

# Christian Children's Fund

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Man Has 136 Children ... But Only One Wife**

**Richmond, Va.** – Dec. 10, 2008 – For Leon “Red” Hopkins, sponsoring 136 children through Christian Children’s Fund (CCF) is not a big deal – “It’s a thing I do,” he says.

What is a big deal to Hopkins is that more people don’t sponsor children.

“Get yourself a child; you’ll feel great,” he said. “It’ll be one of the happiest moments of your life.”

Hopkins, a 73-year-old business owner in Huntingdon, Pa., has been donating to CCF for about 10 years. He says he doesn’t remember how many children he originally sponsored. He recently added 12 more children to bring the total number of children he sponsors to 136.

CCF helps 15.2 million children and family members in 32 countries worldwide.

“I just did it because I needed something to make me feel good,” Hopkins said of adding more children. “It’s no big deal.”

“Donors like Mr. Hopkins serve as a great reassurance and an admirable example of increasing support at times like these when we know that the need is greater than ever due to the current economic conditions,” said CCF’s Vice President of Marketing and Strategic Resources Mike Pressendo. “It just warms our hearts that when he heard people are cutting back that he felt that it was important to step up and increase his support.”

A unique aspect of CCF’s work is the personal contact between sponsors and the children through letters. He says most of the letters tell the children about life in the United States. He also sends birthday and Christmas cards every year.

“The writing of the letters is as every bit as important as making a contribution,” Hopkins said.

In addition to the 136 children he sponsors, Hopkins has nine kids of his own with his wife of 51 years. They also have 17 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He said his family has been supportive of his donations to CCF.



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*Christian Children's Fund (CCF) is a global force for children, helping the world's deprived, excluded and vulnerable survive and thrive in order to reach their full potential. Serving children since 1938, CCF works in 32 countries and assists approximately 15.2 million children and family members worldwide, regardless of race, creed or origin. CCF is a member of the ChildFund Alliance.*

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“I think the work that CCF does is invaluable,” Hopkins said. “Somehow through these children is the road to world peace. I truly believe that.”

For more information on sponsoring a child, visit Christian Children's Fund at [www.christianchildrensfund.org](http://www.christianchildrensfund.org) and click on “Sponsor a child.”

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