

Outstretched Arms

AUTUMN 2007

"BECAUSE EVERY CHILD SHOULD HAVE A HOME"



The purpose of Chosen Children International is to provide for the spiritual, physical, and educational needs of homeless street children and orphans. We carry out our mission by extending the nurturing and love of family to these children, knowing we are God's eyes, outstretched arms, and heart to those who need Him most. 150 million children are rejected, orphaned, or abandoned due to famine, poverty, and disease. HIV/AIDS has orphaned at least 13 million in Africa and 1 million in Kenya alone.

Dear Friends and Supporters of this Ministry,

I hope you had a wonderful summer and are enjoying the cool autumn days. At the headquarters of CCI this past summer and beginning of Autumn has been a very, very busy time as we were preparing for our first

fundraiser. Now that it is over I have much news to tell you so sit back, relax, and enjoy our final newsletter for 2007.

Fundraiser for the Children's Village

CCI hosted our first ever fundraiser luncheon and auction at The World Prayer Center in Colorado Springs on Sunday Oct. 7 this year. The fundraiser included a delicious authentic African meal and wonderful entertainment including a mime troupe, a vocalist, and a hip hop dance. Many local merchants as well as individuals donated items for our silent auction and we also had a live auctioneer as well who donated his time for the event. Our African crafts and the C.D of our children singing were also on display for sale. After lunch I gave a presentation on the children's Village we are building.

In addition to this we had a professional speaker, Jason Sisneros who was flown in for the event from CA. My heartfelt thanks goes to our donors Mary and Henning Moe from Santa Cruz, CA who made it possible for him to come by paying for his airfare.

We had approximately 175 people at the event. None of this would have been possible without the 45 plus volunteers who helped serve at this event, many of them from my single's group at New Life Church. Although we are still short of our goal of raising \$60,000 to begin the buildings, the fund-

raiser did raise awareness for the orphans and what CCI is doing. I thought you might like to see what our program guide from the fundraiser looks like so I have enclosed a copy with this newsletter.



Dance Performers at the Fundraiser



Team leaving for Kenya on Dec. 2, 2007

On December 2, I am taking a small team of volunteer missionaries with me to Kenya. Our purpose will be to begin the ground breaking work of building our children's village. We want to start building at least one home for the children plus the health clinic. We are still in need of funds for these buildings and the volunteers are also still raising money for the trip. We need \$10,000 to build one home, plus we need another \$5000 to build the showers and the toilets. Besides the funds needed to build the home; we need approximately \$45,000 to build the health clinic. In addition to working on the buildings our team is planning on having a Christmas party for our children and we will be having a vacation Bible school for them during the children's month long December vacation. Some of the team, including myself, will be in Kenya through Dec. 23 and

others will be going home a week earlier. As you can imagine there is much preparation for me and the team members to take this trip. We would appreciate it if you would begin to pray for us now so that we are able to build the buildings and so that the needed funds come in. It will take many people and many teams to complete the whole village. If you would like to come with us either on this trip or on our next trip; please write to me and let me know.

Sponsoring One of the Village Homes

If you, your business or company would like to donate \$10,000 towards one of the homes in the village, we will erect a plaque for the home in your name. Please use the enclosed tan card and write your name or the name of your business on the designated line.

My Television Début on Daystar

I am excited to announce that I will be on Daystar Television in Denver on the Denver Celebration show. The taping is on Oct. 29th at 12:30 MST and the show will be viewed in the Denver and Colorado Springs area on Tuesday Oct.30th on channel 41 from 11 to 11:30 MST. Daystar Television is the second largest Christian television station

in the world. I will be sharing about the Children's Village on this show and the vision and goals of CCI. I covet your prayers that this television viewing will open many doors for CCI. Now I want to tell you about the lives of two of our children. First is Oliver and than Janet.

How CCI is making a difference in the lives of abused children

When children in Kenya are left orphaned and are forced to move in with their aunts or their grandparents, life for them can become very difficult as was the case of Oliver Evans Nyongesa. Oliver's father died two years ago and his mother died one year later. He then went to live with his aunt who greatly mistreated Oliver. His aunt used to wake him up very early so he could light the fire and make breakfast for the rest of the family. All the children of his aunt, his cousins, used to go to school, but for Oliver it was a different story. He stayed at home to do all the household chores and then he used to take the animals out to the fields for grazing.



Many times he had no lunch. His health deteriorated until one day he came down with a serious attack of malaria. His aunt never took him for any treatment. The neighbors were concerned about his condition until one day a Good Samaritan decided to take him to the hospital. Oliver stayed in the hospital an entire month because his health was so bad. His aunt never settled the bill until finally a hospital social worker waived the bill. The grandmother of Oliver is the one who came to collect Oliver from the hospital and she decided to care for him

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since his health had been so poor under the aunt's supervision.

