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Dear Friends,

A New Year brings with it a promise of new beginnings, fresh opportunities, and hope for a better tomorrow. Goals are set, resolutions are made, often with the understanding that many will fall by the wayside as the year progresses.

But what if we take the word resolve to heart in 2023? What if we choose to have a firm determination to find solutions, to be humble enough to progress from dissonance to consonance, to be honest with ourselves about where we are versus where we want to be and decide firmly on a course of action?

Is it naïve to look at the world with a lens of optimism when images of despair are seemingly everywhere? I recently saw a greeting card that stated, "Hope is a rebellion." I love thinking about the choice to have hope; having an expectation of good is a rebellion against what feels dark and impossible.

I asked my colleagues to share with me one resolution they had for the New Year related to Hope's mission. Their answers ranged from finding new funding sources and community partnerships to meeting unmet needs such as homeless and food insecurity to focusing on the positive more than on the negative to finding ways to say "yes." I am uplifted by their thoughts and how the outcomes of their ideas align with the meaning of resolve, helping us to move forward into the New Year with courage, persistence, strength of purpose and a spirit of "we can."

As 2023 begins I am choosing to rebel against "it can't be done," "it's too hard," "there's not enough," by holding onto hope that it can be done ([these folks definitely prove that](#)), and it isn't too hard ([just ask Mark Pollock](#)), and there is always enough. Will you join me in a rebellion of hope?

Wishing you each a new year full of Hope!

*Michele Girault*

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