

Outstretched Arms

SUMMER 2008



"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.

The Kenyan Crisis

The Kenyan Crisis that was brought on as a result of the December elections by the opposing party to the President is not over. Although there is relative peace now in Kenya the effects of the mass killings will be felt for a long time. In Trans Nzoia district which is the district CCI works in, over 50,000 people have been displaced and are now living in camps set up by the government. Within these camps there are over 1600 orphans among

the 7 camps across the district. Some of these children have gone through insurmountable trauma after being raped and having witnessed the murders of their relatives. In a country that was already suffering from unemployment and poverty, the massive human rights violations have made the situation much worse. If ever there was a time to help the people of Kenya, the time is now!

Executive Director Marilyn Cohn to go to Kenya in July

I am leaving for Kenya on July 22 and will be there till August 13. Please begin to pray for my time in Kenya to be very productive and fruitful. Pray that the health clinic will be completed and pray for me as I endeavor to form new alliances with some pastors and churches over there. I am really taking a leap of faith to go on this trip as we do not yet have the funds needed for this trip.

In the blue box on the left are some of the things we need money for before I leave in mid July. Please consider how you can help with one or more of the following needs:

1. \$ 3000 for airfare and trip costs
2. \$ 6000 to finish building the clinic
3. \$ 2000 to furnish the clinic with medicine and equipment
4. \$ 1900 to install solar panels which we will use for electricity for the clinic
5. \$ 400 to build a well
6. \$ 2543 for an environmental impact survey of our land (a requirement of the Kenyan government)
7. \$ 1000 to plant beans on our land
8. \$ 10 to pay for one school sweater per child
9. \$ 25 to buy textbooks for one child

You can pay by credit card by simply calling us with your credit card billing information and how much you want to donate. If you want make a monthly pledge, we can bill your credit card monthly. Call (866) 599-KIDS.

You can also donate on-line with pay pal at www.ccikids.org

Guardians to start planting in our children's village this August

It has always been our plan to use the majority of the 20 acres of land of our children's village for planting crops. At CCI we believe it is much better to give people the tools they need to feed themselves rather than just giving them food each month. With this end in mind the guardians of our orphans are going to begin planting beans on our land in August. They will then be able to feed our children with the produce. We will start plowing the land and buying the bean seeds and fertilizer while I am there this summer.



Miriam Nelima- A changed Life



Miriam is a 14 year old orphaned girl who lives with her grandmother. Her father died from a tragic accident. After the accident her mother became so depressed that she was admitted to a mental hospital. While she was in the hospital she became completely paralyzed on her left side. After one month she was discharged from the hospital, but she had no food at her house and no one to take care of her. Within 2 weeks she died. After Miriam's mother died she was taken to live with her grandmother, but her grandmother being unemployed had no means with which to care for her. At her grandmother's Miriam was very lonely and destitute. Since her grandmother could not afford even the basic necessities of life, Miriam soon became weak from malnutrition. Getting an education was just a lost dream to Miriam since her grandmother could not afford the necessary school uniform, books or even a pencil. Life to Miriam was just misery and nothing else.

Miriam likes to tell of the day her life began to change dramatically. Miriam was lying in the sun outside her grandmother's house and was very weak due to malnutrition. A CCI social worker happened to pass by her and saw her lying there. She looked like she was dead. The social worker approached her to see if she was okay, but Miriam was too weak to talk. The social worker immediately decided to take Miriam to the hospital for treatment. Her health soon improved and CCI started taking care of her by providing her with food and clothes. Soon she was also given a school uniform and shoes and enrolled in a near by school. Miriam is now in 6th grade and is doing very well. Her best subject is mathematics. She aspires to become an accountant when she grows up. Miriam is saved and loves to lead worship in her church youth group. She is very grateful to God for bringing CCI into her life to save her from starvation and transform her life.

Our needs and prayer requests:

1. For enough finances for all of the things mentioned in this newsletter
2. For wisdom for Marilyn as she endeavors' to partner with churches and people in Kenya and in America
3. For the health clinic to be completed and operational
4. For favor with all government officials in Kenya
5. For more people to join our board here in America and for wisdom and strength for the board members who are laboring here in love.
6. For excellent health for Marilyn and for protection while she is traveling this summer.