



# THE JUST CHILDREN FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

August 2010

As our first newsletter since the resignation of Philani Nyatsanza at the end of May 2010 and the introduction of Nomathemba Kasimonje as Acting Executive Director, this edition provides you, our valued friends, with a short update on the progress that has been made in and through the organisation in the last few months. Mrs Kasimonje is the co-founder of The Just Children Foundation alongside her late husband, the Apostle Moosa Kasimonje.

## FAITH AND HOPE CENTRE



*Main House at Faith and Hope Centre*

The centre currently accommodates 19 children in residential care who are looked after by live-in caregivers. Besides residential care the centre is engaged in gardening to ensure it produces its own food. The property includes 9 acres of land, most of which can be used productively. Livestock on the property is comprised of goats, ducks, turkeys and chickens (although the poultry project is on hold due to general shortage of day old chicks). Two cows have been donated to the centre by one of its board members but they are being housed elsewhere because proper paddocks have to be in place. As a means of self sustenance the organization is looking at starting a piggery project and quotations have been obtained for the initial set up of this project.

Of the 19 children, 11 are of school going age. They attend schools in the nearby community of Kuwadzana namely Kuwadzana 8, Kuwadzana 6 Primary, Kuwadzana 2 High School.

## Challenges for those at Faith and Hope



*The boy's cottage at Faith and Hope Centre*

The major challenge at the centre is that it is yet to be officially registered with the department of social services. There are certain requirements that have to be met before it can be registered and these include renovations of the bathrooms in both the main house and the boys' cottage as well as renovations of much of the rest of the boys' cottage. Once this is done the centre is able to accommodate up to 45 children.

We would like to thank the Mama family for their assistance in these renovations. We are also excited by their support of our organization through their 'dinner for orphans' project in which patrons of their restaurant or lodges are given the opportunity to request a donation be made by the group to our organization. Each donation makes such a difference to the work we do and to the lives of the children and we would like to express our deep gratitude for the interest and support of the Mama family.



*The current bathrooms at Faith and Hope Centre*

## Dreams for the future of Faith and Hope

The main long term plan for the centre is to build family units to be able to accommodate more children who need assistance. There are approved plans for the building of ..... family units and a nursery at the centre. These plans are available for anyone to view who is interested in partnering with the organization to ensure this dream becomes a reality.

## COME UNTO ME CENTRE (Karo)



The centre currently accommodates 73 children of varying ages from about 1 ½ years to 16 years old. Some of these children will be accommodated at Faith and Hope Centre once the registration process is complete.

The centre caters for dormitory living and includes one dorm for girls and one for boys. Children of all age groups live together and the older children assist the house parents in the care of the younger children when they return from school.



*The children and staff at CUMC*

The children are also involved in the poultry project run from the centre. They look after the chickens that are sold to the local community. Other projects that have included those in residential care include a mushroom project and a herb growing project in which the children were involved in the planting and care of the plants. They were also taught how to sew and it is the children who live at the centre that made the curtains and bed linen that they use today.



*Boys dormitories at CUMC*

## RUDO CENTRE

The Rudo Centre is our newest centre but has taken quite some time to become a reality. Renovations to this centre have been ongoing for about 3 years now and this has been due to several factors including the economic crisis that the country has been going through.

The centre came about as a result of a vision that Moosa Kasimonje had to look after babies that are abandoned in and around Chitungwiza as this occurs frequently. The name Rudo (Love) Centre comes from the idea of the Father's (God's) love for his children. It is set to accommodate up to 12

babies once it is complete and registered. A comprehensive list of what is needed to complete this centre is attached to this newsletter.

## **TYNWALD**

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This is a piece of land that is 3924 square meters and has been earmarked for a skills training centre for young mothers or pregnant girls who have no means to take care of their children. The idea for the centre is to allow the girls independence from boyfriends for their upkeep which may result in further pregnancies. Once established, it is hoped that there will be different skills available for the girls to choose from.

### **Exciting progress of JCF children at school**

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***Blessing (in the middle), A level Student***

We have one student from Faith and Hope currently doing his Advanced Level studies in Kuwadzana. The foundation has raised some young men who have gone on to do further training such as motor mechanics. One of the older boys is currently enrolled at Chinhoyi University where he is looking forward to

commencing his Bachelor's degree in Tourism. It is really encouraging that these children are doing well as most of them have come from the streets.

## **Entering the modern age!**

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We would like to make special mention of our friends from Holland led by Robi Valkoff who graciously donated 28 computers for use by our children in the centres. This donation will enable the children to become computer literate and to have an appreciation of the outside world through the internet. We are currently working on gaining funds to link the centres onto the internet so that the children have access to online learning programmes and educational websites. Internet access will also make administration of the organisation more efficient.

## **Laughter is the best medicine**

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We would like to say a big thank you to Celina Stockil who has donated her time to come and carry out a series of laughter therapy sessions with us at The Just Children Foundation. We have had one session at the Faith and Hope Centre where the children and the staff were encouraged to let go of their inner laugh and where everyone had a great stomach work out for an hour. Everyone had a great time and we are looking forward to the next instalment of this wonderful donation!



***Children enjoying laughter therapy at Faith and Hope Centre***

## Volunteers give up their time for our cause

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*Lisa with the children at Faith and Hope Centre*

During the last two months, we have had two great volunteers from overseas spending time at our head office and with the children. Lisa came from Sweden with the UN Association in

Ornskaldsviks. She spent two weeks at the foundation working on fundraising ideas and assisting with the children both at the Faith and Hope and Come Unto Me Centres. She got to experience Mbare Market on a shopping trip for vegetables for the centres and found that her Scandinavian looks got her lots of attention.



*Luke and Lisa with the children at Come Unto Me Centre*

### **PROJECT OF THE MONTH**

Our project this month is the installation of showers at Faith and Hope Centre in the main house and the boy's cottage and the renovation and provision of furniture for the boys' cottage. If you wish to donate to this project in any way, please do not hesitate to contact Martha Damu, our Projects Manager, on the number below: 0912408795 or

Email: [marthadamu@gmail.com](mailto:marthadamu@gmail.com)

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