



International Humanity Foundation Newsletter

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Demetra Davis
IHF Co-Director Kenya

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the Orphanage- Nakuru*

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Dear Gifts Team,

The Thailand centre would be most grateful to receive the following items from donors:

"second-skin"-type / hydrocolloid waterproof wound dressings in various sizes; small non-adhesive wound dressings; antiseptic cream;

whiteboard cleaner; household paint brushes; kitchen tea towels; white 100% cotton socks for girls aged 10-16yrs,

100% cotton underwear for boys & girls aged 10-18yrs; games & sporting equipment; arts & crafts materials;

school supplies including calculators, rulers, pens, pencils, erasers, pencil sharpeners, glue sticks, aloe vera gel

(as pure as possible) for burns; safety pins (med & lge); sore throat gargle/medicine

Many thanks!

Fiona

Hello. My name is Demetra Davis, and I am one of the new co-directors for the International Humanity Foundation's center in Nakuru, Kenya. I arrived at the center a little over a month ago. Before I arrived, I was familiar IHF's mission of serving the poorest of the poor and their "Pass it on" philosophy, but I did not have any idea what would be awaiting for me when I arrived at the center itself. I was overjoyed by the warm welcome I received from all of the children here as well as from the other staff members. They really did make me feel like a part of IHF's family. That's how I would describe this center—a home for Carol Sasaki's children that gives each one an opportunity for an education and way of life that would not be available to them otherwise.

I have experienced so much this first month. The center is undergoing constant renovations, including painting the kitchen and dormitories, repairing the sewage system and replacing the toilets in each dormitory. The children have amazed me with their ability to find pleasures in the simplest things in life. For example, they are amused for days and even weeks by a simple football (or, for us Americans, a soccer ball) and a dirt field. They take care of each other and act just as a family does. They also feel a deep sense of pride in their Pokot home. One of the first nights I arrived they sang for me in their tribal tongue and showed me their traditional dances. Their sense of heritage must always be nurtured so that they never forget their roots.

I was also able to travel to Pokot myself to help carry out IHF's Survival Program, in which we bought 145 goats, 13 chickens, five calves, one camel and one cow for the poorest members of the tribe, and the Famine Feed Program, in which we bought eight bags of maize flour and four bags of cabbage for the people. The Pokot people really depend on this and other outside donations since all of Kenya is in the midst of a fifth year of drought. The chiefs are very happy that we support their tribe through these endeavors.

One of the programs implemented at the center this past month has been supplementary classes. Our center currently teaches five English classes, five math and three computer classes each week. So, in addition to regularly attending school, the children attend these classes to further their education even more. The children are so eager to learn. Something that the older children have been particularly enamored with is the computer classes. Most have never even touched a computer even though they are now in high school, a sharp contrast to my experience. My family owned a computer since I was eight years old. Although the center only has four computers, the older children are able to practice typing and other basic skills. I think this will come in handy in their futures if they succeed in making it to the university.

I am very happy to be working for IHF in Nakuru and look forward to many more months of service here although I anticipate major challenges in the near future. The drought has impacted all of Kenya in ways you might not expect. Low water levels are the reason behind a food crisis and spurring serious power rationing. Hopefully, these will not largely impact IHF's center. With your continuing support and encouragement, I believe we can make it through this difficult time ahead.

Sincerely,

Demetra Davis

IHF Co-Director Kenya

Letter from We Children in the Orphanage- Nakuru

From: Joshua Losute, IHF Child



I am in form one at Uhuru High School. Thank you so much, Mummy. I am happy because at the beginning of the month of July our classes, which were stopped for the last six months, have begun again. We enjoy learning English, math, and computer at home. Always it will become easier for us to understand English and math at school because

they will be reviews of what we did at home.

I want to thank those teachers by naming them and their classes one by one: Naomi teaches pre-school English and math; Demetra teaches second class of English and math; Chris and Kennedy teach upper-level math and English; and Chris and Demetra teach computer for the oldest students.

I am happier and so grateful. Thank you.

From: Chemariach Lomertelo



I am in high school grade ten. Since I joined this home of IHF, I have seen my life has been changed, and I am now living a happier life than before. In the center, I have learned many things like computer class, math class, and English class.

