

Kenyan Orphan Children's Foundation

Newsletter
December 2015



Dear Friends of Mama Orphans,

Merry Christmas 2015 from the Kenyan Orphan Children's Foundation, and our friends at Mama Orphans Children's Home (MOCH) in Busia, Kenya. The Home continues to thrive thanks to the generous support of donors in Canada and elsewhere. We would like to thank you once again for your ongoing and generous support. The Foundation has now been operating for more than 10 years and has greatly assisted Monica and her family to care for orphaned and abandoned children in Busia.



Lunch time during a visit in October

Recognition for Monica!

During this year's International Women's Day, Monica was honored with a trophy and awarded a certificate for her participation in helping to improve lives of children in the Busia. Congratulations Monica!

High school/ vocational training/ University

The Home has been able to support 20 children into high school, with four of the children graduating this past year with very good grades. Three of the four have now enrolled in post-secondary training. Thanks to the very generous support from two supporters of the Foundation in Calgary, two former residents of the Home have now graduated from

university, one with a law degree and the other in commerce.

School Developments

This has been a very successful year for the Home, academically. While the Home provides most of the primary education on-site in four classrooms, an increasing number of orphans are now graduating to high school. In 2010, we began a sponsorship program where donors are matched to individual children.



Children from Mama Orphans Children's Home helping to sweep up around the compound

Volunteers

Again this year, MOCH hosted a number of other volunteers, from many different countries, who help with the daily running of the orphanage. The Home has a few rooms in a former rental house to accommodate volunteers. This year some of the volunteers were able to teach the children how to play some musical instruments including the keyboard, ukulele and the guitar. Some of the girls are now playing keyboards for church services. Anyone interested in visiting Mama Orphans Home and/ or volunteering should contact Betty Oduor at mamaorphans@yahoo.com



Broiler chickens at the Home

Income generating activities

The Home continues to raise and sell broiler chickens (above) to earn some extra income. As well, the children have been making toys out of bottle caps and wires which they then sell in the market in Busia.

Visitors

The Home again received visitors from Sidecole an educational charity based in Switzerland who have been providing direct financial support for primary school education at the Home for nearly 10 years. Unfortunately, Sidecole has informed Monica that they will be reducing their support this year and in future years, as Sidecole has decided to reduce their activities in East Africa. We are hopeful the the Foundation may be able to fill some of this funding gap. David Moore visited the Home twice in 2015, in April and in October, and found all of the children thriving and actively engaged in schoolwork and household chores. Visitors go home and share their stories with their friends and family and help with further efforts to keep the home going.

Update on new primary school construction

Kenya Works (www.kenyaworks.org.uk) continues to raise money to help the Home build a larger primary school on land which the home purchased in 2014. This past year, the Home received some funding to allow it to begin to build a wall around the primary school site, but raising money to build the school itself is an ongoing effort of the Kenya Works group.

Renovations

The water pump has now been relocated closer to the dormitory (see picture below), so that the children can wash up and get a drink closer to the dining hall. There is a piped water system which is connected to the municipal water supply as well, but service is sporadic, especially during the dry season.



New water pump location

Those wishing to donate online can go to our website at www.kenyanorphans.org

You can also send a cheque to:
Kenyan Orphan Children's Foundation
#4 - 149 West 13th Avenue
Vancouver, B.C. V5Y 1V8

THANK YOU AND MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!