



BELO RURAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION - Sponsor an Orphan Project -

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SPONSOR AN ORPHAN NEWSLETTER JULY 2014



Greetings to all our partners, benefactors, beneficiaries and well-wishers. Deep in our hearts are our committed orphan sponsors, occasional donors and especially the Afri-Link team. Together we are seeding, facing and fostering the hope of orphans in Boyo. Because of you, we are hopefully graduating three of our orphans out of High School in August. Often sick HIV infected orphans in the past have had access to rich food supplements, proper medical care and regular supply of

antiretroviral care and treatment. You should be assured that your contributions are accomplishing the intended changes to lives.

GENERAL NEWS

The past five months have been quite challenging for us from regular illnesses, teenage pregnancies, academic slumber (for some kids) and the death of one of our orphan's baby. Joy N (the deaf girl) lost her baby, Julie on the 6th of March to a sudden death guessed by doctors to be anemia as she didn't live long enough to be fully diagnosed after we rushed her to

Mbingo hospital. The good thing is Joy has fully recovered from the loss and has moved on with her life.

Schools in Belo joined all Cameroonians (political parties, citizens of all works of life, traditional and social groups etc) on the 20th of May to celebrate the National Day; the day of Independence. The day as usual was marked by colourful parades, cultural demonstrations and memorials among other things to exhibit their support and patriotism to their peaceful nation Cameroon.



EDUCATION

As we already know, education is the pioneer and most prioritized spotlight of the Sponsor an Orphan project. In this regard, we, as staff and liaison between these children and related networks, strive hard to make available all resources necessary for them to thrive in academics in all levels. Our efforts so far and especially lately has yielded one half doing very well, a quarter is struggling towards average performance and the last quarter just not putting any effort. We are having to work harder with these kids.

Five of our kids wrote the Government Common Entrance exam into Secondary School and just one passed named Jupiter. Fanuel, Blaise L, Rogan, Diland didn't make it, but will still go to secondary as they passed the first school leaving exam. Six wrote the final course exam for primary schools, the First School Leaving Certificate (FSLC) exam. All passed but Diland who will be repeating all over again next year. Three are awaiting GCE Advance Level while three are awaiting GCE O' Level results.



Holiday class attendance is very impressive with at least 20 kids attending each day. The primary school kids are handled as usual by a paid teacher while the secondary students who are very few do computer studies and English with Lois. We are in contact with potential volunteers

who might assist the primary school teacher who finds it quite difficult to kids in all six levels.

VOLUNTEERING AND CHARITY



BERUDA was blessed this quarter by five international volunteers who for sure made a huge impact in BERUDA, the Belo Community and Cameroon as a whole. The mark they left here is can never be erased. Joya Margaux from Canada, Kim du Plessis and Rebecca Viljoen both from South Africa came in early March and taught kids in the Government Bilingual Nursery school of

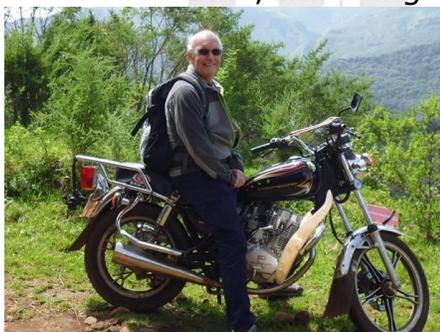
Belo and the Government Nursery school in Kitchu respectively. They left to teach in a primary school in Kribi in early April and finally left Cameroon in early May.

Pamela Lynn Rice from the USA came in mid April and taught Environmental Education in five primary schools around Belo, including three in Mbingo and Mejang and the

other two being GS Acha and GS Kitchu. She finally left Cameroon in mid June.

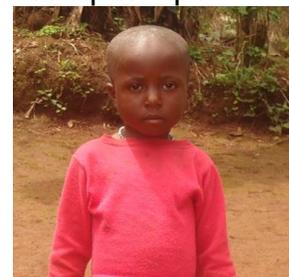
John Pepper, our dynamic and radical project supervisor who is husband of Wendy Pepper, the present administrator of Afri-link, has already been here for about six weeks now. He will be leaving for Scotland in mid July but to return in September already with an in-depth knowledge of the system

here.



SPONSORSHIP

The Sponsor an Orphan Project is becoming stronger in number. We use this forum to thank Els Gabriels for her prompt intervention to raise funds for the start of sponsorship of Victory and his mom Linda. She also got her mom Lieve Jacobs as the long term sponsor for Victory. Victory's and Linda's special health needs have fully been insured.



