ZAMBIA: What future for the one million Zambian orphans?

Helping where needed most

Donor’s newsletter | N°3 | December-March 2012
FROM THE EDITOR, Joseph Lam

Dear Friends,

With Christmas almost upon us, I’m sure you’re just like me - happily looking forward to spending time with family and friends. And it’s at this time of year that we realise just how important family is. They fill our hearts with warmth and love, a feeling that nothing else can bring…

Today, I am appealing to your heart-warming compassion whilst you read about our work in Zambia. In this poor country in Southern Africa, 1 million orphaned children will not experience this feeling that only a family can bring. Our duty is to help them, to provide them with shelter, food and education.

And even if we cannot replace their parents, we need at least to try and bring into their lives the feeling of being loved that they miss so much.

Merry Christmas to you and your family.

Thank you in advance for your support towards the orphans of Zambia!

Editor: Joseph Lam - Photo credits: © WCF - Registered office: 1-4 Archers Court - (Suite C; first floor) - 48 Mason Hill - Bromley - Kent - BR2 9JG - http://www.worldchildrensfund.org.uk/ - Registered charity number: 1079124 - Design and copywriting: ateno - Print: Parker & Molyneux. Names of children and donors may have been changed to respect their privacy.

For more information visit us at www.worldchildrensfund.org.uk
Over the past two months, we’ve told you about the situation in Duk Payuel, a village in South Sudan. Here we are witnessing an increasing number of sick people and malnourished children in need of assistance and being the only clinic in the area, we urgently needed to extend their facilities.

Having assessed the situation in the field, we decided to appeal to all our supporters to raise the funds for this project and to try and get it built before Christmas. A real challenge for all of us!

As ever, you have all been very supportive and we are happy to announce that we have now received the necessary funds to both build the extension and cover the running costs and medical supplies for at least the first 6 months!

As you can see in the picture, above, the foundations, walls and roof are already finished and we are currently working on the inside structures. The extension of the clinic will offer new surgery rooms, a nurses’ station, a brand new operating theatre, extra patient rooms and more space for storing medical supplies. If all goes well, we should be able to open our doors within three weeks!

A wonderful achievement that would simply not have been possible without your help. Judith Bamuturaki, our local Partner is thrilled and she wanted to share her happiness with you: « Thanks so much to all our supporters. It is amazing to know that we will now be able to take care of all the patients that come to us and give them the assistance they desperately need. »

Opening of the new clinic extension in South Sudan

"IT IS AMAZING TO KNOW WE WILL FINALLY BE ABLE TO TAKE CARE OF ALL THE PATIENTS THAT COME TO US!"

Your Questions answered

Lynne Hodgins, our Office Manager, is there to help with any questions you might have about our work and fundraising.

You can contact her by phone on 020 8464 4602 or write to her at 1-4 Archers Court (Suite C, 1st floor), 48 Masons Hill, Bromley, Kent, BR2 9JG.

I am very enthusiastic about all of your work and I would like to make a lasting difference. I am thinking about leaving a gift to World Children’s Fund in my will. Is that possible?

Mr. Jon W., Brighton

We are very touched by your generosity. Indeed it is possible to include World Children’s Fund in your will. It is a very meaningful way of supporting our work and something you can feel rightly proud of.

You can read about the various ways to make a lasting difference by leaving a gift in your will to World Children’s Fund on page 7 of this newsletter. And if you would like more information, we would be very pleased to send you our legacy brochure or you can contact me with any question.

Lynne Hodgins
There is a disturbing figure: 1,083,000 children in Zambia have lost at least one of their parents. This means that almost one in five children is an orphan in this country in the South of Africa.

This terrible situation is directly linked to the AIDS epidemic that has been ravaging Zambia for years, and is still claiming millions of lives today. With a life expectancy as low as 46 years, the country has seen its active population shrink dramatically. And today as 70% of the Zambian people live on less than a dollar a day, the country is sinking into poverty. This dire situation over the past months worsened even more due to the sharp rise in food prices that followed the drought crisis in Eastern Africa.

Orphaned children are generally taken into care by relatives, many of whom have hardly enough to sustain themselves, let alone their extended family and quite often it is the children’s grandparents. But when there are no relatives left, the eldest become head of the family and it is down to them to take care of the youngest. It is not rare to see ten-year-old boys or girls take care of their siblings like little Mambwe pictured here.

The little orphans are often very disadvantaged. Besides the trauma caused by the death of one or both parents they are generally poorer and in poor health. Consequently their growth and development is affected and they are more likely to skip school and of being victims of the worst forms of child labour. Housekeeping slavery, manual labour, mining, or even worse, prostitution - this is the dark future that is awaiting orphans in Zambia.

The situation is extremely serious but there is still time to act. In addition to creating infrastructure to welcome these young children, education has to be our priority.

