

Dear



“The Lord is righteous in all he does, merciful in all his acts. He is near to those who call to him, who call to him with sincerity. He supplies the needs of those who honour him; he hears their cries and saves them. He protects everyone who loves him, but he will destroy the wicked Psalm 145 17-21

I have just returned from a visit to Hands of Compassion, and was reflecting on the eleven years since the beginning of our school. It has been an amazing journey. As I waved goodbye to both the people in the community and to the children and staff at our school, I see that they have no idea where their next meal will come from, no money to pay for medication if their child is sick, the rains may come through the roof of their home, yet they believe that God is a God of love, He is faithful and they trust that He will protect them, just as He promised.

This was particularly poignant when I went to see Eunice, grandmother of Crispin, our Grade seven pupil. “In God we trust” was written on her door. She had no food and no charcoal that day - for her many days are like that, yet she trusts God to care for her and Crispin.

I saw that their house is in a very bad state and will almost certainly collapse when the first rains appear in a few weeks time. She has no where else to go.



Chipulukusu is the largest compound in Ndola, an estimated 67,000 people living in very basic mud brick accommodation. There has been a rise in number of children going into the town to beg. The street children bring money back from either begging or taking money from well meaning visitors but this practice only encourages the children to beg. We encourage the local community to send their children to Hands of Compassion School and understand the importance of education which breaks the cycle of poverty. The children are hungry for education – they were so happy to return to school after the August holidays.

Yet as one walks along the dusty paths that weave their way around the mud brick houses, past women washing clothes by the well, little children carrying water, others selling small bags of charcoal or dried fish, suddenly one comes to the gate of Hands of Compassion. “It is like the garden of Eden” someone said to me, “a place of peace and beauty”....



Celebrating eleven years...

The sound of our children’s voices singing “Praise the Lord, the light of the World, You are the pillar of my soul, my life, keep us safe... “ as they danced, expressing their joy and happiness was breath taking. Joined by our staff, we all danced, thanking God for His goodness over the eleven years since Hands of Compassion began.

Helping our pupils...



Binwell is one of our pupils in Grade 12 and will shortly be taking his GCE examinations . He attained 8 passes, some subjects with distinctions and merits and no fails in the last few terms tests. What a wonderful achievement!

“I am giving thanks to Hands of Compassion and still appreciating what you are doing in helping me to fulfill my Grade Twelve. Without you, I could not finish and without the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ. When I pass my examinations with flying colours, my goal is to do medicine and I will make it! May the Good Lord continue blessing you in everything you do”

Without your help Binwell would not have been able to go to school.



Ruth Mulenga is in Grade Four, her father died some years ago.

“We learn a lot of things by our teachers. If Hands of Compassion was not there, I would not have been able to go to school, because my poor mum can’t manage to pay.”

Appeal for Additional Classrooms

It is our wish next year to start building the additional classrooms to accommodate Grades Eight and Nine pupils, but we still need more funds to do this. Can you please help us – why not hold a Coffee morning, invite your friends and have a sale of small Christmas gifts, or get rid of those unwanted items cluttering your house and have a boot/garage sale.

Development at Hands of Compassion...

Thanks to a grant from District Designated fund of Rotary Foundation, we were able to renovate an existing well and install a submersible pump and water reservoir tank. This has enhanced our ability to irrigate the vegetables, which helps feed our children.



Charity Dinner – Saturday 5 November 2011

It's not too late to get your tickets! – join us at our Charity Dinner Dance on Saturday 5 November at Shorne Village Hall. Tickets are £25 each, which includes 3 course meal, wine and drink on arrival. Proceeds from this event will pay for 20 Desks and benches which we need by January.



Christmas is only two months away and yet for children at Hands of Compassion School, Christmas Day is no different to any other day for them. There will be no presents or special Christmas dinner. They will go to church and remember the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, God's only Son, to be born in very humble surrounds, very similar to theirs.

We need more funds urgently to not only meet the every day costs of running Hands of Compassion School, but also towards the cost of building the additional classrooms, which in the long term will save money.

Your gift will give some hope to these children in their lives, rather than see the heartache they live with daily, struggling and not knowing how they will survive. Surely it is bad enough to have lost both parents before even reaching your teenage years. Living in houses that have roofs which leak, they are hungry, they have few clothes that are already torn, many don't even have blankets.

Please help us by sending a donation now.

Thank You



Wendy Ely, Director

Making a difference ...

From: Full Name:.....
Address:
Post Code Tel No.
Email:

Here is my gift of £ Cheques payable to: **Hands of Compassion**

Please tick this box if you would like to make a donation on a regular basis by Standing Order and a form will be sent to you.

I would like my donation to go towards offering further education to Grades Eight and Nine pupils.

Gift Aid declaration

To ensure this form is valid, please complete for one person only and ensure that your correct address is given in this section. Please notify us of any change in name or address

I am a UK taxpayer and want Hands of Compassion to claim tax on any donations that I have made and all donations I make in the future. I will tell Hands of Compassion if I am no longer a taxpayer.

- You must pay an amount of UK income tax and/or capital gains tax for this tax year at least equal to the tax we will claim from H M Revenue & Customs on your Gift Aid donation
- If we have Gift Aid declarations from two married people we will share all donations equally between them for tax purposes unless you tell us otherwise. However, any donation made by cheque on a sole account will be applied to that person alone for tax purposes.
- The charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 you give.

Name

Signature

Date

Please send to: Hands of Compassion. PO Box 386, Gravesend Kent DA12 9FE
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