One day a social worker from CCI came to the area where Oliver was living with his grandmother and saw that Oliver was still ill in spite of the fact that he had stayed in the hospital for one month. One of the neighbors came and told the social worker the whole story of Oliver, and the social worker saw the need to sponsor Oliver. He was immedi-

ately given proper medication, and given a balanced diet including fruits, which are sorely lacking in the diets of many of these people. Once Oliver was back on his feet he was enrolled in a nearby school and given a school uniform, a book bag, pens and school supplies. Oliver is so happy to be in school. Before he came to live with his grandmother, he had been longing to be in school like other children, only to be denied by his aunt. He prays everyday that God may abundantly bless Chosen Children International which has become like a mother and father to him.

An abused and abandoned girl finds hope through CCI

Janet Nanjala Wafula is a girl whose father used to beat her thoroughly any time he came across her. He also refused to take his daughter to school. Janet lived with her father going for days without any food. He didn't buy her anything to wear. She only had old and very tattered clothes. On top of this, she was forced to work all day long and this included fetching water 3 kilometers away from home. Her father used to frighten her by telling her he would kill her if she ever complained to anyone about how he was treating her. Today Janet's father is in prison for life due to the abuse he inflicted upon his daughter. After Janet's father was imprisoned, Janet's mother decided to abandon her daughter. Janet was then taken to live with her aunt.

Janet is now being sponsored by CCI. When CCI first enrolled Janet in a nearby school at first she could not concentrate on her studies since she had been affected psychologically by the abuse of her father and the



abandonment of her mother. Her health also was very poor when we first took her under our support. She had been suffering from malnutrition. We took her to a near by hospital for special treatment and we started supplying her with nutritious foods. One of our social workers began to counsel her and support her emotionally. Janet is now a strong girl and she is doing very well in 4th grade. Her favorite subjects are mathematics and science. She aspires to be a pilot when she grows up. She says

that in her lifetime she will always campaign for children's rights. She wants to pay back CCI for all they have done for her by helping other children with such problems. Janet is a born again Christian and she thanks God for all He has done for her through CCI. And I thank God for faithful donors like you, for without you we would not be able to help children like Janet.

Capital Campaign

As you know we are currently having a capital campaign in order to start building the Children' Village. Once the Children's Village is built we will be able to help many more children like Janet. Won't you give us your most generous donation now and help us make the Children's Village a place of hope and refuge for many orphans and destitute children such as Janet and Oliver?

We now take Credit Cards

We are pleased to announce that now for your convenience we accept all credit cards and debit cards (used as a credit card). If you would like us to charge your card monthly for your monthly partnership and pledge, please let us know by filling out the enclosed tan partnership card and sending it back to us in the enclosed envelope. We really appreciate your partnering with us. We will send you a receipt for your credit card donation. Remember all donations to CCI are tax-deductible.



Our needs and prayer requests:

1. Please pray for all the team members who are going with me to Kenya on December 2nd. Pray for all of our preparations. Pray that our team works well together with each other and with the Kenyans. Pray that none of us gets sick or injured in any way as we endeavor to build the children's village.
2. Pray for the CCI Kenyan board of Directors as they are preparing everything for our team that is coming to Kenya and they are the ones who are preparing our land for the building of the Children's Village.
3. Pray for the Daystar Television broadcast on both the taping day (Oct. 29th) and the day it will be aired (Oct.30th). Pray that many people will see it and respond by becoming partners with us and making donations for our Children's Village. Pray also that other T.V station producers will watch it and want to interview me on national T.V so that CCI can get national publicity.
4. Pray that God raises up more prayer warriors for this ministry (would you like to be one of them? If so please write to me and let me know)
5. Pray for our volunteers such as Brad and Lisa Newman, Glenn Hobbs and Daniel Faulkner as they labor in love for this ministry. Pray God blesses and strengthens them in every way.
6. Pray that we will have more regular donors who give monthly to this ministry so we can help many more children.
7. Pray for our social workers and our staff in Kenya that they have wisdom to help the children.
8. Pray for our children that they do well in school, stay healthy, and grow to be strong people who love God and who will make a difference in their society.

Please e-mail me while I am in Kenya from Dec. 2 through Dec. 23 at marilynkw homes@yahoo.com. Thanks so much for your prayers and support.

In His Arms of Love,

Marilyn Cohn
Executive Director for CCI