



# THE JUST CHILDREN FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

## MID YEAR – JUNE 2011

### NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE JUST CHILDREN FOUNDATION

I would like to thank all our friends for their support towards the work of the Just Children Foundation. We are always thankful to all our partners and friends for their support because without you all we would not be able to do the work that we do. And we are always thankful to Almighty God for giving us strength and for providing on a daily basis for the members of staff and for the children. We have published our mid year newsletter and we have tried to update you of all that has been happening since our last newsletter in February. We would really appreciate your feedback.

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Mr. Maxwell Masengere in a car accident on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2011. Mr. Masengere was on the Board of Governors of The Just Children Foundation and he was the Treasurer. We will miss him and his contribution to the running of the Just Children Foundation. We pass our sincere condolences to his wife Rutendo and their three sons and pray that God will keep them all under His wings even as the word of God tells us that He is the husband to the widow and the father to the fatherless.

R.I.P. Maxwell and thank you for all you did for JCF.

In the month of May we received two members of the JCF UK Trustees, namely Anthony Harper, the Honourary Secretary and Winston Weir the Honourary Treasurer. They came for a series of meetings with the Board of Governors in Zimbabwe as well as to visit some of the projects

that have been supported by friends of JCF in the UK.

***I would like to appeal to all the friends of the Just Children Foundation to help us in our fundraising effort as we host a Charity Fundraising Golf Tournament on the 5<sup>th</sup> of August 2011 at Borrowdale Brook Golf Club. We want this event to be a huge success and so we are asking you all well in advance to inform all your friends and business partners to set aside this special day to support the work of the Just Children Foundation. We are in the process of sending out invitations.***

I am also very happy to announce that one of our landline numbers is now up and those who wish to contact us by phone can do so on +263 4 781890.

We are publishing photos of the Christmas parties that we had in various centres and we want to thank our friends in the UK who made this possible. We are sorry that we were not able to publish these pictures in our earlier edition of the newsletter.

On June 16 it was the day of the African Child and we were privileged to have our children invited to take part at this occasion held at the Unicef offices in Harare. The children had a good time mixing with other children from different backgrounds and even had time with one of Zimbabwe's renowned music stars, Oliver Mutukudzi nominated to be a goodwill ambassador representing Africa. They also spent time with our national soccer team coach Norman Mapeza amongst others. Please see the picture below that appeared in the Herald of 17 June 2011 a day after the celebrations.



*Munya, our child from Faith and Hope Centre at the celebrations of the Day of the African Child*

## **FAITH AND HOPE CENTRE**



*Visitors from neighbouring Kuwadzana Roman Catholic Church who came to visit the children at Faith and Hope Centre in June*

### **Registration**

Preparation for the registration of Faith and Hope Centre is now at an advanced stage. At the time of writing this newsletter the City of Harare, Environmental and Health Department had given us a very good report which enables us to move a step towards final registration. Our papers are now with the Department of Social Services and we await their inspection and hopefully we will be registered soon.



*Children waiting to be served at their Christmas Party (Dec 2010)*

### **Extension Of Drip Irrigation Project**

We are grateful to David and Barbara Pilch for their continued support to the Just Children Foundation. Through their initiative we have received funding to extend the drip irrigation project at Faith and Hope Centre and the children have been able to participate in the expansion programme of the garden and also benefit from the vegetables that have been grown in the garden.

### **COME UNTO ME CENTRE (Karoi)**

#### **Update on Come Unto Me Centre**



*Children and guests having their food at the December 2010 Christmas Party*

In the month of March we faced a great challenge with food at our centre in Karoi. We made urgent appeals to all our friends and we are very grateful to those who responded to this call for help. We are specially grateful to Mrs. Jill Shroffner, Ms. Fungai Tutani, Celebration Health, Mr and Mrs. Griffiths and Life Ministries who went out of their way to ensure that the children got food at the centre during that critical time. We are happy to report that the situation has since improved.



