

# Kibera Kids Center

NAIROBI, KENYA

DIRECTORS  
JIM AND DEBORA WOMBLE

## When Hope is Far Away

Hope has become a popular term that is being used around the world to motivate average people to give in order to help alleviate hunger, disease and poverty. Webster's dictionary describes hope as *a feeling of expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen, a person or thing that may help or save someone, or a feeling of trust.*

When you live in the world's largest slum (according to varying reports), survival is no option. With the average monthly income of just \$30-\$50 it doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out that it is 'survival of the fittest'. The dramatic drought which has transformed Kenya into a dust bowl and then in some places a swelling torrent of rushing rain water - el nino style- has not helped the average Kenyan provide the necessities for the unusual social order they call a family. We would call it dysfunctional, where there is

no father, just a man in the house; and many children who have no idea to whom they belong. With not many really caring for one another, just surviving, there is a silent, desperate plea which permeates every waking minute: Come, Rescue ME! These kids want to eat, sleep without fear, and go to school. Countless thousands miss these opportunities daily because it seems no one cares. This is when Hope is Far Away. They see some people eating cooked food only for them to search the ground for crumbs or bugs or garbage. Those who are not strong and street savvy die. Some live alone. Some are rescued. Somewhere someone cares. Is it you? See the story of Jeff on the next page to learn of a five year old whose cry was heard. We heard and responded! Will you dare to help those to whom *Hope is Far Away?*



## A PERSONAL NOTE FROM JIM

*It seems to me that the world is now tuned into Kibera. CNN, BBC and other networks have all broadcast stories of the poverty and disease that is the basis of Kibera's fame. Movie stars, music idols and the like all have turned to Africa and further to Kibera as a way to focus attention to the plight of millions of AIDS affected, starved, sick and uneducated kids and their desperate families. All people with few exceptions have someone somewhere they can call family, ever so distant. We have found that in Kenya everyone has someone, somewhere. But no matter, the fact is we are Biblically charged with the responsibility to care for those children who have no one who can care for them. We are thankful to those in the entertainment industry who have enlightened us to the need but if these stars and icons of the entertainment world can't provide, who will? A novel idea I discovered is this: God's people can! God's people are getting the job done! It is God's people who have faithfully delivered the answer to the needs here in Kibera. KKC is known to be one of a few entities in Kenya who actually DELIVERS! I am amazed how God multiplies the little we get, in relation to the vast need, and how far His money goes in fulfilling our vision, which, by the way, is simply HIS VISION! Jesus said, "the poor you have with you always". Count on it! They will be. It is the mandate of God to care for them. No option. The test of faith is whether we are obeying it or not. Give to those YOU can. The few you help will be that many fewer the others will have to help. This is the key. HELP THOSE YOU CAN HELP. KKC is the place to do just that. You can help by regularly giving to KKC through your local church or directly as shown in this newsletter. It is easy once you begin. God will bless your home and multiply your gift.*

*Thank you for your help in giving hope to the hopeless!*

*Jim Womble, Director*

## Jeff: From Doghouse to Heaven on Earth

A five year old living in a doghouse sounds like a story off TV. It reminds us of an obscure infomercial for a relief agency. What is tragic is that this is a true story. Jeff lost both his parents to AIDS. He was left alone



when his two older brothers were taken by relatives and because he was too young he was left behind. His 19 year old uncle took him in a feeble attempt to care for him. They ended up living and sleeping in a doghouse. A doghouse is a place for a dog to sleep; not humans. This uncle knew the situation was getting critical for both he and Jeff. Food was scarce. They were hungry. Since Jeff was so young, the uncle was afraid that something bad could happen to him. He searched for help without success. No one to help. What were they going to do? Hope seemed FAR AWAY!

KKC is on a hillside. KKC is seen from all around as a green oasis of HOPE! All that had to happen was for them to follow the leading of our great God to the place he has ordained to be THE real rescue station for kids like Jeff. A place of miracles. A place of healing. A few days ago, the two boys saw our gate and the uncle asked if he could get some help for Jeff. It didn't long for Debora to say yes, please come and be a part of this family!



Jeff lives with us now; happy to be alive, happy to be able to learn, happy to eat and sleep secure. A bed, a blanket, good food and

a new loving family. How much better does it get? God brought him and we will raise him. Jeff has realized already that something great has taken place in his life. His smiles are the guiding factor to the proof of our success of his rescue. His uncle is also receiving life changing assistance from us. He is now on his way to a better life also.



