



Village of Hope Uganda

Norbert meets his "sponsor"

March 2009



Sitting at the Safe House, I introduced Janet Matyas and her daughter Rachel (20) to our kids. I looked over to Norbert and said, "Norbert, this is Janet, her daughter Lauren (15 years old) is your sponsor." He jumped up, wrapped his arms around her with a huge smile on his face. No words were spoken, thank you wasn't said, but the exchange of gratitude was evident! It was all we could do to keep from crying.

Personal Note from Cindy

During my trip to Uganda this February, I sat down with a couple of our children to hear their stories. Sometimes it is easy to forget what they have been through in their short lives. You see the smiles and hear the laughter and begin to think, "these are typical children".

But then as you sit in front of them and watch the tears roll down their faces, see their eyes stare off into the not so distant dark past. Then I listened to their heart wrenching stories of abduction, fear, being forced to kill their parents, watching as their siblings were killed in front of them or having to listen to the cries of their mother as she was burned alive in a hut.

It is then that you realize how much God is doing to bring healing to these precious children. It is then that you realize just how much being moved into a new home where there is safety, love and hope, is so crucial. It is then that you realize why we battle and sacrifice and give until we can't give anymore. It is then that you realize we are making a difference!

Thank you for investing in the lives of "our" children in Northern Uganda! YOU are making a difference in their lives!



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Safe House kids visit the site for their new homes

March 2009



We took ALL 19 kids, piled them up in the van and headed to the Land. It was the first time they had been out of Gulu District. It was their first time to see the Nile River, and see baboons in the bush. They sang the entire 2 hour drive.

When we got to the land, they jumped out of the van to pump water from the new well! They climbed trees, and ran up the termite mounds. One day soon this would be their new home. We had a picnic lunch with Mike (Volunteer Building Director on the land)! The kids loved it! It was a fun day for all of us!



Beads of Hope Hut burns down



The children had worked over their entire school break (December and January) to make beads for the necklaces. Janet (Bead Project Manager Volunteer) was so excited to share new bead designs with the kids. During the second visit to the IDP camp we heard the heart breaking news that the Beads of Hope hut had been burned down.



The government is paying local men to burn down the huts in the Refugee camps so the people will move out. This is the harsh reality our children live in. Even among the devastating news the children continued dancing and singing, they continued into the evening making more beads...knowing this was their hope for food and a future. We were moved by the resilience of these precious children. And their desire to "continue working" in the midst of obvious struggle. They were a huge encouragement to us.

The Road: Before

Clearing

After



The Well: Thanks to Baylife Church, FL and Nika Water for funding the Well! We hired Living Water



to drill the well. The project was completed in 2 weeks! Now the entire community has as much water



as they need, year around! God has provided abundantly more than we could ask or imagine!



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Bringing Hope to the Helpless



Your continued support is needed to bring lasting change in the lives of the children of Village of Hope!

Immediate Help: 350+ orphans

- \$30 per month: sponsors an orphan: food, clothing, medical aid, education, counseling, HOPE!!!

The Safe House: Home for 19 orphans

- \$1,900 a month

The Village for 350+ orphans:

- \$20,000 per home for 12-15 orphans and a widow
- \$18,000 for a 4WD truck to haul supplies and work

General needs:

- \$1,000 a month: needed to cover administrative costs: salary, printing, fundraising, etc.

Beads of Hope Project:

- Volunteer Bead Distributors to your church, friends, stores, specialty shops, etc.

Lives ARE being changed! And that is because of the prayers, sacrificial gifts and support from people like you. On behalf of all our children, THANK YOU!

Please make tax deductible donations payable to:

Village of Hope Uganda

PO Box 700126

Dallas, TX 75370

Summer teams to Uganda

Please pray for the summer teams going to Uganda.

- May 20—June 19: Brynn Team (2 college students) Working with our kids in Gulu and building on the land
- May 20—July 1: Chris Team (10 college students) Working with our kids in Gulu and building on the land
- June 8-20: Baylife, FL Team #1: "Survivor Uganda Team" 12 men building on the land
- July 1-31: Angel Team (4 young ladies from Dallas) Working with our kids in Gulu
- July 3-11: McKinney Fellowship, TX (6 adults and teens) Working with our kids in Gulu
- July end: Baylife, FL Team #2: (5 women/5 guys) ladies working with our kids in Gulu, men building on the land

We still have spots open if you would like to send over a team to build on the land! We need all the help you can give us! And it will change your life!!!!