



# AFRICAN HEARTS COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

April, 2013 NEWSLETTER

Dear friends and supporters, warm greetings to you from the African Hearts family. We are very thankful to God for the gift of life and the many other blessings that He has given us. Will you please take time to look at the latest updates from African Hearts?

## ► School



Many thanks go to GATEWAY BAPTIST CHURCH in Brisbane, Australia for the generous donation they have given us toward the completion of the first phase of our school dormitory/vocational center. This three-storied building has three phases, and I am happy to report that with this gift, the first phase will be completed! We are seeking more funds to complete phases two and three in order to sustainably run this school and also cater to the needs of school dropouts or others that might not be academically gifted and require vocational training.



Normal school lessons and assessments are going on well. Our school choir music CD is completed. We shall be launching it some time this year for sale, but all sponsors of African Hearts will receive a copy as a gift from us. I am also happy to report that our tailoring vocational center is expanding with the generous donation of friends to buy new sewing machines. We hope to help more children learn skills in tailoring and hopefully give them jobs. We have also managed to buy two fire extinguishers for the school dormitories and one for the boys' home.



## ► Slum Ministry

The slum programs are going on well. We have many sick children because of the cold weather. Many of these children sleep outside, and it rains heavily here. Recently there were several police round-ups in preparation for Easter. We managed to rescue some boys, but still some are missing. Please pray for the sick boys, and for the boys who have been rounded-up.



► Homes



Please remember Lubega George in prayer. He has been suffering with mumps, but he is getting better now. Many boys performed well in their mid-term exams, with some coming top of the class (Wasswa Dan and Reagan Onyango), and others showing big improvements like Shafick. We have been able to buy some new mattresses and beds for the boys in the Ssenge Home, and we hope to buy some more as we expect more children off the streets.

The little boys enjoy shading (coloring) when they come home from school. I was also impressed at how much they had learned from school when I visited their work on the African Hearts Junior School Parents Day.



We also Praise God for real spiritual insight demonstrated by the boys during our daily devotions. Since some boys have been resettled and reunited with their families, we have more space to rescue more children from the slums again. Pray that the right boys will be identified from the streets to join the Ssenge Home.



► Success story



Before



After

I am pleased to feature Wasswa Dan today in our newsletter. Wasswa was rescued from the slums in 2008. He was the first boy to join the Ssenge Home. His life style of organization and smart living will never cease to impress me! Even on the streets he had a unique way of keeping his bedding so that rain or any other person could not take it. He would keep his polythene bag of beddings under a ditch by the roadside and would pick it up in the night to cover him at night. As I speak, I can tell you that since the second year after joining school, he has never been less than number one in his class, and on some occasions, he has even scored 100% in mathematics. Wasswa has also grown well in other aspects of life, especially spiritually. He challenged me last week that he had memorized more scriptures than me. I have to train up for the competition!!!!

I was impressed when I went to the African Hearts School where he attends, and during question time at the school assembly he challenged the whole school with the question that none of the pupils or teachers could answer. The question went, "I have a nose, but I don't have a body. What am I?" None of us could answer, and I was impressed to see how this bright boy can think! Who could have thought of him being such a godly, influential young man? I remember the times people looked at him as less than a person, when stigma from the community attacked his self-esteem, and the first time I met him he was too shy to speak, but today he can stand before over 500 classmates and challenge them! Glory be to God and thanks to you all that support us in this work.

► **Band**

We praise God for the performances we have had recently. Our band was invited on the district celebration and we were able to make some money. We have now earned some money to take a few kids to the doctor and help some with school fees.

LUTAAYA ABDUL

Executive Director African Hearts Community Organization

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► **PRAYER REQUESTS**

- Funds for
  - Finishing construction of the dormitory/vocational center phase 2 and 3
  - Agriculture for sustainability
  - Water tanks for the school
  - Medical needs for children in the slums
- Wisdom in selecting new children to come live in the Ssenge Home
- Safety of street children that were rounded up and those sleeping in the rain and cold
- That God will take care of everything happening at African Hearts

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

Philippians 4:19