*Donation of Rice from Celebration Health*

### **Mushroom Project**

Mushroom growing resumed at the centre in early May. A temporary structure was already erected at the centre and was turned into a mushroom house. The children are excited about this and many of them are already experienced in mushroom production after they were trained at Kufunda Training Institute. Harvesting of the first crop started in June and the children are enjoying mushrooms with their meals and some have been sold for income generating purposes.



*Children at Come Unto Me with mushrooms ready for planting.*

### **New Addition At Come Unto Me Centre**

On the 5<sup>th</sup> of April the centre received a 10-month baby who had been abandoned by a relative in an open space close to the centre. The baby was discovered at about 6am by children who had just woken up and were preparing to go to school. The baby is in good health and is still at the centre while Social Services and the police try to work out any other arrangements concerning the child.

### **Children and Staff in Road Accident**

Regrettably we have to report that some of our children were involved in an accident along with some staff members as they were coming from collecting firewood for the centre on 25 May 2011. The children, Francis, Witness and Earnest and staff members John Gupa and Steven Dimingo were on a tractor and were returning from a farm where they had gone to collect firewood when the accident occurred. The children are still recovering and we are thankful that they are now back in school. Unfortunately Steven and John are still on leave nursing their injuries. We continue to believe God for their total restoration.

### **RUDO CENTRE**

The Rudo Centre still requires finishing touches so that it can be registered.

We are praying that we get these resources in place so that we complete the work needed at the centre so that it might be opened to abandoned babies in Chitungwiza as soon as possible.

### **EXCITING PROGRESS OF JCF CHILDREN**

#### **The New School Term**

We are excited to announce that all the children under our care are back in school for the 2<sup>nd</sup> term and that all their fees have been paid. We are grateful to Africa Lotto who have come in and paid the fees for all the children at Come Unto Me Centre in Karoi. Africa Lotto also purchased school uniforms, jerseys and stationery for all the children at the centre and we are grateful to Jessica Lovemore and the entire team at Africa Lotto.

We are also grateful to the UK Trustees for their support towards the school fees for all the children under our education programme. We thank God for your faithfulness in your support to the work of the Just Children Foundation and your love for the children. May He continue to bless you all.

At the time of writing this newsletter the staff in the projects department at JCF are busy throughout the country ensuring that school fees are paid for all the children on the programme.

## Reunifications

JCF successfully reunited Pauline (*Not her real name*) with her maternal grandmother's younger sister. The young lady is now in a new school this term. Pauline has been with JCF at Come Unto Me Centre since August 2008. She was discovered by JCF after a report of abuse by a distant uncle in whose custody she was under along with her younger sister. When her mother passed away Pauline was left in the custody of her stepfather. However the stepfather took off after his wife's death and left the two little girls in the custody of the girls' mother's distant relative. Social services removed the girls from the home into JCF's custody. Pauline's younger sister was reunited with her father's relatives and Pauline remained with JCF for over two years. Tracings of her maternal relatives were carried out until an uncle of hers was traced in Chitungwiza. He in turn shed light on the whereabouts of the rest of Pauline's relatives resulting in her successful reunification. We thank the reunification team of JCF for their outstanding work and we thank God that Pauline is now in a very safe environment.

## DONATIONS



We were overwhelmed by the donations that we received in the month of April from friends in Ireland through Ms. Mugove Makura. So huge was the donation that its value is estimated at 15,000 Euros and included:

- Boxes of toys, stationery
- Boxes of shoes
- Boxes of clothes and uniforms
- Boxes of jackets
- Boxes of school bags etc



### **Donations made by Irish friends**

We are also very grateful to the UK Trustees who have made available to us fuel to ensure that follow up visits for children under the education and co-fostering programmes are carried out.

We thank Netone and their staff for their generous donation of US\$2,000 for the work of JCF in March.

We would also thank the following who have donated towards the work of JCF in the past six months.

