

# Spring Update for Mercy and Caring Children's Homes, Kenya

What a wonderful time to be greeting you. A season of new birth, renewed hope, Easter, and birds nesting.

In Kenya, the first school term (Jan-Mar) is over. The children have an April break, with some tutoring classes and a spiritual renewal time before the second 3 month term begins in May.

In November of 2012, seventeen Mercy and Caring Academy children will write their big Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) 3 day set of exams at the end of grade (standard) 8. These exams determine which Secondary schools a student qualifies for: District, Provincial or National. This will be our third class to "graduate" from Gr. 8 to High School.

The intake of new young children brings us great joy. Rescuing them from vulnerable situations is the primary focus of MCCH. As in your families, little ones grow up, and need many things. To keep operating in the black, each child at Mercy and Caring Home requires 2 sponsors paying either \$35 or \$50 per month. We are so grateful for each and every sponsor. We are 75% sponsorship covered. Please give us any leads to new sponsors as God brings someone to mind. We need more sponsors.

From Baby class to Grade 8, all donor funding goes into one pot to pay for the on site operating expenses. From our 2011 year end financial statement, you may be interested to know what these categories and amounts are in Canadian dollars, In 2011, salaries was our second largest expense of \$41,062.28 for 38 Kenyan employees. This is also a blessing to the community. Each worker is happy to have a job and is making a conservative wage but it is reliable. They work in the following areas: administration 2; Social work 2; Spiritual/counselling 1; cooks 3; 1 houseparent couple; matrons 2; maintenance/farm manager 1; farm workers 2; sanitation 1; guards 7, teachers 14, tailoring teacher 1.

Our largest expense is in education. Our on site school plus the Secondary Boarding school students cost \$51,879.06. Our third highest expense was food costing \$21,882.37. If you are interested in the complete income and expense report for 2011 categories, please request that. Income and expense reporting is required each June by Canada Revenue, and is also available on their website.

How can you help us?

1. We are asking for used vehicles to be donated because Dane can fix them and sell them for MCCH funds.
2. If you have a celebration (Birthday, Anniversary, Funeral) suggest donations be made to MCCH. We will even come with a little display if you would like a representative present.
3. Remember MCCH in your will. Simply indicate a percentage to this charity.
4. Donate towards the Secondary School project.
5. Let us know if you have a public venue where Gerishom and Monicah could speak: basically any group large or small, even a gathering in your home. We'd like to keep them busy sharing the vision of Mercy and Caring Home, as well as enjoying Canada. Both are excellent speakers.

Love in Christ,  
Edwin and Nancy Cahill