



July 2006 Newsletter

Vol. 1 Issue 2

I hope this letter finds you and your family well. This represents our second edition of our quarterly newsletter to keep you updated with *Children With Hope*.

I've been reminded lately of how pressing the needs are around the world. It's great to gain fresh perspective now and then, and I must admit that I've probably needed to be refocused recently. I've been reminded of the tremendous hurt around the globe, as well as in our own backyard. These times can be a good reminder of the importance of the task of *Children With Hope*. To affect the life of one child and change the course of events of that life, both on earth and for eternity - now that's exciting, and ultimately it's what *Children With Hope* is all about. I'm also reminded that such a task is well beyond my own abilities, and yet, I can also say that I have enormous confidence that the task of *Children With Hope* will be accomplished.

We've had individuals step up and give financially in ways that have been nothing short of awesome. I've spoken with people eager to go to Eldoret, Kenya and begin building when we're ready. The support of people like you can in no way be taken for granted and I'd like to say "thank you" for your confidence and support. We are committed to this project and are so excited to see how God continues to bring the right people and finances to us at the right time. The realization that this Children's Home is God's project is what will ultimately make this project successful.

One exciting decision that the board has reached is that we are planning to build smaller homes to house 8-12 children. Each home will have a home "parent" or couple that will be responsible for the needs of those children. In our discussions, and feedback from other mission agencies, this seems to be the direction that more organizations are moving, in regards to Children's Homes. This allows for more personal attention for each child and also provides a more "home-like" atmosphere consisting of smaller family units. I'm excited about this approach and we'll keep you posted as we progress.

There are some important issues that the *Children With Hope* board is working through for which we would especially appreciate your prayers in regards to wisdom and direction.

As I wrote in the first newsletter, we need to decide whether we should have a more formal arrangement with Ushindi Ministries to have *Children With Hope* under the umbrella of their organization, or if we should proceed with becoming a recognized entity ourselves in Kenya. Another option is to partner with another Christian mission agency or with an indigenous church in the Eldoret area. In our last board meeting we made the decision to focus on finding a local church to partner with us. This will allow us to move toward building more quickly as well as save considerable expense in establishing ourselves as a Kenyan entity. While we will continue to keep all options open, we have begun the process to find the proper church.

We now have a contact here in the US that spent about 20 years as a missionary right in Eldoret, Kenya, as well as another missionary from the US who is still in Eldoret. I believe it's no accident that we've made contact with these men as God can use their expertise to help us through this critical decision.



There will be considerable research, communication, etc. prior to “partnering” with a local church to ensure that we are dealing with a church/organization that is trustworthy and has a mission that is in line with ours. While we’re eager to begin building on the six acres near Eldoret, we remain committed to being wise in our approach there. Once we have the proper infrastructure in place, we’ll begin to build. My hope is that this “partnership” with a local church will be established by the end of the year, making way for us to break ground.

Another issue is our next visit to Kenya. Since we have this need to build relationships locally, this will likely need to be finalized by a personal visit, rather than just via email and phone calls. There are two or three of us on the board that are considering making this trip later in the year and so we’d also ask for prayer in this area.

I wish to extend my thanks to you again and to request that you continue to keep us in your prayers. If you would like to make a donation either on a general basis, or for any specific needs, please use the donation form included and mail it with your gift to the *Children With Hope* address provided below.

If you are making monthly donations or would like to begin to do so, please complete the monthly donation forms for July, August and September which are also included.

As always, we welcome your comments, suggestions and questions at any time. This is your project as well, and we’re honored to be your ambassadors to Kenya!

In Christ,

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