



### **Children With Hope - December 2006**

Christmas Greetings from *Children With Hope*. This represents the third edition of our newsletter to keep you updated in regards to *Children With Hope*.

I just returned from Eldoret, Kenya, this past Friday. One of our other board members, Tim Foley, and I spent a few busy days visiting the land we've purchased as well as building relationships and continuing the process of working through the legal issues related to opening the *Children's Home*.

We've been told that the title for the land should be gained soon and the contacts that we've made with American missionaries there, as well as Kenyans serving in the area, will be a great blessing to us throughout the entire process.

While Tim and I were there, we learned that the guard/caretaker who lives on the land has already been approached about the *Home*. This interest even before construction begins reminds me of the tremendous need of a generation of Kenyan children.

In the last newsletter, I shared that we've made contact with an American missionary living in Eldoret who we thought would be helpful. His knowledge and willingness to assist us has already been invaluable. During our time in Eldoret we stayed with him for two days and he arranged for us to meet with a Kenyan pastor, a potential Kenyan contractor who can help us build, two others representing groups who are interested in starting Children's Homes as well, a visit to another orphanage and a meeting with a couple of staff members there. He also joined us for our meeting with the Kenyan attorney. It's exciting to see how God is filling in the gaps and providing trustworthy people who are willing to help with this project in Eldoret.

While I remain optimistic about breaking ground in 2007, we're also aware that there still is a good deal of paperwork and legal maneuvering that needs to happen. I believe our board's plans to build smaller homes to house 8-12 children was shown to be a wise approach during this trip.

We have taken the first step toward becoming a recognized entity in Kenya and that process will begin in earnest in the weeks and months ahead. We will then be able to apply for tax exempt status in Kenya, similar to our not-for-profit status here in the U.S.

Another praise is that the board had a visit from a wonderful Christian couple from Idaho who believes that God is leading them into "orphan ministry" in Africa. The experience and qualities that they possess are an outstanding fit for the position of our American administrators on the ground there in Eldoret.



They have three biological children, they've adopted five children, and over a period of 16 years they were foster parents to over 150 children! Additionally, Horace has a background in construction, which would be a tremendous asset with our building plans. While our board and this couple have not yet reached a definite decision about working together, this is one of those circumstances where we see God's hand moving and we're excited to watch as we see His plan revealed.

**Having said all of this, I'd like to ask for prayer for some specific areas:**

- 1) Wisdom for the board and this couple to see if we are to work together in Eldoret
- 2) Securing the title for the land
- 3) A quick and inexpensive process for becoming a legal entity in Kenya
- 4) Approval for tax exempt status in Kenya
- 5) Wisdom in completing all the paperwork needed for approval to open the home
- 6) Finances for the different buildings that need to be constructed
- 7) Prayer that we will be wise as we wait on God's timing for all of the above.

**Thanks to all of you who have and continue to lift us up in prayer!**

*I'd especially like to encourage you to consider a donation for building before the year end. A donation form is attached, which you can print out and use to mail with your gift to Children With Hope to our address listed below.*

The initial buildings that we have a need for construction funds include:

- 1) Large storage building for tools and construction materials
- 2) Kitchen and common area for eating, studies, meetings, devotions, etc.
- 3) The children's homes
- 4) Home for the American administrators and their family
- 5) Shower house

**We're so grateful that we have already seen God provide over \$45,000 toward construction!**

If you have been making monthly donations, I'd encourage you to continue to do so, or if you're interested in starting, we certainly would welcome you to join us in this way.

As always, your questions and input are welcome any time. Thank you so much, we appreciate your support as your ambassadors to Kenya!

In Christ,

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