



reach farther.

February 17, 2009

Dear HOPE 127 Supporters,

On behalf of Port City Community Church and the HOPE 127 Team, I thank you for your ongoing support of our Kenya Project. We continue to be amazed at what God has done through our relationships in Nakuru. In this mailing, we're including a letter from Pastor Jackson and Mama Hellen Mwangi, and new photos and letters from the boys of Mama Hellen's Rehabilitation Center for their sponsors. The most recent PC3 team that visited Nakuru at the end of December had the privilege of returning these letters to you and they've helped us give you these updates.

Our team of 20 (including our own Brett Eddy, Director of Ripple Effect and Mark Foland, Director of Tsunami) joined the youth leaders from the Victorious Gospel Church in leading a youth conference. About 250 Kenyan youth from the Victorious churches and the surrounding community, as well as our 'sons' from Mama Hellen's attended. They participated in group teaching and worship sessions, small group Bible study and discussion, and various activities to reinforce the theme of the conference – 'be ye transformed' (Romans 12: 1, 2).

The team members who have visited these boys more than one time since they came from the streets to the center, have shared how amazing it is to see the boys grow – physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Physically – some of them are no longer boys at all; they're tall, healthy young men whose voices are changing – wow! Spiritually – God seems to be really working in and shaping these young men. From the questions they ask, their behavior, and the character that seems to be forming.....it is obvious their personal walks are developing.

As Pastor Jackson tells in his letter to you, two of the young men have now entered secondary school. This is a real milestone. When these boys came to the center, because they had not been in school for some time they were very far behind. Now they are surpassing some of their classmates in regards to performance. We praise God for this. Please continue to pray for all the boys – that they will continue to do well and progress in school. Pray also for the two oldest boys who are now out of carpentry school. They're currently working at the center.

The center itself continues to grow and develop too. Shy of a few finishing touches, the girls' dormitory is complete. The first four girls have been received into Mama Hellen's and Pastor Jackson hopes that six more will follow soon. Pray for these young girls and the women caring for them, as they settle in and begin to prepare to enter school. We hope to be able to offer sponsorships for the girls soon.

For those of you who have kept up since the beginning of HOPE 127, you'll remember when the decisions were made to send the boys to boarding school. This is explained in our April 2007 update in the archives on the HOPE 127 website. Part of the reason for this was that the school officials granted accreditation for Mama Hellen's to operate a secondary rather than a primary school. And, at the time, all our boys were in primary school. Being the visionary he is, Pastor

Jackson turned what might have been perceived as a setback into an opportunity. In September the school was opened, it received children assigned there by the government, and it has been operating as a secondary school for other children in Nakuru. Hopefully, eventually, the revenue generated by the school will become a means of support for operation of the center, enabling Pastor Jackson to continue rescuing more and more children from lives on the streets in Kenya. We were hoping our two 'sons' who graduated into secondary school would have been allowed to attend the school at Mama Hellen's, however the government assigned them to another school in the region. They, along with all the boys, still spend April, August, part of November and all of December at Mama Hellen's.

Each time we visit in Nakuru and as everyone returns and shares about their experiences, it becomes evident that we – PC3 and Victorious Gospel Church – are becoming more deeply related. It feels more and more like we are all the same church. What a blessing this is. So far now, about 25 of our sponsors have met their children in Nakuru and many who support HOPE 127 have visited them as well. We want to always encourage you to become part of one of our short term teams so that you, too, can experience this for yourself. PC3's David Henderson just returned after spending six months at the center. We've included a photo of Dave and some of the boys during his time there.

Whether or not you participate in one of the short term missions, you remain a vital part of this mission and this project. We are continually grateful to have you all, and for all the many ways you have supported this mission. We thank you for prayers, for your financial support, for your letters to the boys, for your words of encouragement to us....THANK YOU! Without you, there would be no HOPE 127 – Kenya Project. Without you, the future of these children and young adults would be bleak at best. **You are making a difference in the world and significantly impacting future generations!**

If you are a sponsor, we also hope you will take the time to write back to your child. We cannot express to you how much your letters to them mean; they provide a wealth of encouragement. **We are planning to send letters to the boys again in March. Please make sure to drop your letter off – in the designated box at the Information Center on Sundays by March 15<sup>th</sup>.**

If you have any questions, if we can be of assistance to you in any way, please let us know by sending us an e-mail at [hope127@portcitychurch.org](mailto:hope127@portcitychurch.org). Thank you again for all that you do.

Sincerely,



Christie Coley  
Director of Missions