

[www.christelhouse.org](http://www.christelhouse.org)



**Christel DeHaan**

*CEO & Founder*

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**Christel DeHaan**, a pioneer of vacation exchange, co-founded Resort Condominiums International (RCI) in 1974. Under her leadership, RCI became the largest timeshare-services provider in the world. She sold the company in 1996 to HFS, now Wyndham Worldwide.

Today, DeHaan serves as a catalyst for corporate social responsibility. She founded **Christel House**, a public charity with a mission to help children around the world break the cycle of poverty and become self-sufficient, contributing members of society. More than 4,600 students from impoverished neighborhoods attend Christel House learning centers to be educated, to learn life skills and to embrace the values of respect, responsibility, independence and integrity. Additionally, the children receive uniforms, nutritious meals, medical care, love and nurturing. This holistic approach to human development also includes workshops for parents and a College & Careers program for Christel House graduates. Christel House learning centers are located in India, Mexico, South Africa, and the United States. In 2012, in addition to its traditional K-12 schools, the charity opened the Christel House Drop Out Recovery School (DORS) in Indianapolis, IN, for adults seeking to earn their high school diplomas.

The Christel House Open was launched in 2003 as an annual fundraiser and has become an industry-wide event. The tournament helps increase awareness of Christel House and demonstrates the support and generosity of the timeshare industry. The 2017 event is slated for dates spanning May– November at tournament sites worldwide.

Christel House coffee was introduced in 2009 at the ARDA spring conference. Christel House receives royalties from the coffee sales, while resorts are able to highlight their social responsibility and provide owners and guests with a quality cup of coffee.

DeHaan is the recipient of many awards and distinctions and serves on several local and national boards. In 2001, she received ARDA's prestigious ACE Lifetime Achievement Award. For additional information about Christel House, please visit [www.christelhouse.org](http://www.christelhouse.org).



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