World Children’s Fund’s Partner in the capital city Lusaka has started a significant programme taking into care orphans living on the streets via a local school.
My name is Rabson Kaswaya, I am 13 years old. I live with my grandmother in Kabanana and I am the first born in my family of three. Every day, my grandmother works tirelessly to find food for us.

Regardless of the situation, my grandmother always encourages me to study hard and tells me that one day my suffering will be a thing of the past. It is always hard for us to find enough food. If lucky, we were eating only every other day but when I started school at Luminary School I’ve been eating each and every day and by now I even know how to read and write. They have been supporting me in everything, my life was misery before. I am thanking the donors for the great support offered to me.
This is Brian aged four and a half, full with radiance and joy. However, the first years of his short life were blighted with malnutrition and a lack of food, in stark contrast to his condition today.

When we first met Brian, he was just fifteen-months-old – and on the verge of death; so malnourished, that he was literally thin as a stick. He was found one morning by social workers in a Nairobi slum, in a ditch, with his mother lying on top of him. Fortunately, the ditch was clear of water or sewage, which enabled Brian to be saved although it was too late for his mother.

It is thanks to supporters like you that today Brian is thriving in our children’s home in Nairobi, Kenya. Along with sixty-eight other orphans and vulnerable children is cared for by our dedicated staff and here he has found a new home. He loves to draw and play outside and studies hard to learn his letters and numbers.

19 years after its construction, our children’s home has enabled thousands of children to reach maturity and reintegrate with their community.

The Panyandoli Health Centre is based in a Bweyale, a small village on the western border of Uganda. It is the only health centre in the area and provides treatment to patients from the surrounding neighbourhoods, many of whom have to walk for many miles to get there.

In 2011, this centre saw a large increase in the number patients seeking attention, so much so that we decided to increase our support by providing extra supplies in medicines. And thanks to this extra support, the Panyandoli Health Centre has been able to take care of over 1,850 patients a month, treating malaria, respiratory infections and skin diseases amongst many other common conditions.

As the number of patients is expected to increase steadily in 2012, we will have to extend our capacity to ensure everyone receives the necessary treatments.
Remembering WCF in your will: Hope Beyond Time

Lynne Hodgins, World Children’s Fund office manager for the past 4 years, deals with supporters’ questions and also with legacies. She tells us how remembering World Children’s Fund in your will can make such a difference and explains what you need to do.

Why include a charity such as World Children’s Fund in my will?
Nowadays more and more people are thinking about leaving a gift to a charity in their will. In today’s modern society, taking the time to think about the bigger things in life appears more relevant as people seek to give meaning to their efforts.

Leaving a gift in your will to a charity has a much deeper meaning than making a simple donation. For instance, passing on the fruit of one’s life to a charity is not only about bringing a resurgent hope to the beneficiaries, it is also a matter of leaving an indelible memory in their hearts. And because there are many different projects that World Children’s Fund is working on that you could decide to leave your legacy to, it’s a good idea to take the time to talk through your intentions with us.

Thinking about your will and the difference you could make is the first and essential step. Every year billions of pounds are claimed by the state where people have died without making a will. Many assume that everything will simply go to their next of kin but this is not always the case.

How to leave a legacy?
A legacy enables you to leave all or part of your estate to the beneficiaries you have chosen. You do so by writing a will that contains all your wishes which will be acted upon after you are gone.

It is possible to write your own will but we would always recommend that you seek the advice of a solicitor to ensure that everything is correct. This way you can be sure that your wishes will be honoured and that your relatives will not have to deal with any unnecessary legal matters.

How to leave a gift to World Children’s Fund in your will?
There are three main ways to remember World Children’s Fund in your will: Residuary legacy: Gift of all or part of your estate after all pecuniary legacies, debts, fees and other liabilities have been distributed. Pecuniary legacy: Gift of a specific sum of money. Because they decrease with inflation, your solicitor can help you indexing those gifts to ensure their future value and effectiveness. Specific legacy: Gift of a particular personal possession.

Can you state how you wish to be remembered?
Writing your will is a chance to say how you wish to be remembered. Instead of floral tribute for instance, you might want people to donate to World Children’s Fund in your memory. By adding a codicil to your will you can ensure that your loved ones know how you wish to be remembered.

We would be delighted to hear from you.
If you wish to receive more information about making your will, please return the form on the back page of this newsletter to us or contact Lynne Hodgins by phone on 020 84 64 46 02.
Let the children be the living proof of your dearest wishes.

By making a gift to World Children’s Fund in your will, you offer children a chance to have a brighter future. Their lives will become the lasting testimony of your dearest wishes.

Request your free legacy brochure today, in confidence.

☐ Yes, I would like to receive legacy information from World Children’s Fund

Name:  

Address:  

City:  

Postcode:  

Tel:  

Email:  

Lynne Hodgins is your personal contact at World Children’s Fund. She would be delighted to get in touch with you.

☑ Yes, I would like Lynne to contact me.

My preferred times are:

Lynne Hodgins 020 8464 4602 - info@worldchildrensfund-uk.org

Please return this form to:
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