slowly started and I noticed the stars were disappearing from the new poles and some were fading badly. So I collected a few to preserve. I will have these on display on my newly built deck for all to see. So thank you for the words of inspiration and know it's working. We still think about all you guys children almost daily when we see these stars. While faded their message is still strong. -Rob





WELCOME TO THE STARS OF HOPE FAMILY

Stars of HOPE® started with two families. The Parness family in New York who wanted to Pay It Forward for the love New York City received from people all around the world following 9/11. And the Vincent family from Groesbeck, Texas who wanted to Pay It Forward for the support they received when New York Says Thank You volunteers rebuilt their home following a deadly tornado.

The Stars of HOPE family keeps growing exponentially as volunteer groups and service events have sprung up all around the U.S. – and now the world – to keep spreading the light of Stars of HOPE!

Texas. Kansas. Iowa. Nebraska. Indiana. Arkansas. Georgia. Missouri. North Dakota.

New York. New Jersey. Connecticut. Oklahoma. Mississippi. Even as far away as Omagh IRELAND!

Since 2007, Stars of HOPE volunteers with New York Says Thank You Foundation and Groesbeck Rebuilds America have been blessed to travel to disaster sites to empower children, families, and entire communities to transform devastated physical and emotional landscapes with Stars of HOPE.

From school paints, to community paints, to partner organization paints, and now to home-based paints...

WE'RE REALLY EXCITED TO WELCOME YOU AND YOUR FAMILY TO THE STARS OF HOPE FAMILY!





Stars of HOPE® have brought light into darkness in 62 communities in 10 countries ★ Greensburg, KS Galveston, TX Little Sioux, IA Mena, AR Fort Hood, TX Ellijay, GA Joplin, MO Tuscaloosa, AL Kesennuma, JAPAN Bastrop TX Minot, ND Bucyrus, ND Howard Beach, NY Staten Island, NY Belle Harbor, NY Rockaway Beach, NY Broad Channel, NY Breezy Point, NY Long Beach, NY Far Rockaway, NY Seaford, NY Oceanside, NY Union Beach, NJ Island Park, NY Babylon, NY Massapequa, NY Point Lookout, NY Coney Island, NY Toms River, NJ Seaside, NJ Long Branch, NJ Highlands, NJ Sea Bright, NJ Mantoloking, NJ East Rockaway, NY Gerritsen Beach, NY Newtown, CT Stafford, CT Adairsville, GA Calhoun, GA 9/11 Memorial Family Day Boston, MA West, TX Omagh, IRELAND Prescott, AZ Moore, OK Nairobi, KENYA Archie, MO Lewisville, MS Tupelo, MS Auschwitz-Birkenau, POLAND Jerusalem, ISRAEL Bethel Acres, OK Vilonia, AR Rwamagana, RWANDA Bottineau, ND Madrid, SPAIN London, ENGLAND Ottawa, CANADA Columbia, MS "Little Nepal" neighborhood of Queens, NY, Chattanooga, TN Lafayette, LA ...and we are just getting started!







VOLUNTEER. SUPPORT. SPONSOR.



WE WOULD LOVE FOR YOUR FAMILY TO VOLUNTEER WITH US AT A DISASTER SITE SOMEDAY

If you are interested in joining us, please register at NewYorkSaysThankYou.org/Volunteer and we will let you know when we are coming to your state to provide hope and healing to a community in need.

IF YOU CAN'T JOIN US IN PERSON, WE WOULD BE HONORED TO HAVE YOUR SUPPORT.

For **\$5** you can sponsor one Star of HOPE® for someone in need. For **\$75** you can sponsor 15 kids in a disaster area to bring hope and color back to their devastated community through Stars of HOPE. For **\$500** you can sponsor one of our volunteers to travel to a disaster site to empower a school with Stars of HOPE. For **\$5,000** you can sponsor a Stars of HOPE event for an *entire community* impacted by a disaster. And for those of you with family foundations, rich aunts and uncles, or generous employers, for **\$50,000** you can sponsor our Stars of HOPE volunteers nationwide *for one year* so we can bring *more hope* to *more people* all around the world! **ANY AMOUNT IS APPRECIATED!**

You can make a tax-deductible donation online at NewYorkSaysThankYou.org/Donate and please designate Stars of HOPE. Or please make your check payable to New York Says Thank You Foundation, put "Stars of HOPE" in the memo line, and mail it to: **New York Says Thank You Foundation, attn: Stars of HOPE,**

2576 Broadway #174, New York, NY 10025. Our 501c3 # is 20-1554830.

WITH YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS, WE CAN BRING SO MUCH MORE HOPE INTO OUR WORLD!

FILL OUT THIS PAGE, TEAR IT OFF, PUT IT IN THE BOX WITH YOUR PAINTED STARS, AND SEND IT TO SOMEONE WHO NEEDS HOPE.

Dear _____:

My name is _____ and I live in _____
FIRST NAME YOUR HOME TOWN

Me and my _____ made these
FRIENDS, FAMILY, NAME OF GROUP
Stars of HOPE® for you because _____

Please hang them in a place where people will see them so these stars can give people HOPE.

If you like, please post your pictures to Facebook.com/StarsofHOPEUSA (and tag me at _____)

When your community is ready to Pay It Forward, we hope that you will make Stars of HOPE too!
Stay Strong! We are thinking about you!

NAME AND ADDRESS (IF YOU LIKE)

The Mission of Stars of HOPE® is to empower children to transform communities impacted by disaster through colorful art and messages of hope and healing. Stars of HOPE is a joint project of New York Says Thank You Foundation and Groesbeck Rebuilds America. For more information please visit: [Facebook.com/StarsofHOPEUSA](https://www.facebook.com/StarsofHOPEUSA) or StarsofHOPEUSA.org

**CHANGING THE WORLD
WITH STARS OF HOPE®
IS AS SIMPLE AS THIS.**



💛💛 Seeing the stars brought a sense of calmness in the storm. They stood out among all the destruction. They showed the precious goodness in humanity. 💛💛

Francesca Y., Long Island Volunteer Center

Facebook.com/StarsofHOPEUSA
StarsofHOPEUSA.org

