

SEPTEMBER 2012



VILLAGE OF HOPE



If we could walk a day in their "shoes"



VOH orphans still living on their own



"Jesus loves the little..."



children, all the...



children of the world"

"LITTLE ONES TO HIM BELONG"



"But they are all so little," said one of the US team members after visiting the VOH children at one of the IDP camps. Yes they are!

We drove 30 minutes outside of Gulu to where an IDP camp "used" to be. Since they have HAD to relocate to the surrounding area. Over 100 children gathered to see us! They had WALKED 3-4 miles just to be with us for an hour and sing for us. Songs of their love for Jesus and HOPE!

It is still hard to reconcile in my mind and heart how these orphaned children can SING when they live alone in huts, have little food, and must prepare what little food they do have. These little ones have no one to tuck them into bed at night or hug them when they are afraid.

What is it like to be an orphan living on your own? Do you go to bed afraid at night? What do you do when you get sick? Who do you go to when you need help with school work? Do you go to school? How do you SURVIVE????

It still breaks my heart. Yes we have almost 200 living at the Village of Hope, BUT there are still so many who NEED a safe home! What do I say to them when they ask, "when do we get to move to the Village?" Do I tell them the truth; "we don't have the money to build you a home"?

Right now at the Bobi Village we are at a "stand still" because we don't have the funds to build homes for the kids!

We need \$300,000 so we can move these children to a new home!

Please help... them!

with a broken heart.... cindy (Founder & Director)

VICKY: "I FEEL VALUED"

Vicky's face was stern, there was rarely a smile on her face, her eyes were dark and hopeless. But if any of us lived through even some of what this young girl had gone through, we might very well be the same way.

Vicky is now 15 years old, in 7th grade; she shares her story:

"My father didn't like me because I was a girl. All I wanted to do was go to school, but he would not allow me. One day the LRA rebels came to our home. They told my father, if he would give them money, they would not take me. My father had the money, but he said, "she is worthless to me, take her".

I spent the next years with the rebels, where they forced me to do many terrible things. (most girls are used for sex slaves and are forced to be child soldiers within the first 2 weeks of abduction)

Once I was able to escaped from the rebel camps, I had nowhere to go and nothing to eat. I didn't have money to go to school. I was very sad.

Village of Hope began to provide me with food and paid for me to go to school. In 2010 they brought me to the Village to live. They showed me to my new home called "Hope" and to my new room. I had a real bed to sleep in! I also met several other girls my age that lived in Hope. We quickly became sisters. I was able to attend the Village of Hope Primary School. I love school!

Village of Hope staff love me. I feel like I am worth something and for the first time in my life I feel valued for being a girl. My two favorite things are dancing with all of my friends, and leading worship at church on Sunday."

Today when you see Vicky, she is not the same girl as she was 2 years ago. Her face is loving, soft and tender. And there is nothing like watching her dance.

This would not have been possible without her loving "sponsor" parents; Jon & Trace. They sponsor her to live at the Village of Hope. This couple live in Allen, TX and go to visit Vicky and their other sponsor children every year. If you ask them if they have children and they would say, "yes" and then tell you about Vicky.

Vicky concludes with:

"I thank God for giving me the opportunity to go to school. I want to study hard so I can be a social worker and help other orphans like VOH has helped me".



**VICKY ON THE RIGHT
GETTING A LETTER
FROM JON & TRACE!**



**VICKY, TRACE & VICKY
ANOTHER SPONSOR CHILD**

If you would like to be a part of the life of a child at Village of Hope, please go to our website and pick out a child today!
We have 100 children who DO NOT have sponsors.

www.villageofhopeuganda.com