

COMPASSION

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THE NEWSLETTER OF ABUNDANCE MINISTRIES

From the desk of Rev Terry Brimson, Director & Chairman

Bringing **HOPE** and **COMFORT** in **KENYA** where there is only **DESPAIR**

Care of destitute **AIDS-Orphans, Widows & Deserted Children** in poverty and sickness. **ORPHANS-CARE CENTRE; NURSERY SCHOOL** for Orphans; **Care-in-the-Community. Health-Care; Food, Shoes & Clothes Programmes; Save-a-Life Campaign (Malaria).**

Still: COSTS ↑↑↑↑ INCOME ↓↓↓ EXCHANGE-RATE ↓↓
in the face of increasing demands upon our resources

DEVELOPMENT & EXPANSION

“Cast thy bread upon the waters and after many days it shall return (Ecclesiastes 11:1). The ‘bread’ that we cast has begun to return, with Development and Expansion more in the past year than in the 10 previous years. **Outreach to those in need in Kenya continues to grow.**

1. ABUNDANCE NURSERY SCHOOL

ABUNDANCE NURSERY SCHOOL, Bungoma, continues to develop and expand under the capable leadership of our General Manager, Caroline Akinyi Omollo.

There are now **86** children aged 3 to 7 years in our Nursery School, of which **67** are total-Orphans; that’s **78%** ! Most of their parents died of **AIDS**. They just keep on coming! Only **18** pupils have parents. Of the 67 Orphans, only **11** have Sponsors, which places a heavy burden upon this Ministry, as full costs have to be met. We have **five** classes: **3** Baby Classes, **1** Nursery Class, and **1** Pre-school Unit from where they go up to Primary School

There are **44** children in the Baby Classes, **22** in the Nursery Class, and **20** in the Pre-School Unit.



Of the **19** pupils who have parents, only **9** are fee-paying whilst the other **10** are in poverty and cannot afford fees. This puts a strain on finances, as wages, rent and running costs have to be paid. Can we turn away a child in poverty who is keen to learn but who cannot afford fees?

Left: Some of our Abundance Nursery School pupils with General Manager **CAROLINE** (left) and their Teachers – in the grounds of the School.

MALNUTRITION: Many children, especially Orphans, come to school **hungry**. We need to provide them with mid-morning ‘porridge’ (Kenya style) for energy; plus lunch – otherwise they will be in no condition to learn. Many suffer from Kwashiorkor, the result of malnutrition.



There is **NO** free education in Kenya. Nursery education is a pre-requisite to Primary School. **SPONSORS** are essential if Abundance Nursery School is to ensure that these children progress up to Primary School. Sponsorship costs only **£130=** per year (or **36p** per day) from January 2011, payable annually in advance. We **URGENTLY** need **Sponsors** for **56** destitute Orphans in our Nursery School. Will you please sponsor one or more Orphans? You will give a child a life.

General Manager Caroline Akinyi with Orphan-girl Gentry (4)

Our **Vision** is for **Abundance Primary School** from 2012 (or earlier), commencing with Standard 1; then, year-by-year, expanding up to Standard 8 (pre-Secondary) - **SUBJECT TO FINANCES**, as every school must be self-sufficient, there being **NO** Government subsidy.

2. ABUNDANCE CHURCH (Kenya)

Abundance Church in Bungoma continues to develop under the leadership of Senior Pastor Caroline Akinyi, with more people attending including many Orphans. The Church-building is in a village on the outskirts of Bungoma town - an area much affected by poverty, most living in mud-houses (some with roofs of grass, others of iron sheets). The red-brick church-building is an oasis for the adults and children (mostly orphans) who attend.



Above: **Abundance Church (Kenya)** in Bungoma. The Church-building doubles as a part of **Abundance Nursery School**, as can be seen from the teaching charts around the walls.

Abundance Church in Suna-Migori has continued since the relocation to Bungoma in May 2009, the church members refusing to allow it to close as intended. They dismantled the church building and re-erected it on another site. This church is under the leadership of Assistant Pastor Shelagh Achieng, who loves singing, leads the choir and works in music reproduction.

3. ORPHANS-CARE CENTRE

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Abundance Orphans-Care Centre houses seven girls aged 15 to 18 years, seven babies aged 8 months to 4 years, and my adopted daughter Melvyne (23) with baby Noreen. 4 babies are the result of rapes. A Care-Assistant looks after the babies whilst the mothers are in school/college.

