



Village of Hope Uganda

Christmas in Gulu

January 2008

Due to the many contributions to the "Christmas in Gulu" project, we were able to provide:



20 orphan households received 1 blanket (80 orphans)

20 orphan households received 1 mattress (80 orphans)

20 orphans received fees for another semester of school (20 orphans)

14 orphan households received pots & pans (56 orphans)

40 orphan households received food (160 orphans)



Because you cared, and sacrificed, these children had an amazing life changing Christmas!

Upcoming Trip to Gulu, Uganda: Feb 5-16

By the time most of you receive this newsletter I will be on a plane headed for Uganda! I can hardly believe it. It was just 4 months ago that I was having a brain tumor removed and NOW I am going back to Uganda. Only God can do such an amazing thing!

I hope you will join me in this trip by praying. It is not only your financial support that makes this ministry possible, but it is your prayer support as well.

- Pray for safety and peace.
- Pray for us as we WALK on the LAND He has provided for us, and the Safe House!
- Pray I would find favor with the government officials who decide whether or not they will give us building permits to build on the land.
- Pray for my time with Rose, that it would be encouraging and uplifting for her.
- Pray for clear direction and vision as we hold our first VOH African board meeting to make decisions for the year.

I take you and your prayers with me as I go!



Village of Hope Uganda, PO Box 700126, Dallas TX 75370

Cindy Cunningham, Director, 817-715-0465, cindy@villageofhopeuganda.com

Two Fish & Five Loaves

In December I received an email from Julie, a mother in Japan, who shared with me the story of her two children, Andrew 6 and Ella 8 who had been praying for the orphans in Uganda. They came to her with their piggy banks and said, "We want to give this to the orphans!" They decided to go before their church to share the needs of the orphans. The church also decided to help the orphans.

Julie said, *"I am seeing a side of my children I have never seen before. We've used this project to work with Ella on her math. If \$20 will buy a blanket, how many blankets can Ms. Cindy buy with \$500?" And if a mattress is \$45 and food for a month is \$30? But then we realized that she had started to think that with \$500, you could buy 25 blankets **and** 11 mattresses **and** 16 months of food, etc. We had to tell her that it wouldn't work that way, that the money could only be spent once, but that we were confident you would pick the right thing. Then she tells us that that's not how the loaves and fishes went. She said the 2 fishes and 5 loaves were spent over and over again to feed thousands of people and God could do that again with this money, too. She's right! We're praying that God will spend the money over and over again, beyond what is humanly possible."*



Orphans sacrifice so others can eat

Recently I asked Rose how she makes the decision who to feed each month, amongst the 200 orphans we are trying to help, based on the funds available? Her answer broke my heart!



"Sister Cindy, indeed selecting who benefits first, is so challenging but these orphan children are so amazing. They are so understanding and sacrificial. Among the neediest, they know how to look and select the ones who are the most needy and they sacrifice to that one, without any complaints. And they wait patiently for God to provide for them as well. So I only guide where needed, hand in hand with the children. But I like their heart of sacrifice and the way they look at things even when they themselves lack the same, this makes my work even easier."

The children wanted to THANK YOU for all you have done for them! Thanks to YOU we are able to feed, counsel, provide school fees, blankets, pots and pans and more, to many of the orphans! This is ONLY possible because YOU GIVE!



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