

Newsletter

May 2008 Issue 8.

The HOPE Project



Africa 08 Team getting ready to bring HOPE to Congo and Uganda

A team of ten are well under way with plans for their 4 week trip to East Africa in July. Four are from Nairne and 6 from Victor Harbour South Australia. One member, Jono, is already in Uganda and will join the team for their July visit.

HOPE partners Jubilee, CVM, RWC—Children's Trust, COME and FOL will be encouraged and supported in their work among the poor and needy in their organisations, schools and churches. A MAF plane has been chartered for the return trip from Goma, Congo where Ps. Mwamba Nguli eagerly awaits his visitors, the first white team to visit his work and encourage the FOL teams in the huge task of helping hundreds of refugees with very little resources available to them at present.



The team will open stage one of a new HOPE Nursery and Primary School in Kibogo deep village and see the construction work of three others in Bugadde, Kitokye and Nakivale Refugee Camp. They are excited to be able to meet dozens of children sponsored through HOPE and see them at work in their schools and visit them in their huts and houses. Medical assistance will also be offered to those cared for by our HOPE partners.

The team from front left, Suzi, Jake and Mike, and from back left, Tash, Bronwyn, Jane, Miriam, Bill and Norma.

Our purpose is...

To alleviate the devastation and humiliation imposed on the poor, the war weary, orphans and AIDS widows in Uganda and beyond.

We bring hope through the generosity of Australian individuals, businesses and churches.

The HOPE Project provides:....

- Land for schools
- Education assistance
- Child education sponsorship
- Medical assistance
- Building materials for schools
- Teachers sponsorship
- Training and sponsorship for AIDS Widows

The HOPE Project newsletter is a publication of 'Australia HOPE International Inc.', Nairne, South Australia.

Bill Osborne

Chairman

Visit www.ahi.org.au

HOPE close to being granted DGR status for tax free donations

After two years of working on our submission for tax deductability for donors to our humanitarian projects with Aus Aid, and government departments, our request is, as this is written, with the Tax Office before the Treasurers Office gives the final approval.

We hope to be officially granted this status before the end of June and look forward to greater support for our development and relief work as a result. Future tax deductability for gifts will not apply to our church and evangelistic work.

HOPE Chapters proving effective in raising funds and awareness

These newly formed groups of passionate people for HOPE are succeeding in raising support for our education projects being constructed in Uganda. Chapters in Victor Harbour, Nairne and Mt. Gambier are doing various events and efforts like fashion parades, selling home produce, dinners, film nights, attracting donated goods from businesses, a 'Horse Trek for HOPE', and possibly a 'Paddling against Poverty' and sausage sizzles etc! Many thanks to Gay Stoodley in Mt. Gambier, Suzi Tan on the South Coast and Norma Osborne at Nairne for the great effort so far. Every dollar raised does so much in Africa! Anyone keen to start a HOPE Chapter in support of our work through our partners in Africa, please enquire at our office or email, hope@ahi.org.au.

Wet Season hampers HOPE Schools construction work

A very wet season has proved a challenge for builders and delivery trucks to three of the HOPE construction sites where stage 1, of 3 classrooms and a multi cell latrine, are nearly completed. The Kibogo school site (pictured) does not have a road and it quickly turned to mud all around the building work. The latrine in Kitokye which required a hole dug by hand 1.5m x 6m and 12m deep half filled with storm water and posed a threat to animals and children falling in. Thankfully the slab is down now and classrooms are going up.



Two Australian churches remembered Africa's widows this mother's day.

You too can stand with them now and bring HOPE with a gift to help start them in a small business, medical care and better housing. Thankyou CFC Murray bridge and Southern Gateway Community Church for your help for widows like these....



AIDS Widow: BUSWAZA ESTER

(Report by HOPE partner: Mozart Dino Kile, 'Hope and Care for Little Souls', Bunia, Congo)

"Buswaza is a double widow. Her first husband whose name was VALE was killed in his house during war period in Ituri, in 2002. She then remarried to her brother-in-law (a *levira* marriage) whose name was Tibasima Bahati. Unfortunately, Tibasima was HIV positive and died in February 2008. I attended his burial ceremony.

Buswaza lives with her six children in a house that belongs to a relative of her family-in-law. Buswaza sells cassava flour to feed her kids. The average profit she gets from this activity is USD 5.00 per week. This amount is not enough to meet the needs of her family, so they live miserably.

Apart from life hardship, Buswaza is traumatized and needs counseling for healing. Moreover, her last child, Meshach Petro, a one year old baby, looks sick. Buswaza really needs to be helped."



AIDS Widow Jaja NAKIBUUKA Elizabeth (Fiona)

(report by HOPE partner Michele Heyward, COME, Lugala)

I do not know my date of birth but I am in my 60's.

My husband and I had 10 children (5 boys, 5 girls), 3 of whom have died, presumably of AIDS related illnesses. I have never been to school, and do not speak English.

I have 7 children living and they are all HIV+. My husband died of poisoning many years ago and I was left to bring up my children alone. They are all grown up and living independently. I am unemployed but try to grow some food when I am able. I have arthritis which prevents me from moving about easily. I am caring for 7 of my grandchildren and they live with me in a very small room with a dirt floor.

TODAY... 5,500 Africans will die of AIDS... 1,400 African babies will be born with AIDS.

"We are all human and the HIV/AIDS epidemics affects us all in the end. If we discard the people who are dying from AIDS, then we can no longer call ourselves people.

... The time to act is now, we can make a difference"

Nelson Mandela

Other projects include.....

- Construction, equipping and staffing of 5 HOPE Primary Schools in Uganda.
- Establish small business opportunities for AIDS widows to become self sufficient.
- Constructing school, vocational training and accommodation for street kids and needy children in Mbarara, Uganda
- The HOPE Hospital for burns and AIDS patients through partner 'COME Uganda'

I would like to bring HOPE to the poor, needy and destitute of Africa and create an opportunity for empowerment in their lives. Please complete and post to address below.

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ email _____

Phone (h) _____ (m) _____

Please debit my credit card monthly once only. Visa B'card

Mast. card No.

Signature _____ Expiry date __/__/__

Name on card _____

MONTHLY SPONSORSHIP

children \$40 AIDS widow \$50

teacher \$120 CD or DVD \$20

as most needed \$ _____

one off gift \$ _____

please send me information to establish a direct debit from my account

Aust. HOPE Int. BSB 105-025 A/c no. 050219640

Helping Others Possess Empowerment

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