

HOPE IN AFRICA January Update

Thanksgiving for 2019

We thank the Lord for coming to the end of our first year as HOPE IN AFRICA. We really have felt the Lord's enabling and blessing on the work, with 22 young people and children being sponsored this year and more than £67,000 being donated. If you are one of the donors or sponsors, then thank you so much. We now look to God for 2020 and what He will accomplish in this new year.

Goals for 2020



One thing we would like to see is an increase in Child Sponsorship. We know that this is a long term commitment to anyone, and we're grateful for all those who have already sponsored children. Child Sponsorship is a way to help families who cannot afford the whole school fees for a child get into education, and in turn it helps the school finances to run well, as teacher's salaries are a big burden on the administrations of each school.

We also want to affiliate more churches with the projects we are involved with.

As we get alongside our five visionary men, we want to see how we can further help them in fulfilling God's call on their lives.

We are also bringing a new work into the HOPE IN AFRICA fold. The Obambo project is run in the UK by Anton Green and in Siaya, near Kisumu, Kenya, by Pastor John Obayo. Matthew and Michelle visited John in Kisumu last September to see his work that he does in providing micro finance to those needing to start self employment and businesses.

Child2Child Kenyan family.

The boys that we cared for when we lived in Kenya are generally getting on well. Sam Maina, had always wanted to find his family, but had had no success until last year in July when he finally traced his mum and brothers. He gave us a small report which we duplicate here so that you can pray for him:

"I was so much happier finally meeting with my mum and brother. Few issues that somehow broke my heart dad, is that my family is too much into traditions, I have to take one goat in my mums family and another one to my dad's mum (grandmother) which they claim is a debt that was left unpaid before my dad rested in 2000. Another issue is that both my mum and my eldest brother are total drunkards therefore making our family very separate, the brother that I follow is not much connected to the family. My youngest sister named as Beth Wangari also went missing for more than 15 years now so till now we haven't found her. Yes it was great finding them at first but for now Dad I kind of regret. Sorry to say so but am just honest. it has made my life much more stressful than before especially when I have come to find out that the family is separate. Since then would you believe me Dad that I have been homeless for more than 7 months now? Dad am just dead inside. Life is much harder. My documents also got lost in the process of finding my family and just wanted to get back in Nakuru try to find them again in the schools but for now I have no ability. My aunt whom I haven't seen till now I heard that she is much more into destroying our family since she is into witchcraft. For all that time I was lost she kept telling my mum that I was somewhere suffering eating from Dustbin, being beaten. Those information also made my mum so much stressful such that she is somehow not that okay as I last saw her in July. We haven't communicated since then. Right now am just confused. I never thought I would sleep outside again get rained at times. Have nothing to eat sometimes. yet I found my family."



UK administration.



Our financial year is from January to December so we have to complete our end of year accounts for the Charity Commissioners. This includes the accounts being checked by an independent examiner. Our examiner from last year is no longer 'independent', so we need to find someone who would be able to do this job for us.

Visits to Africa

Matthew is going with a friend, Pete Smith, on 20th February to Uganda where they will be meeting up with Edward in Lugazi and Sebastian in Naluwere. Sebastian needs specific help to streamline his administration in Elohim school. They return on 5th March.

Matthew and Michelle will be going to Malawi and Kenya in April, more news on that trip in the coming months.

We have planned our visits to Africa in the first half of the year as we hope to visit churches and friends around England from September onwards and also hope to host Edward as he comes to thank some of his supporters here in the UK. Please pray about the visa application for Edward that I will investigate with him when I am in Uganda.

Thanks to retiring trustees.

We said a formal goodbye to three of our founding trustees in November. John and Chris Ray, along with Chris' brother Brian have served on the board of the Trust since its inception. We gratefully thank them for their work in running Hope for Lugazi. John is continuing to serve as a consultation, bringing his considerable experience of Uganda to the table.

Newsletters for all supporters

From this month we are expanding our distribution of this newsletter to include all supporters. This will mean that everyone gets a regular update. We still value everyone's prayers, and hope that friends in churches will bring the news to their prayer meetings too.

Thanks for all your support.

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