

Dear Friends of Chosen Children International:

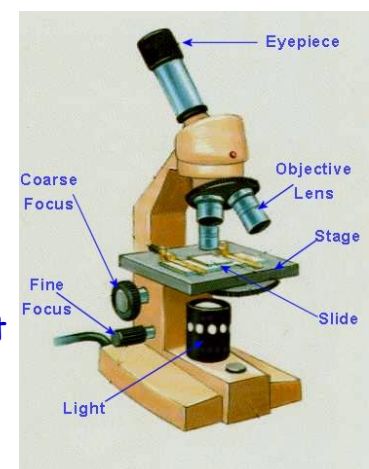
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I hope you are enjoying your summer. Personally I love summer. I love the warm days when we can be outside enjoying God's creation. Summer is also a time when families get to spend more time with their children and build strong family ties. As you are enjoying your summer with your children please also keep the children of CCI in your thoughts and prayers. And towards the end of the summer (August 25th) I, along with our chairman of the board Karen Hunt, will be leaving for Kenya for a 2 week period. Now sit back and enjoy this update on all that has been happening at our Village in Bungoma, Kenya and at our second church in Mbutu.



Our High School

In our last newsletter I told you that we were building our first high school while I was there last year. And I am happy to tell you that we did indeed build a high school and we enrolled our first children in it. Above is a picture of the outside of our high school. The biggest challenge we have faced with this school is that we are lacking laboratory equipment. In Kenya all high school students are required to have science labs as part of their curriculum. Our school must obtain equipment for biology, chemistry and physics in order to be up to par with the other Kenyan schools. We need microscopes, test tubes, aprons, burners, etc. This is a very urgent need. Without these things our school will not succeed.



Our family style orphan home:

We currently have 6 very happy children living in the home we built in our Children's Village. The names of the 6 children are Oliver, age 11, Clinton age 13, Mesheck age 13 and the girls are Lydia, age 14, Jacinta age 15, and Melphin age 8. Our children live very well together with their house mom. They are a true family and love each other just like brothers and sisters. The kids have their own vegetable garden and they have also planted corn next to their house. We have room in our house for 6 more children, but before we can place more children we need more people like you who are willing to sponsor a child. If you are already sponsoring one child, would you consider sponsoring a second or third? \$37 a month is all it takes to sponsor a needy girl or boy. Please visit our website to sponsor a child: <http://ccikids.org/sponsor-a-child/>

A testimony from one of the children living in our home:

Lydia is a young girl in her last year of elementary school in Kenya which is the 8th grade. Lydia is lame, she walks with a hobble.

Lydia says that her greatest challenge in life was with her self-esteem. She felt imperfect and different from other children due to her lameness. She felt unwanted and very withdrawn. She says she struggled to concentrate in her classes due to stress which resulted in her poor performance in school. But her life turned around when she started attending the CCI Saturday Child Development School.



Today Lydia has high self-esteem because at our SCD school she was taught that no one is perfect, and that the plan that God has for her is way beyond human understanding. She says she cannot count all the blessings she has received since CCI came into her life.

Prior to moving into our house, Lydia's home life was very difficult since she lived with people who were getting drunk all the time. Now Lydia enjoys her home environment. She helps the house mother with chores, does her homework at our dining room table, and now performs very well in school.

Our Two Saturday Child Development Programs:

Last year I told you that we planted a second church by Lake Victoria. The name of the small fishing village where we planted our church is known as Mbutu. The people there depend on catching fish for their livelihood. When the pastor of that church attended our Saturday Child Development Program at our Bungoma Village, he was so impressed with it, he asked if we could also have one in Mbutu. CCI gave him the go ahead to start it and joined with him to support it with our curriculum and our finances. This program was started in January with 20 children. By April the number had grown to 60. Since the main concern of the people in this village is how they can get fish, child labor is very common. But our program, by giving these kids an education, is helping to eradicate child labor in the area.

Our SCD program at our Village in Bungoma has approximately 100 children each week. Children attending both of our programs have improved in their reading, writing, mathematics, creative arts and in their knowledge of good health principles as well as their knowledge of God. The picture here is of our Mbutu children.



Thank God for fresh water:

By God's grace we were able to build a well on our property a couple of months ago. It was not easy as the well diggers did not find the pure fresh water the first time they dug. They kept trying in different locations on our property though till finally they succeeded. If at first you don't succeed, try try again! Now our children, our church and our community have fresh water to drink without having to struggle for it. We have the only well in our community. When there is no rain many people have to walk very far to obtain fresh water. Remember how fortunate you are the next time you turn on the tap at your kitchen sink for a glass of water. Here is a picture of our well.



Evangelism and our upcoming trip to Kenya:

The chairman of our board of directors, Karen Hunt, and I will be in Kenya from August 25th through September 7th. One of the things we are the most excited about is that we will be holding two evangelism crusades while we are there, one for each of the churches we have planted. Our churches in Kenya are very excited about having these outreaches with us and they are busily preparing right now for this. This will be Karen's first time going to Kenya to see our work.

Will you partner with us to help with some of these needs?

Quite frankly we can't do any of the things we do without your help financially and at this I have to honestly tell you that CCI is not in a good position financially. Karen and I stepped out in faith planning our trip to Kenya, as we don't have the necessary money to cover the basic costs of our trip, nor for the many other needs, but we felt impressed that the Lord wanted us to go at this time. Please look at this list and see where you can help us:

- Evangelism Crusade. We need to rent speakers, a tent, musical instruments and pay for transportation needs: **\$1000**
- Cost of two round trip plane tickets plus two round trip plane tickets within Kenya as well as the cost of renting a car and fueling it: **\$5000**
- Accommodations and food for Karen and I: **\$700**
- Science Equipment for our high school: **\$16,000**
- We need our own 4 wheel vehicle: **\$12,000 to \$16,000 for second hand**

This would help us so much!

There are several ways you can make a Donation!

You can Mail you donation to:

Chosen Children
International
P.O. Box 3046
Colorado Springs,
CO 80934

You can call us with your credit card donation. We take every kind of credit or debit card. Call us at 719-634-5437 if you wish to use this option.

Or you can make a Donation now by clicking the link on our website, www.ccikids.org & it will take you directly to our PayPal account.

Prayer Requests

- Pray for the evangelism crusades in Bungoma Friday August 29th through Sunday August 31st and in Mbutu Friday September 5th through Sunday September 7th. Pray that many, many people get saved and pray that God's anointing is on all the speakers including Marilyn Cohn, Karen Hunt, and the Kenyan Pastors. Pray that the churches are encouraged through this.
- Pray for harmony and good working relationships between all of our staff in Kenya and for Karen and I as we work and live together.
- Pray for our new Village Director Peter Otieno. He is now in charge of our Kenyan team. Pray for wisdom and strength for him to lead this team.
- Pray for God's protection over Karen and I as we travel in the air and on the roads of Kenya.
- Pray for wisdom and discernment in decision making.
- Pray for financial provisions as were mentioned above.

You can also support us by buying our beautiful African products. Go to our "online store" on our website, www.ccikids.org and click on the Giraffe's picture to view our Store.

His outstretched arms are always there for us,

Marilyn Cohn
Executive Director

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