



AFRICAN HEARTS COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

December, 2012 NEWSLETTER

Dear friends and supporters,

I am writing to wish you all a Happy New Year but also to give an update on the month of December. God has been so good to us at African Hearts in the past year, and we trust to see His goodness again in the New Year 2013. We believe to start this year with a fresh start. May I request you to take time and read?

► HOMES



We have had great times at the homes this holiday, and I am happy to report that no one was sick at the home. All the children are happy, and we had a great Christmas. We have put structures for the children to spend their time well and to learn other skills. Some of children in the Ssenge Home have now acquired skills in growing mushrooms and making both liquid and bar soap. These are some of the projects we are undertaking to help generate some funds to support the home. I am also happy to report that we started on the bio gas installation for the home. We believe that this will greatly reduce on fuel and electricity consumption hence reducing on the home running costs and also preserving the environment.

► SLUMS



Please remember Minge. He had come to the streets influenced by friends but after two months he came to the programs very sick. We took him to the clinic and after getting better, he asked me to take him back to his village. Pray that he will settle and not come back to the streets, and also that his family will accept him and forgive him.



We had a great time for Christmas! We painted the community hall where we do our programs so the community got to see street children on a good note. We celebrated Christmas on the 24th, and there was good food, soda and music. Most of all I got to share the true meaning of Christmas. We also gave time to former street children to share how God had worked in their lives to give up drugs and live productive lives. Many children were inspired to follow their brothers' examples.

Pray for the Children of the Slums



There were several street children rounded up towards Christmas.

These were taken to the government rehabilitation facility where most of them ran and walked back to the slums. It is a very long distance, and most of them were tired and sleeping most of the time.

Please pray that we can reach these children with the love of Christ.

► SCHOOL



Preparations for the beginning of the New Year are underway. We are receiving many applications which forced us to turn some down in order to maintain the standard. Our dormitory is still on hold looking for funds, so we are improvising to find space for the boarding students until the dormitory can be finished.

This year we expect to add another class to include the highest class in primary (P7) before a child can join secondary. This is so demanding because at the end of the P7 year students must take a national exam which they must pass in order to be promoted. We have had several meetings about the next year of school. This time it is going to be different and very taxing as we are also adding about 10 staff members to help in various areas.

Our school choir is in the process of recording a music CD which friends will get an opportunity to listen to as soon as it is out.



► SUCCESS STORY

I want you to meet Marvin, one of the most talented musicians of our times I believe! He lost both parents to HIV at a very young age of 8. He was tossed to all his relatives but with little help. Marvin then started surviving on his own as well as trying to find food for his young siblings. I met Marvin as a young boy selling water in the slums, and when I asked him, he told me he was raising money to go to school but never had stable support systems. I was moved by his heart and hard work and brought him to African Hearts. Since joining African Hearts, Marvin has proven to be one of the best trumpet players in our band, He has learned several other instruments, and he is now learning piano and studying music production. I am humbled to say that we trained him to play trumpet, but now he is my trumpet trainer! I am very proud of Marvin!

► BRASS BAND

Our band got the opportunity to be trained by great musicians from America which gave some inspiration to the boys. We are hoping to take our music to the next level where we shall have a music academy for children. The band also had the opportunity to play and earn money at Nakumatt Shopping Center throughout the Christmas season.

► PRAYER REQUESTS

- Funds for
 - Completing the school dormitory/vocational center
 - Buying school desks for the school and bunk beds for the dormitory
 - New school text books and other teacher materials
 - Farming activities
- For the right staff joining us this year
- Health of the children we serve both in the homes and on the streets
- More booking for the band and a successful recording for the choir

► NEEDS

We are always grateful for your help in supplying the needs of African Hearts. As we seek funds to complete the dormitory, we are also planning ahead for bunk beds (\$100 each) and school desks (\$50.00 each) so we can put the dormitory to use as soon as it is completed. To help us meet these needs, visit the [Engage Hope donation page](#). **And thank you!**

“And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 4:19