

Record breaking charity jewellery auction brings change for children in Romania



Photo: HHC

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Hope and Homes for Children is one of 32 charitable organisations to have benefited from the sale of the spectacular jewellery collection of our Patron Mrs. Lily Safra, a renowned philanthropist and Chairwoman of the Edmond J. Safra Foundation. The "Jewels for Hope" auction, which was held at Christie's in Geneva earlier this year, raised 32 million dollars, the entirety of which was distributed to charitable causes around the world with one million dollars donated to Hope and Homes for Children.

The top lot was a 32.08 carat Burmese ruby and diamond ring, by Chaumet, which sold for over \$6.7 million, setting a new world record price for any ruby sold at auction.

Mrs. Lily Safra is our single largest individual supporter, having donated generously for our work in Romania over eight years. This newest donation will also go towards our activities in Romania, where we are working in partnership with the Romanian Government to end the institutionalisation of children.

Mark Waddington, Chief Executive, said: "We are overwhelmed by the generosity of Mrs. Lily Safra and her continued commitment to our work. It is because of the loyal support we receive from individuals like Mrs. Safra that we are now in a position to influence the closure of every children's institution in Romania. This significant achievement will not only transform the lives of the 9,000 children currently in institutions but will act as a catalyst for childcare reform in other countries across the region.

"Mrs. Safra is a true advocate for the rights and needs of children and we thank her wholeheartedly for her support."

Mrs. Lily Safra said, "I am so proud to be able to continue my support for the extraordinary work being done by Hope and Homes for Children in Romania. Of course, I feel that I receive far more than I give. You cannot measure the joy that comes with seeing a smile on a child's face when she knows someone cares about her."

[Read more](#) about our work in Romania.