Forstein (10) and her brother **Sambella Saka** (6) lost their mother to Malaria & Typhoid in January 2010 and were deserted by their father immediately after the funeral, leaving them 'home alone' until being rescued by us in May 2010. They are now happy in the Care Centre.

Orphan-girl **Deborah** was 'married' at age 13 years and now, aged 19, has three children! Her 'husband' was murdered and their house burned down, leaving Deborah and 3 children homeless and with nothing but the clothes they stood in. The murderers of her 'husband' came looking for Deborah also. She and her children are now safe in the Care-Centre.

2. CARE-IN-THE-COMMUNITY

ABUNDANCE MINISTRIES have a 'Care-in-the-Community' Programme in both Bungoma and Suna-Migori. In this Programme, we assist Orphans in foster-homes with School fees, uniforms, shoes, text-books, etc. Several Orphans in poverty have been sponsored through Primary and Secondary education, passed their KCSE exams with good grades and can now go on to greater things – **wholly THANKS TO KIND SPONSORS IN THE UK**. They could not have done it without **YOU**.

We no longer sponsor Orphans through Secondary School, but support Nursery & Primary only.

3. SAVE-a-LIFE CAMPAIGN

MALARIA, is the second-biggest **killer disease** in Kenya after **AIDS**. Many thousands have **DIED** due to Malaria, which is curable - if one has money (which most do not); and is preventable - by sleeping under a Mosquito Net (which most cannot afford).



In 2009, **Abundance Ministries** launched our 'Save-a-Life' Campaign to provide as many as possible with Mosquito Nets. Now, thanks to kind donors, **EVERY CHILD** in both Abundance Nursery School and Abundance Orphans-Care Centre has a Mosquito Net and are safe. **But, thousands more are needed.**

Nets cost only **£3=** each. Will **you** help save a life? You can donate for as many nets as you wish.

Left: **some Orphan-girls with their new Mosquito Nets**

6. ROPHEKA HEALTH-CARE

700 DIE every day from **AIDS**, plus many others. The most prosperous Kenyan occupation is **coffin maker!** With **NO** free health-care service, one either has money or one suffers and **dies**. 'Ropheka' Health-Care Project pays for hospital and medical bills, otherwise Orphans would be refused treatment or held 'prisoner' until bills are paid! Your kind donations help us to resolve health issues. **Vision:** to establish Ropheka Health-Care Clinic – for those in poverty

2. FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

“Where there is no Vision, the people perish” (Proverbs 29:18)

Despite the set-backs and difficulties of the past, we persevered and God has prospered the work.

Abundance Nursery School has expanded into the Church-building which is now occupied Monday to Friday during term-times. *Abundance Church* will utilize the whole building for Teaching/Seminars during School-holiday times (April, August and December) from 2011.

Plans are now laid for the following Seminars:

Bible-teaching including the ‘Way of The Spirit’, especially for leaders; Open to other churches.

Leadership/Management training; Open to pastors and leaders of all churches.

Health Education and Diet & Nutrition; for the local population - two sorely needed subjects.



Abundance Orphans-Care Centre provides a safe and loving home for increasing numbers of Orphan-girls and babies. To meet demands, we need to expand into a larger second house.



Left: Some of our younger Orphans in the Care Centre.

Right: One of our Orphan-girls with baby (raped).

FINANCES

The current Recession / Down-turn with the increased demands upon our limited resources have taken their toll on finances: **Reduced income + Higher costs + Exchange-rate down by 20%**

More destitute children have come into *Abundance Orphans-Care Centre* (some of whom are described on p.2/3), adding extra costs of food, clothing, school fees, medical bills and supervision.

The planned intake of 75 children into *Abundance Nursery School* has been exceeded, with more likely to come. **78%** of these children are destitute Orphans whilst others are from very poor families; neither can afford school fees, which adds to our financial burden as Teachers’ wages, food, teaching materials, rent, etc, all have to be paid. Will YOU help give them a start in life?

The costs of air fares to/from Kenya have increased. Hotel bills in Nairobi are very modest. It is essential to be involved in Ministry and oversee the work, which means three visits per year.

I work full-time in this Ministry with no salary or UK-expenses. Kenya staff have modest salaries.

Wishing you every blessing, Terry

Our guarantee: of every £1= given into this Ministry, 100p goes into the work.

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HMR&C: XR.39178. **Kenya:** Soc/21192 & AA.85813