



Joining Hearts & Hands

www.joiningheartshandhands.org

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**It's Easy!
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9TH ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2013

GRADUATES SOAR!



Hannah's Hope Smiles!

Joining Hearts and Hands is currently providing secondary education to more than 200 destitute children in Africa. Four years ago our first group of scholarship students graduated from high school. Today over 100 children have completed and the success stories are heart-warming and abundant. Here are three of the many success stories.

Victor Sewe is now in his third year at Maseno University. Victor had no chance of attending high school without Joining Hearts and Hands. Immediately after graduation, we found a job for Victor at a book store. He worked there for a year, saving his money to help with his government scholarship before enrolling at the university. Victor is studying Bio-Chemistry.



Victor at the JHH Eye Camp on November 14, 2013

He hopes to be a medical research scientist. Victor helped us with our second annual eye-camp in Lufumbo on November 14th. What an amazing young man. His intelligence and wit are only equaled by his kindness and compassion that we witnessed first-hand at the camp.

Lydia Ambetsa came to our scholarship program as a young girl of 15 in 2007. With a very difficult family situation she persevered and graduated from our high school program. She graduated with distinction and followed her high school education with technical training in software packages. Today Lydia instructs teachers, 8th grade students and adults in our Adult Literacy program on how to use the computer and all of the various software packages. Lydia's father died last month and she is now the sole support of her younger brother. Lydia is a treasure to Kenya, her community and Joining Hearts and Hands.



Lydia Ambetsa



Samuel Anyim in Nairobi

Samuel Anyim was in our first graduating class. Coming from abject poverty and living in a mud house, he and his brother (also a JHH student) both graduated from High School with honors. Samuel is one of the finest young men I have ever met. He is in his third year at Nairobi University studying mechanical engineering. We met up with him in November in Nairobi. Joanne and I are convinced that he will be a leader in Kenya as he has a great mind and a compassionate spirit.

Without you, these success stories would be only a dream. As they all have told us, their dreams are coming true!!

Happy Holidays!!

Bill & Joanne

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Children at St. Claire's Orphanage

2013-THE BEAT GOES ON!



Madianyi Kitchen



JHH 2013 Eye Camp

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Board

Joanne Cala
William Cala
Margaret Cardona

Look at this year's progress!!

- ◆ We began **construction of a Kitchen** at Madiayi school for handicapped children..
- ◆ We ran our second **EYE CAMP** in Butere, Kenya, serving over 1000 people, distributing 300 pairs of eye glasses and providing cataract surgery for 67 people. Since last year, JHH has brought sight back to 191 people via surgery.
- ◆ The **Adult Literacy Program** graduated 12 mamas (ages 30-70) who received certificates from the Kenyan Government.
- ◆ The **scholarship program** now has over 200 students enrolled!!
- ◆ Joining Hearts and Hands completely refurbished the **student latrines** at **Mbaka Oromo Primary school**.
- ◆ **Hannah's Hope** was given a facelift with new paint inside and out of all buildings, food supplies & 5th grade textbooks for next year's new class.
- ◆ At **Usambara Girls School** in Tanzania JHH completed construction of a **3 classroom block** for Form V Students.
- ◆ Three **micro-businesses** started by Joining Hearts and Hands are flourishing this year. Three self-help groups are in the chair-rental

business. With their profits from the 2012 year they have been able to purchase more chairs and subsequently make more profit. Our honor roll goes to the group in Homa Bay called LOMAA. They started with 50 chairs and were able to purchase 26 more. Additionally, we started this same group in poultry raising and they have had a smashing success by increasing their poultry stock 600%!!

- ◆ In Homa Bay we ran a 5-day **health clinic** that serviced over 2000 people. Thanks to Erica Bryant, Rajesh Barnabas, The Democrat and Chronicle and Assumption Church for making this wonderful event take place. Sister of Notre Dame, Rose Ngach coordinated the clinic on the ground in Kenya. Marcy Mulconry, MD an OB/GYN from Fairport participated in the clinic.
- ◆ Completed the **water project** at Kongasis funded by Western Presbyterian of Palmyra., New York.



Joanne and Bill atop water purification plant at Kongasis

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Women waiting for treatment at the Homa Bay Health Clinic



The Cardona Clan visiting the home of Marty's Student

WE NEED YOU!



Joining Hearts and Hands provides over 200 secondary scholarships to students throughout East Africa. Your kindness and generosity will send new freshmen to School in Kenya this year. Secondary education is not free in Kenya as it is here in the United States. **The average Kenyan earns less than 5 dollars a day, making educating their children an unaffordable luxury.** Each year we have grown our scholarship program. Quite simply, scholarships literally save lives. Please, help save a life today!

Sponsor an Orphan's Education TODAY!!

Save a Life!

Here is what only \$400 per year provides:

- ♦ A full year of High School Education
- ♦ Room and Board
- ♦ A life with hope!

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



Bill and Joanne with Scholarship Graduate Euphelesia

May We Present to Your Group?

One of the four major goals of Joining Hearts and Hands is to bridge the cultural divide between the United States and Africa. We would like to do a multi-media presentation for your group! We are currently booking dates to speak to community groups, schools, church groups, organizations and civic clubs (Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, Masons, etc.)

Having an educational focus, we love visiting schools and individual classrooms. There is no better way to educate our children about Africa than being able to engage in dialogue and see what most of the rest of the world is experiencing through crisp visuals that "keep it real."

If you would like to schedule an interactive presentation, please contact us:

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or

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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 that have so little.**

We are changing the lives of the needy in Kenya and Tanzania because of YOU.... A result of your generosity. Without your financial commitment, we cannot make the kind of progress that we have made since 2005.

- ◆ Keep us and the people of Kenya and Tanzania in your prayers
- ◆ **Make a tax-free gift from your IRA. If you are 70 1/2 or older your chance to make a tax-free gift for 2013 ends December 31. You can transfer up to \$100,000 directly from your IRA to JHH and this gift generates neither taxable income nor a tax deduction, so you don't have to itemize to**

take advantage of this opportunity

- ◆ Talk to your employers. Since we are a 501 (c) 3 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.
- ◆ Donate if possible. Any amount is appreciated.

Tax Deductible Donations

Checks can be sent to:

**Joining Hearts and Hands
9 Fieldston Grove
Fairport, NY 14450**

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 you see below!

