



It's all about the children!

– an update from the Village Of Hope, Zimbabwe, October, 2010

Dear friends,

Today it is a balmy 34° C in Harare, the Jackaranda trees are in brilliant full and purple blooms all over the city creating purple rainbows to drive under, and the sun is shining. We went from almost freezing temperatures to hot so quickly and some tell us that this means the rains will come early this year. We hit as high as 37° C last week! The children at the school have shed their long pants and jerseys in favour of a light summer uniform of dresses and short sleeve shirts.

Somehow September & October came and rushed past us as we've had a guest in our home who is computerizing our CHAPS library and doing some training. We have been updating all 250 of our sponsored children's pictures, writing thank you notes, and hiring a new house auntie and house mom. The medical clinic site has a higher than life stack of bricks sitting and waiting to go in, as the finishing touches go on the inside of the first Secondary school block. And today the grade 7's are finishing the last of their exams for the year. Their spirits are high as are our expectations of the results. God has been good to us at the Village of Hope! You have been good to us!

We are blessed by the developments year to year as we grow, but we always need to be reminded of the reason for it all. The life behind the still life.

You see, it's really all about....



Edmore – *Edmore's actual birthdate is unknown. His mother passed away due to kidney disease in August, 2007. His father is in prison. Edmore now lives with his grandmother. They live in a one room makeshift home of steel sheeting and brick. His grandmother works part time wherever she can find it but suffers from a chronic ankle injury and high blood pressure. Her income is very unstable. Edmore will not receive regular nutrition or be able to go to school without assistance. (#17045)*

Vimbai – *Vimbai's mother sells vegetables and her father is a gardener working on the property that they are taking care of. Their monthly income is meagre & unstable. Her father is epileptic. The family is struggling to meet the escalating cost of medical treatment and still provide food and school fees for 3 children under their care. (#17048)*



Vanessa - *Little is known about Vanessa before she came to live at the Village of Hope. She was abandoned and attempts to reach her mother by phone, and the lengthy wait for her promised return did not prove fruitful. In early September, Vanessa was handed over to the police and then Social Welfare. She was relinquished into care of the Village of Hope on Monday, Sept. 6, 2010. She is 18 mos. (new – no CCP # yet.)*

“Children are living messages we send to a time we will not see.”

“Children seldom misquote. In fact, they usually repeat word for word what you shouldn't have said”

“We worry about what a child will become tomorrow, yet we forget that he is someone today.”

“Every child comes with the message that God is not yet discouraged of man.”

“Anyone who thinks the art of conversation is dead ought to tell a child to go to bed. “

“Children are one third of our population and all of our future! “

“There are no seven wonders of the world in the eyes of a child. There are seven million.”

“It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men.”

Munashe – *Munashe lives with both parents and one of his 2 brothers in a one roomed cement block home without electricity. His father worked full time as a security guard until October 2008, when he developed pain, swelling and growths on both legs. He often walks with crutches and is unable to work. When the stress of Munashe's father's illness became too much, the eldest son, was sent to the rural areas to stay with a grandmother. Munashe and his brother – Panashe, are now cared for by both parents but without income. Often Munashe's mother will provide a meal by gleaming off an already harvested field for soya beans or potatoes left behind. They are in a desperate situation. (#20582)*



Evans – *Nothing is known about Evan's family history as he was abandoned at birth. He was taken to Hospital where he has been residing for 10 mos. He was moved into the Village of Hope in September this year. (new - no CCP # yet)*

Savannah – *Savannah, & her younger sister come from a history of abuse. Their father has been imprisoned because of it. When they last saw her, their mother was ill and today is presumed dead, though unconfirmed. The sisters have been in an Orphan home for several years. But when the Home into which they were first admitted was closed down in the spring of 2010, Savannah & her sister were transferred into the care of the Village of Hope. (#23641)*



With little or no hope in their past,

God has tasked us all with a big job in providing

HOPE... FOR THEIR FUTURE!

These children above and about 50 others with similar stories, are in need of sponsorship TODAY. Please call 905-542-7400 and ask for Child Care Plus. Or go to www.erdo.ca/programs/childcareplus and get in touch electronically. For a specific child mentioned above, please quote the CCP number at the end of their story.

After all – IT'S ALL FOR THE CHILDREN!

GORD & ANITA COOLEDGE

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Abraham believed God and it was credited him as righteousness. Gen. 15:6
WE STILL BELIEVE! BELIEVE WITH US!