One of our ever remembered ex-volunteers from December 2009, Louise O'Connor from Australia, also promptly took up the sponsorship of Kelly Bright. Her nutrition and eventually health needs are also well covered. Kelly is four years old and was malnourished. She lives with her grandmother who hosts over a dozen of other grandchildren, all orphans. Grandmother could only stay to take care of these children and was occasionally donated food by Catholic Women's group.



Candice, John Pepper's sister in-law intervened just in time to sow an indispensable seed in Dorille's life. He's about four years old and lost both mom and dad and was left with a grandfather together with his four other siblings.

You are welcome to this family and be assured that we are up to task to accomplish the goals of your sponsorship through us. What these families feel is gratitude and wishes of replenishing blessings for you and your families.

APPEAL

We ask that our existing associates and our ambassadors should advertise our areas of need whenever possible and be sure you're leading a commendable example.

We receive a host of dire cases of orphans in need of sponsors. Some although were already enrolled and sponsored lost their sponsors mostly due to financial crisis. Their sponsorships still need to continue and we need people who will take up this challenging path to sponsor a child.



Gebert (7 years old) was sponsored since 2008, HIV+ and already on antiretroviral treatment since two weeks after she was born. She's now in Primary two and lost her sponsor over a year ago. She needs to stay on antiretroviral medication with monthly hospital checks and refills.

Rickson (Almost 15 years old) has been sponsored since early 2007 and also on antiretroviral medication. He has lost two sponsors and his account is in deep minus. Since June 2013, he was donated 50000 FRS and he continues to get deep in negative. We barely follow him up in his health demands





but he has been promoted to primary six.

Godwill 5 years old has Down's syndrome. He barely speaks and he could only walk at 4 years of age. He has also lost sponsor twice and his account is also in negative. He's not yet in school.



Rogan just passed the end of primary course exams and will be going to Secondary school next year. He lost his sponsor about 2 years ago.

100% sponsorship money goes to the child intended for. As a result, we run short of operating costs in situations where we bleed large sums of money like when we are having an audit. Afri-link and Andy took up the task to fund the project support fund 35 and 10 pounds respectively per month but this has recently seemed not to be enough as more needs continue to crop up. Please make any donations you can through Afri-link.

CARETAKER'S MEETING AND WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY



The best turn out ever for caretakers'/orphans' meeting was seen on June 5th. One of the ideas of the meeting was to introduce John Pepper who was welcomed by the host parents. We still talked on the need to give children all support needed at home to stay healthy, have high moral standards and most importantly be excelling

in school given what we provide them on our part. Speakers were John Pepper (supervisor), Ngwainmbi Simon (director) all translated to Kom dialect by Velma.

In an effort to be part in commemorating World Environment Day, the meeting was crowned with an environmental awareness talk by Pamela Rice who talked on a topic coherent to activities carried out by the natives like dangers of pesticides and



herbicides to the health of farmers and biodiversity like worms. We led the construction of lettuce nursery and picking up of non-biodegradable plastics around the office with the orphans.

If you choose to sponsor a child or make donation, use the following address

Account Name: Afri-Link Orphans

Bank Address: Royal Bank of Scotland, 12 Dunkeld Road, Perth, PH1 5RB

Account Number: 10416406

Sort Code: 834700

IBAN: GB60RBOS83470010416406

BIC: RBOSGB2L

Please specify on the reference section the name(s) of the orphan(s) the sponsorship is for

For any questions concerning your payment, please contact us via our email:

sponsorphan@gmail.com OR contact Afri-Link through the contact form on their website: www.afri-link.org

We thank you all for supporting in one way or the other to build this project to what it is today. Hope you enjoyed it.

Present Supervisor John Pepper continues. I would only say a few words. I have been here a short time and expect to be associated with the project for a long time to come, either here or back in the UK. Velma and Lois have done wonderful work, are a pleasure to be associated with and have kept things running efficiently over the last year. What I expect to do is provide consistency of direction, transparency and allow the team to continue the day to day running of the project. This means that Velma is taking on increased responsibility and, to recognize this, we have changed her title to be Assistant Project Supervisor. Please congratulate her on this well-deserved promotion.

Finally, I'd like to re-emphasise Velma's appeal for more sponsors and donations to the ASEP and Project Support Fund. As we have had few volunteers in the project recently, we have had to pay for teachers and other resources, that have depleted our reserves. Please dig deep and see if you can send a donation via Afri-link.

All the best,
John

From the Sponsor and Orphan Project Team (Velma Ful Neng/John Pepper/Lois)