## Our Great Miracle

On a Saturday morning in late September I bragged on how God had provided a clean water supply to us from 1000 feet down in solid rock below us at KKC. On that Saturday night as we and a YWEA medical team were having games with the kids I received a message from one of our staff members, Kenneth, that the borehole (well) has gone dry and the 'red light of death' was on. That light meant that all of the water passing by the submerged pump was gone. We had had a river of water that the hydro geologist had stated would never run out. Now it was dry. I called our engineer and he said he would have to drill again at a great expense. We can't afford that and we can't do without water that long. Not even an hour. To buy a truckload of water to last a hour would cost over \$100. I started shouting as I cried, "this is unacceptable for God's work!!!" over and over. I went to deliver the word to Debora, the team and the kids. They instantly joined me in praying. You could hear us all over Kibera! After about 30 minutes of fervent prayer, I received another message. We have water!!!! I ran there to see. The tanks that were bone dry (verified by team leader David Ray) were now filled, and the red, water out light that shined, was now out. What a mighty God we serve. We all began to march around our family prayer room upstairs, with the USA doctors, pastors and workers crying, praising and shouting the victory over what they had witnessed. This miracle was verified by many. God slipped His hand 1000 feet down in solid rock and put the water there. The pump, with water restored, had a force we had never before seen, filled those tanks within just a short of amount of time, further showing us the scope of the miracle. We know that we serve an awesome God!



**Work! Work! Work!**

It seems that work never ceases around KKC. With three new projects going on, the demands are ever growing. A project like this has no hours; one just does what he must do till its finished. At present KKC is in construction mode. We are building a new high school wing, refurbishing the existing one, adding a new library, computer lab and preschool. Once all this is complete, we will be able to educate over 800 students which far exceeds our present capacity.

Already registration for Primary School enrollment is underway and we are seeing a great increase in our numbers. More needy children than ever will be served because God is honoring our benevolent vision to serve the poor and disadvantaged. Kibera has schools but those schools are not providing a suitable education because the facilities are poorly constructed, water and sewage disposal are not available, teaching staff are poorly trained and most importantly they can't provide food during the day. Hungry students historically don't do well in their studies. At KKC, we have a modern facility providing properly trained and certified teachers. We feed our children hot meals and have adequate space for recreation, study and fun!

You can be a part of this great work of God by starting each month with a generous donation.

**High School on the Way!**

High school in Kenya is one of the most challenging aspects that confronts a child as he/she leaves Primary Education. Without Secondary Education, a young adult here doesn't have what is required to obtain a good job. Obtaining gainful employment requires a high school education from a good school with good grades. Not everyone even qualifies for entrance into high school. The high cost of secondary education here prevents so many from attending even the worst of schools. While more and more children are being provided money to attend high school from donors around the world, many, many more are not able to go. Most schools are interested only in kids who can achieve the highest grades from the onset of enrollment instead of being able to grow into good study habits and learn the material from their level.

KKC has an approach that is not easily understood in Kenya. We want to bring children of all levels of life, grades and abilities so that we, through the grace of God, may be able to give them the opportunity all others were willing to deny them: a great education! Why else are we here for but to give them the best that can be given anywhere. Anything less is below our ability to provide for them. We want to provide the atmosphere for success to those who almost have been swallowed by the curse of poverty and disease.

**8th Grade Graduation Day**

Remember the 8th grade? That is where some reading this eNewsletter finished their schooling. Because of generous donors, we are able to continue the education of our 8th graduates right here at KKC. The two pictures directly above show our happy students! LifeSpring Christian Academy is the name given to our school. Our school is considered to be one of the best in Nairobi. Most people from the Ministry of Education, City government, local government officials tell us that we are one of the cleanest, most efficient, more caring and benevolent of any they have seen. To us it is a report card of great success in the field of education and benevolence. God is blessing the work tremendously. With every new student, we find a silver lining. We get students with many problems. Some students come because their family has heard about KKC and understand it is a place of healing and restoration. It really doesn't take a long period of time in order for such a student to realize that KKC is special place with special people who really do care for them and their problems. The altar has proven to be the first step to their healing and from there they are compassionately guided daily in order to achieve success.

You can be a part of rescuing kids from the grip of despair! Just dare to help!

**All donations can be sent to Church of God World Missions, PO Box 8016, Cleveland, TN 37320-8016. All donations will be forwarded to us 100%. Please write 'Project Number 102-5059 for KKC or Project Number 065-0072 for Jim and Debora Womble Ministries. May God bless you for your prayerful support.**