- King David United Methodist Church
- Methodist in Zimbabwe – Kuwadzana
- Mrs. Madzivanzira
- Mr. J. Phiri
- Mrs. Darikwa
- Life Ministries
- Mr. Chinedu Uduezue
- Mr and Mrs. Griffiths
- Mrs. Bamare
- Mrs. L. Charakupa
- Costham Trading (Mr. Li)
- Adam Beck
- Mr and Mrs. Shroffner and Family
- Mr and Mrs. Rama
- Yeukai Katsvete
- Mr. Malaya
- New Generation – Chikangwe
- Danny and Natalie Khan
- World Vision – Hurungwe
- Mr and Mrs. Damu
- Mr and Mrs. Madiro
- Mr. Gadhi
- Celebration Church – Karoi
- Rydings School
- Mr and Mrs Mbewe
- Miss Rutendo Zimbati
- Bridget Madamombe
- Mr and Mrs. J Mutasa
- Mrs. Anne Martins
- Fife Avenue Spar
- Inncity Lunchtime Fellowship
- Mr. Jude Eze

- Capernaum Trust
- Mrs. Ineke Van-Ardene
- Sekuru Nyenya and Mary Nyenya
- Efans Uche
- Nemchem
- Glen Lorne Fellowship

And many others who are anonymous and some we may not have listed here. We thank you and May God bless you all.

## UPDATE ON JCF STAFF

We are happy to announce that with effect from 1 June 2011 Mrs. Nomathemba Kasimonje was appointed as the Executive Director of the Just Children Foundation. She had been in an acting capacity since 1 June 2010. Please continue to pray for her as she moves JCF into a new season.

Christina Sabawu, one of our longest serving staff members and also the Senior Centres Administrator, was taken ill for almost 3 months. However we are so grateful to God that she has now recovered and has since returned to work.

The wife of our bookkeeper is not well and was just released from hospital. Please help us pray for her speedy recovery as this is really affecting her husband.

Peggy Chiwara one of our staff members was blessed with a baby boy early June. We praise God for the new addition.

## CONTACT DETAILS OF THE JUST CHILDREN FOUNDATION:

### HEADOFFICE: THE SHELTER OF JOY

11 Luck Street  
Kopje  
Harare  
Tel: 00 263 4 781 890  
Email: [jcf@jcf.co.zw](mailto:jcf@jcf.co.zw)  
Website: [www.justchildrenfoundation.org](http://www.justchildrenfoundation.org)

### CONTACT PERSON:

Nomathemba Kasimonje (Mrs)  
Executive Director  
Mobile No: 00 263 91 2 240 168  
Email: [nomak@jcf.co.zw](mailto:nomak@jcf.co.zw)

## VOLUNTEERS

We continue to receive volunteers who are helping us with our work. We are grateful to Vimbayi Mutumbira who has been helping us with arrangements for our golf tournament. Charlotte Haggie continues to assist us and we thank God for her love for this work.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

- Please continue praying for the speedy recovery of staff and children injured in the tractor accident.
- Registration of Faith and Hope Centre
- Success of the Golf Tournament on the 5<sup>th</sup> of August
- Thank God for all our friends who continue to stand with us in this Ministry

## SUPPORT FOR JCF

If you wish to give to the work of the Just Children Foundation we kindly ask you to use the following details for any transfer of funds:

**Account Name:** The Just Children Foundation  
**Bank:** Standard Chartered Bank  
**Branch:** Robert Mugabe Branch  
**Account Number:** 8700202438900 (US\$ Account)  
**Swift Code:** SCBLZWHXXX

## CURRENT PROJECTS

We require play equipment for the children at Faith and Hope Centre which includes: swings, slides, see saws etc. We also require dining room chairs and tables. This is to enable us to fulfill some of the requirements laid out by the Department of Social Services. If you are interested in sowing into this please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Kasimonje or Ms. Christina Sabawu on the numbers above.