

Endorsements:

"In this book, Tamara shares, through her love for story, her passion and understanding of the need of children to be heard, to be someone."

-Joan Schweizer Hoff, Director of Program Development, The Dougy Center for Grieving Children and Families, Portland, OR

"There are great concerns regarding future generations around the world, especially in countries where war and poverty are part of the landscape of children's daily lives. Memory Books International has brought hope to thousands of children, enabling them to see themselves with a future of potential possibilities. The Memory Book is a vehicle of love in action, ignited by a heart of love. As you read this book you will experience the heart of the founder whose work has already impacted the lives of a new generation. These children and their caregivers have learned to cope with grief and loss. They can hold on to memories that will be imparted as a legacy to other children wherever Memory Books are found."

-Dr. O. Virginia Phillips, Ph.D., founder of Give Us This Day, Inc., a family service agency; Women of Purpose, International, a ministry outreach in USA, Kenya, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Guatemala, Panama, and Haiti; child and family advocate for 50 years

"We were very pleased to have Tamara with us in DR Congo for several days. While there, she introduced the Memory Books. We have used them in the grief support groups and the children and teens are delighted to have and keep this record of their memories and personal life story and to hear God loves them and they matter to him. Everybody loved Tamara in Congo. She reached out to the many children who have suffered so much and has helped scores of them with school fees so they can go to school. She spreads love and compassion wide and deep where she goes. We love the title, I Am Somebody."

-Bruce and Anita Paden, missionaries in The Democratic Republic of the Congo for 36 years

"Could you ever imagine that you could impact lives simply by listening to others tell their story? Through God's divine intervention in the author's life, Tamara has been able to grasp why Jesus allowed others to approach and tell their stories. And now she shares this dynamic gift of listening and how it is impacting children around the world. Do you have a listening ear?"

-Reverend Leslie D. Nelson, Heart of the Savior Ministries, Inc., KPDQ-True Talk Radio Talk Show Host, Portland, OR

"Incorporating the use of a Memory Book into childhood play provides a child an avenue for capturing their childhood memories, both good and bad. Research reflects that documenting one's story fosters reflection, evaluation, facilitates resilience, adaptation, and promotes a healing process. Reality is that life brings sorrow to all of us and in some cases at a very early age. The Memory Book is a tool that childcare providers can utilize to enhance the lives of children who have suffered a loss."

-Dr. Kaye Wilson-Anderson, Associate Professor of Nursing, University of Portland, Oregon

“When Tamara accepted the opportunity to volunteer at a small hospital at the epicenter of the AIDS pandemic in South Africa, little did she know what other doors would soon be opening. As she sat with the dying and opened her heart to the grieving orphans, she learned to become a channel for the outpouring of unconditional love from the heart of the Father, to the broken, wounded, grief stricken children in the remote parts of Africa and India. A simple ‘yes’ to that still small voice she had come to recognize so well led her to serve ‘the least of these.’ I am sure our Lord is smiling on His daughter, as thousands of traumatized children learn that they are somebody and that they, too, have a Father who knows their name.”

-Dr. Helga Holst, Administrator, McCord Hospital, Durban, South Africa for 20 years

“Memory Books are changing the lives of Nigerian children.”

-Sarah K, wife of Nigerian pastor and Memory Book Club Coordinator

“Memory Books offer a child support to discover, uncover, and treasure memories that could be so easily lost in their lives forever. I have been honored to witness this life-changing transformation through my research with orphaned children. I have seen how these children have recognized their self-worth, identity, and the love of Christ transmitted through this ministry with Memory Books.”

-Dr. Barb Braband, RN, Ed D, CNE, Associate Professor of Nursing, University of Portland, Oregon

“Since 2005, children refugees enrolled within Group Misa receive Memory Books. They enjoy filling it with written or drawn life history, school records, and crafts when attending Memory Book Club. As they encounter more and more difficulties in the state where we live, not less than 727 children get comfort from Memory Book Club lessons, and endeavor to attend consistently. They find Memory Book Club a helpful place for playing, talking, learning how to live in society, and learning about God and His glory. A teenager said, ‘We want to attend the club each day without interruption.’ From adult facilitators, pastors, evangelists, and caretakers, Memory Book Club teaches more things about trusting God and leads to developing skills in the Christian world, preparing children to become God’s servants.”

-Innocent Abwe, General Secretary, Group Misa Congolese refugee camp, Kasulu, Tanzania

“Tamara is a great storyteller and passionately shares the adventures and experiences that resulted from following her God-given dream. Memory Books impact children overseas, but I have also witnessed how the project changed lives at home. As people gathered at Tamara’s house Monday evenings to assemble Memory Books, I joined in and also observed the positive and healing changes in others as they shared their own stories and prayed for the children who would receive the books. As others listened, we felt valued and affirmed and truly began to believe I am somebody.”

-Linda Dodge, Writing Consultant & Editor for Pure Desire Ministries International, Gresham, Oregon