



HE KNOCKS

FRED & ELSIE SCAIFE NEWSLETTER

*And whoso shall receive one such little child
in my name receiveth me. Matt. 18:5*



Vol 4 Issue 3

BUNIA CHILDREN'S HOPE CENTER

Fall 2008

CAPITAL FUND RAISING STARTED

We want to thank the early birds who have already made contributions to the Capital Fund Raising Campaign that was started on November 1, 2008, and runs through January 31, 2009. There is still plenty of time for you to join in and be a part of the effective ministry at the Bunia Children's Hope Center.

We recognize that these are tough, and perhaps even scary, times to respond to an appeal for funds. We want you to think of a donation to this Campaign as an investment rather than a gift. We challenge you to find an investment that will pay a higher dividend or grow in value more rapidly. We do warn you, however, that neither the dividends nor the growth in value will ever come back to you in cash, but with God's multiplier at work and continued careful stewardship of your funds, this will be the best investment you will make in 2008-2009.

The campaign seeks money for the following projects:

- 1. Expansion of farm land** – sale of farm products is a major element of achieving self-sustainability. The goal is to purchase another 120 acres at about \$208 per acre. So, \$25,000 will be used for this purpose.
- 2. Farm equipment** – we currently have most of the money to buy a tractor but we expect to use \$17,000 to buy tools and implements.
- 3. Cattle herd** – this will provide meat and milk for the diet of the children. We plan to start the herd by purchasing 32 pregnant cows for milk and 18 steers for meat for a total cost of \$20,000.
- 4. Swine and goat herds** – these will provide meat for the children. The plan is to start the herds by purchasing 50 swine and goats each for a total cost of \$10,000.
- 5. New clinic/residence housing** – it is estimated that \$7,000 will be needed to complete the building that is currently underway. Once completed, the clinic will be open to serve the general public and the fees represent a new source of income for BCHC.

6. Floors and ceilings – a number of buildings have been built over the last three years. They were built quickly at a low cost and now need to have some upgrading that is necessary to improve the health of the students. The buildings for the classrooms need concrete floors, ceilings and furniture for a cost of \$21,000.

7. Micro-businesses – In order to absorb another 250 orphans this past summer, 100 more host families were found. Most of these families need small businesses in order to provide for their families. The plan is to provide an additional \$6,000 to fund loans for new businesses.

8. Secondary school building – this past summer, the Minister of Education for the Democratic Republic of Congo recommended that BCHC start a secondary school. In order to do so, it is expected to cost \$19,000 to construct the building. Once completed, in addition to educating the orphans, parents will be allowed to pay school fees to have their children attend the school; this represents a new source of revenue for BCHC.

Last year about \$100,000 was raised and this year the goal is \$125,000. How does this wash with the self-sustainability goal? The key point is that all of the items on the list require capital and many are necessary to achieving self-sustainability. Furaha recently developed a first cut of a financial plan for 2009. One of the very good surprises in the plan is that the non-US income is 46% of the total revenue, representing a major step toward self-sustainability. The increase of non-US revenue results from starting to sell farm products, charging a fee for public use of the clinic, and paying school fees to attend the secondary school.

Please make checks payable to either Christ Presbyterian Church or Emmaus Lutheran Church with a note for "Bunia Children." Send them to the following address:

G. Mork and F. Scaife
Bunia Children's Hope Center (BCHC)
9824 Emerson Ave. So.
Bloomington, MN 55431

... the fatherless and the widows who live in your towns may come to eat and be satisfied, and so that the Lord your God may bless you in the work of your hands. Deuteronomy 14:29b (NIV)

HOPE CENTERS FOR CHILDREN OF AFRICA

The Board of Directors of a new company called Hope Centers for Children of Africa (HCCA) met on Nov. 10 to launch the organization. Jim Doudiet was elected Chairman of the Board, Rev. Jim Ritter - Vice Chair, Noel Nash - Secretary and Travis Murphy - Treasurer. Glenn Mork is slated for appointment as the Executive Director. Rev. Jim Scaife is also a member of the Board. Fred Scaife was recognized for his work with the Bunia Children's Hope Center as the Founding Director.

