



Joining Hearts & Hands

www.joiningheartshands.org

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13TH ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2017

ORPHANAGES NEED OUR HELP



**Children at St. Mary
Magdalene-Oasis of Hope
Orphanage**

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Happy at Hannah's Hope

St. Mary Magdalene- Oasis of Hope-The Story Continues

Two years ago we received a desperate e-mail from a sweet nun in Kisumu, Kenya (Story in last year's newsletter). Sister Maurice Michael discovered Joining Hearts and Hands on-line in a search to help her nearly 100 orphans. We often get requests for help from parts all across East Africa but unfortunately we can only help those within the Lake Victoria area. Kisumu is right on the banks of Lake Victoria. Two years ago we decided to see for ourselves and visit the children. Immediately we were able to observe that this was a very loving place and could greatly benefit from our involvement. We observed dilapidated classrooms and a severe shortage of books and teaching materials.

In last year's newsletter we spoke of the hundreds of books we brought to the orphanage and the plans to renovate the classrooms. When we reached out for your help we were approached by Susan and Scott Miller. Sue and Scott engaged their whole family and together they are enabling us to build an entirely new schoolhouse at St. Mary Magdalene-Oasis of Hope. What an incredible gift

for the wonderful children. The school consists of 8 classrooms on two floors. It will be finished in December and ready for the beginning of the new school year in January 2018.

JHH Helps Other Orphanages in Western Kenya



Construction underway on classrooms at St. Mary Magdalene

Joining Hearts and Hands is working with two other orphanages in Western, Kenya: Springs of Life and Rehema. We are about ready to drill a well at Springs of Life and we are working to provide medical care in the United States for a young boy with elephantiasis, thanks to

the Shriners and JHH's great friend Tom Abraham.

The Story of James

We first met James three years ago on a path leading to one of the homes of a JHH scholarship student. We instantly fell in love with him and were deeply moved by his lack of basic needs. (Check out the before and after photos on page 3!). Joining Hearts and

Hands does not generally provide direct humanitarian aid. Our mission is to provide aid that is self-sustaining (agriculture, micro-businesses etc.). There are circumstances that often require direct help. James and his family was one of those cases.

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Doing a geological survey before drilling a JHH well at Springs of Life Orphanage in Butere, Kenya



One of Two JHH latrine blocks currently under construction at a high school in Western, Kenya



Joanne, OSF Sisters Joanne and Bea visiting Maasai families we support in Timau, Kenya



One of 4 blocks of JHH latrines completed at Mang'uliro Primary School in Western

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Joanne Cala
William Cala
Margaret Cardona



New Classrooms being built at Mang'uliro Primary school by JHH. Funded by the good people at Mindex in Rochester, NY.



Joanne & Bill with two of the nearly 100 Kenyans getting their sight back via cataract surgery at the 5th annual JHH Eye Camp.



Board: Joanne, Bill & Marty

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The Story of James (Continued)



When we first met James

What we have learned over the years is that such a small amount of money can go so far in Kenya and Tanzania. It really doesn't take a large sacrifice to make a world of difference in a child's life. Over the years as our kids in East Africa grow to be productive adults we receive notes and letters saying that without the help of Joining Hearts and Hands "I would never be what I am today." "Joining Hearts and Hands has saved my life." Messages like these let us know how important you are as donors and that we cannot leave the task of compassion to others.

James is but one story of hope. Unfortunately, there are too many kids like James in the world. Poverty is an epidemic in nearly 2/3rds of the world's population. In the United States we are truly blessed and an exception to the suffering experienced across the globe. Part of our mission at Joining Hearts and Hands is to develop meaningful relationships with our good people here in the States so as to help us understand an often misunderstood view of the world and its children. Help us help others. It is the greatest feeling in the

"..we cannot leave the task of compassion to others."



A dapper and happy James today!

world to know that you are making the daily life of a child better and providing a future that would not have been possible.

Thanks always for your generosity!

Bill & Joanne

Scholarships-We need Sponsors!

Here is what only \$500 per year provides:

- ♦ A full year of High School Education
- ♦ Educational Supplies
- ♦ A life with hope!

Don't Delay! Send a check today and give Africa a bright future!



Joanne, Bill and Marty with two of the nearly 200 students that you support through the JHH scholarship program



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HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP!



Tired of buying gifts that no one needs or wants for the holidays?? Why not consider a family donation?
It's a great way to share your love with children in Africa who have so little.

- ◆ Talk to your employers. Since we are a 501 (c) 3 non-profit many companies will provide matching funds.
- ◆ Talk to your employer to be a corporate sponsor.
- ◆ Set up a presentation with your club, church or group.

Joining Hearts and Hands **Donations are:**



Joining Hearts and Hands is an IRS approved 501 (c) 3 . There are no local personnel costs for **Joining Hearts and Hands**. Bill and Joanne Cala take no salaries and pay for all of their accommodations and travel expenses both here and in Africa. Your tax deductible gifts go directly to the children.