

Our Own Home

A refuge for orphans living with HIV/AIDS in Jinja, Uganda



Greetings from Uganda!

www.AfricaOurOwnHome.org

May, 2010

Jehovah Jireh, our Provider, has done it again! In total we raised \$13,500 towards our van, and Dream of a Better World matched \$10,000, so all together we raised \$23,500!! The van will be purchased, and the money that remains will be put towards a piece of land where Our Own Home can build a permanent home! We are so thankful to all of our loving supporters who gave so generously to make this possible, as well as to the amazing team at Dream of a Better World, who worked so hard to match the donations and get us the van! We are in the process of selecting the right van, and as soon as we have it there will be pictures posted on our website!



Daddy William attends to Lydia's IV

The last month was a holiday from school for the children, and was it ever fun! A visit from our dear "Mommy Soni," who brought new clothes for each of the children was a highlight. Our friend Ethan who lives down the street threw a party for the boys. The babies splashed often in their little swimming pool, and the big kids played soccer, football, kickball, whiffle ball, ran relay races...and more! Our children performed as a choir for the directors of the Family Hope Center AIDS clinic where they receive their medical treatment. We also welcomed Auntie Lindsey and Auntie Morgan, who will be staying with us for a few months and helping to look after these energetic kids we have.

The kids also received letters and gifts from their sponsors, and are so thankful! It means so much to them to know someone cares enough about them to write, pray, and provide for their education -- especially someone they have never met! Thank you, sponsors, from the bottom of our hearts! For information on sponsoring one of our children contact Horizon International, Inc. and mention your interest in Our Own Home.

Lydia's health is still up and down. She spent some time on I.V. this month for various infections. She has a bit more energy and we are all hopeful for a full recovery. Her new ARV drugs seem to be taking effect now, but please keep praying for her. She still has ups and downs, physically and emotionally, and she is still holding on tight to her faith through it all.

Moses has gained weight and energy. He loves to laugh and talk, to play with his race cars, and to have special attention from Daddy. He is not out of the woods, but it seems that with lots of love and prayers, and I believe a special touch from his heavenly Father, his TB is finally improving. Keep him in your prayers, they are working!

I want to close this letter with a story I don't believe I have told in previous letters. Ronald is ten, he came to us at the age of seven, one of our first children. He is a bright boy with an intuitive personality, an "old soul," so to speak. Ronald's father died of AIDS while his mom was pregnant with their fourth child. She tested positive, and, fearing the worst, took Ronald to be tested. He



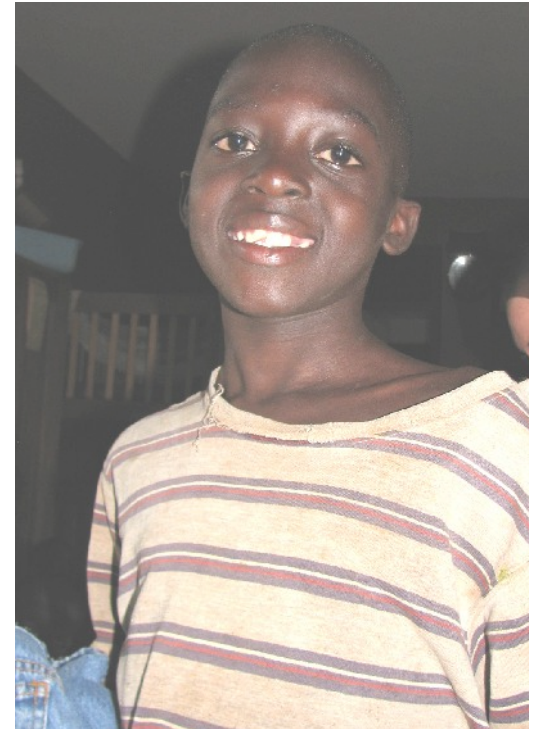
Moses

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was positive as well. They did not have three meals a day at home, nor the money for Ronald's medical care. She asked that we do the best we could for him. "He is your son now," she told me. Having found Ronald a safe home, her thoughts turned to her new baby boy. When she was told that 80% of babies breastfed by HIV+ mothers contract HIV themselves, she was determined not to let that happen. "With Ronald, I didn't know," she told me. "I didn't know I was sick, and now he is too. I do not want another one of my children to be infected." So she fed her baby on goat's milk, water, porridge, and even tea. The day she said to me with such pride and satisfaction, "I had the baby tested, and the man is clean!" I will never forget the look on the mother's face. In a land where people throw children away, it was so refreshing to see this woman with the little she has doing the best she can for her children, even considering her own illness. Though she lives in a district 8 hours from us, she calls often to check in on Ronald, and visits when she can. We are blessed to know her, and thankful that OOH exists as a refuge for children like Ronald. How God takes care of His Own.



Ronald

"Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you!" (Isaiah 49:15)

Be blessed this month,

Mommy Holly

We continue to request donations toward acquisition of our own land and to begin design work. **Our present needs are for boys undies sizes 6-12, medical gloves size medium to large, multivitamins, children's Tylenol and Advil tablets and liquid. Of course, generics are fine.**

Please share this work with your church or others you know who may be interested. Let us know if you would like to arrange a presentation for your group or church.

If you would like to make a donation, please make checks payable to **Our Own Home** and send to: 1075 Beaumont Dr. Casper, WY 82601. We also accept credit card and Paypal donations online at www.AfricaOurOwnHome.org. Donations are tax deductible as permitted by law. If you have any questions at all, please call Joe at 307-267-2712 or write joe@africaourownhome.org.

Please visit our website at www.AfricaOurOwnHome.org! Here you'll find an overview of our ministry, pictures, our newsletter archive, volunteer, contact and donor information. Please share and e-mail this link to anyone who might be interested in learning more about Our Own Home!

Our Own Home Ministries International is a 501(c)(3) religious charitable organization.