HCCA will be a non-profit 501-c3 company that will receive tax-deductible contributions to build other Hope Centers in selected African communities. An emphasis will be placed on training staff so that each center is managed effectively. Each center will be guided towards achieving a self-sustainable operation.

The company will support BCHC and, as surpluses of funds develop, other areas of Africa will be selected to build Hope Centers modeled after the BCHC. Jim Doudiet outlined the following themes derived from tracking the BCHC mission project over the last four years:

- Understand the culture and use it. In the case of BCHC, it was recognized quite early that African families will easily take another child into their homes and treat them as a member of the family. Therefore, BCHC made the decision to not build dormitories but to use host families to provide homes for the orphans.
- Work toward self-sustainability. Surrounded by excellent farm land with people needing work, with farming know-how and great needs within the general community for different foods, a major farming operation was started to provide food for the orphans and to sell in the market.
- Prioritize and complete projects. BCHC has set priorities because not everything can be done at once. Completed work is stressed.
- Community Involvement – Of the 286 host families, 188 are headed by widows. Therefore, BCHC has evolved into a ministry to widows and is integrated into the community in a major way. Many local leaders are active with the management of BCHC. It is legally constituted and has a 26-person Board of Directors. It also is very active in Peace and Reconciliation activities.
- Management training – BCHC wants to be managed in an effective way within the context of the local culture. Staff and teacher training programs are stressed and supported. The widows who operate small businesses meet once a month to share ideas and participate in seminars.



Newest orphans get mosquito nets - BCHC now cares for 500 orphans.



Bakaswara Mugisa knows that BCHC is the place which provides a supportive environment for her to grow mentally, spiritually, and physically. Without BCHC she would not be what she is today. She is also a singer in the Hope Choir.



Bugambwenda Abwoli thinks that BCHC is a Christian place, because there the word of God is taught. He received Jesus Christ as his savior during BCHC Chapel services.

GLENN MORK'S CORNER

It is difficult to put into words the range of emotions one experiences when traveling to the remote parts of the world. In the Congo for instance, it was obvious that life is hard. People put in long hours of physical labor just to make a living. I marveled at their hard work, strength, and determination as they struggled to make a small profit each day.

When I arrived at the Bunia Children's Hope Center and saw all the activities, that's when I understood how so much had been accomplished in a few years. God had given Bisoke and Furaha a vision and then surrounded them with people rich in talent, overflowing in dedication and love for the children. For two weeks, I was able to see the hands and feet of Christ in action. The love of Christ was evident in the people who work in this ministry. Match that up with the tremendous outpouring of love from like-minded Christians and I knew this ministry is important and honoring to our Lord. It then became obvious why God has richly blessed the works of BCHC!



Glenn with the BCHC teachers and staff.

I was able to review every aspect of the ministry. At times, it seemed a bit overwhelming, but what makes it an exciting ministry to be involved in is its impact on all the children and the community at large. The children are in a

secure environment where they are taught of a Father that loves them and would never leave them. God's love is also portrayed through the service of the workers and people in the BCHC community. Soon the impact will be generational as some of the children are nearing adulthood and are being given a chance to succeed. They are being prepared to enter the world, ready to take on daily challenges and rise above their past.

One of the richest blessings was to travel with Bisoke, Furaha and Chaplain Emmanuel, visiting the host families. I was able to see the children in their home environments. We were able to pray with many of the widows caring for the children. I didn't have to look for a WWJD bracelet; you only had to look at Chaplain Emmanuel and you knew what Jesus would be doing. So much work has been done and yes, there is still much to do. But the most important steps have been made. Five hundred children now know Christ loves them more than anything else in this world. Five hundred children now know they have value, the love of others and they now have hope!