I joined IHF center in 2005, and I am so grateful to be a part

of it. I am so thankful because this organization has been helpful to me. At the center we study English and math class and practice computer. All these classes I attend and like them because they help in my schoolwork and homework. We learned many things in these classes that can improve our academics in school and our future lives. I believe that if these classes continue, they will help us a lot. Thanks for the support and help.





Aceh Roof Repairs!

For a long time, the roof of the IHF centre in Aceh was in desperate need of repair. Water ran through into the classroom and lounge, and the ceiling sagged dangerously. There was never enough funds to fix it, so the children were living in an unsafe environment that made learning difficult.

In December 2008, Susan Langford Johnson came to volunteer with us. She became a close friend to everyone and was committed to helping the children. On her return to England she continued to get support from her friends and school to raise funds to fix the roof. Michelle Ahmad from Oberlin College in America also generously donated funds to help repair the roof. Regan was so helpful and introduced us to a good worker who agreed to fix our roof.

Such charitable people as Susan, Michelle, Regan and their friends make all the difference to our children's lives. Thank you so much!!! Now the roof does not leak, the ceiling has been replaced and we are able to live in a safe environment.





Bali center has finally been completed

Today, the new roof at the Bali center has finally been completed. The roof looks absolutely beautiful and the smell in the house is fresh and pleasant. Prior to the new roof being built the children at the Bali center had to study in what was starting to become some pretty harsh conditions. Rain would have a big effect on the classes, as staff would frequently have to run upstairs and cover all the computers whenever it began to rain. Additionally, many repairs had to be performed on the computers due to frequent exposure to the rain. Volunteers were also impacted by the leaky roof, having spent many sleepless nights taking buckets of collected water outside their room. As a result of the once ailing roof, all the rooms inside the house have been damaged to some degree due to exposure to the rain. Electricity cuts were commonplace during the last rainy season. As a result, repairing the roof has been a more than urgent issue, and especially need to be addressed before the onset of the next rainy season. During the roof repair, classes in the Bali center continued smoothly and the local children continued to be accommodated. The children certainly did not want to miss a beat, as their attitude and eagerness to learn demonstrated their love of coming to the center to study and sing together. During this time, our teachers and volunteers organized the classes outside in the garden, which provided for a nice, refreshing learning environment. Everybody enjoyed the classes outside despite the heat and noise. This was a great memory and experience for all.

An anonymous donor advanced some of their own money for the roof repairs which we need to replace as soon as possible. Some of our volunteers are working hard to get some donation now. All children are very excited that they have the possibility to come back to the center now and study in normal condition.



Chiang Rai, Thailand



There has been much going on with children, volunteers and projects here at the centre in Chiang Rai. Firstly, we have two new coordinators: Yongyoot Watasittikul, or Kitt, is the new director and Fiona McAdam is his co-director. Kitt is a local Thai man with a profound

knowledge of the area and previously owned a tour guide company. Fiona has been at the centre since May. Her exceptional organizational skills and work ethic has made the transition between her and Kate Harford smooth. Caty Dio was the previous director and did an outstanding job for over one and half years, giving the children the consistency and guidance that they need in this important stage of their life. We also have a new house father, Kunu, who is doing a great job helping Nabee with the daily duties of cooking, washing, cleaning and watching over the kids. The children are currently on a five-day break from school for the queen's birthday and are enjoying their time off. Somchai, Chaiyapong, Nupon, Surkanya, Arisa all celebrated their birthdays recently, and each received a special gift from their sponsor, which is very much appreciated by all at the centre. With many volunteers leaving, duties and responsibilities this month will be stretched between the two remaining volunteers, until a new wave of volunteers starts to arrive in early September. Some recent projects include completing the painting and murals, maintaining the mushroom garden and relaying the gravel driveway, a constant hassle as it is often swept away by torrential rain. Unfortunately, due to heavy

rains, the veggie patch is almost inaccessible, so we look forward to next season when we are able to continue the project. We also have an upcoming photo exhibition being organized by Caty and Fiona.

This event is being held in Koh Samui, Southern Thailand. Photo were taken by Caty, and the profits will be go toward the Chiang Rai centre. More info will be posted in upcoming newsletters.

*All the best from Chiang Rai, Thailand,
Daniel O'Neill*