The miracle of what has been done in Bunia was explained by a man I had breakfast with one morning. Each day began with breakfast at a table outside my room. One morning I was joined by a man, originally from Germany, now living

in Uganda. He travels extensively in the countries of Kenya, Uganda and Congo. We exchanged small talk and then talked of our work and why we were there. When I explained the ministry of BCHC, he looked up and suddenly realized what was so different in Bunia. He knew something was different but hadn't been able to put a finger on it. Then he exclaimed, "There are no street children here!" To God's glory, he is right - another two hundred and fifty children off the streets and into homes, attending school, receiving medical and dental care and learning the love of Christ. Incredible! Adding another two hundred and fifty children does not come without problems and costs but we serve an awesome God. He who calls us to action is also the One who provides. What a privilege it is to serve Him!



Find Glenn!!

FRED'S CORNER

Elsie passed away one year ago. My prayer was for someone to come alongside and help with the BCHC work. Glenn Mork and a non-profit company are answers to the prayer. Glenn has contributed to this issue of the newsletter and has become a major part of the mission activity.

The non-profit company will be called "Hope Centers for Children of Africa." The purpose is to come to the aid of orphaned children. Special focus will be given to orphans and widows who assist in the care of the orphans.

The first meeting of the Board of Directors was held on Nov. 10. Glenn Mork was affirmed as the Executive Director of the organization and I myself as the Founding Director. You will hear more about the new organization over the next couple of months.

Last year at this time, a matching funds campaign was underway. I am happy to report that the money raised was expended as planned. A school bus and pick-up truck were purchased, construction of the dining hall/kitchen was completed, the compound was expanded, a well was dug for pure water, and the construction was started for a new clinic that also includes residence housing for orphans who are temporarily waiting to join a host family. All of BCHC appreciates each gift made by generous individuals in the US. In addition to achieving what was planned, BCHC also used the memorial gifts for Elsie to build the Mama Elsie Chapel that will be completed in a couple of months. Also, land was purchased to serve as the home base for animal herds that are planned for 2009, and fences were built on the River Garden and Diango farms. Another highlight for the year is that the local chief gifted to BCHC about 25 acres of good farm land. Bisoke and Furaha are to be commended for their excellent stewardship and ability to get things done.

At this time, we are conducting a Capital Fund Raising Campaign and appreciate your considerations during uncertain economic conditions. The money will be used for the following projects at BCHC: establish a cattle herd to supply milk and meat, establish swine and goat herds to supply meat, upgrade classrooms with concrete floors, improved ceilings and furniture, purchase necessary farm equipment, increase the fund for the host family micro-businesses (there are 100 more host families as a result of taking on another 250 orphans), complete the construction of the new clinic/residence housing, and start the construction of a secondary school building.

Just think - all of us working together have given hope to 500 orphans who are getting a very good education and are cared for in all aspects of their lives. I am especially grateful to the 286 host families that have taken in the orphans and are treating them as family! Of the 286 families, 188 are families headed by widows. I am very proud of the work of the widows as they improve their lives through small businesses and gardens.

All of the BCHC, the host families and Glenn and I wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Mama Elsie's Chapel - ready for the roof.



Ndinji Isaka was found in a refugee camp during the tribal war in Bunia. His mother died when he was 8 years old, and his father died during the war. He is the first born of their family and has one sister and one brother. He started school at BCHC in class 3 and now he is in class six. He wants to finish his study in primary school, go to the secondary school, and then go to the university if it will be possible (He wants to become a teacher). Before he used to walk a long distance of 5 km per day to come to school, but now he uses the school bus.



Asimwe Samwele was found in the street during the tribal war in Bunia with his 2 brothers and one sister, as their parents died during the civil war (he is the first born). He started school at BCHC in class 2 and now he is in class six. He wants to finish his study in primary school and go to the secondary school (and would like to be a teacher). He likes to sing gospel songs and also participating in drama productions. Since BCHC started the chicken project, he works with the chickens after school each day.