



World Forgotten Children's Foundation

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NEWSLETTER

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Message from the President of WFCF

Often we become extremely occupied with our hectic daily schedules and lose sight of the basic things we are blessed with in our lives. In our fast-paced society, we all face ever-challenging days that allow us little or no time to give back. The answer is not to focus on "me" but to focus on serving others, at the same time appreciating the good life we have. When we stop to reflect upon this reality, we realize how fortunate we are to have food, clothing, shelter, family, jobs, infinite opportunities, and most importantly, our health.

Regrettably, despite the wealth accumulated in prosperous countries and the technological development of the modern world, too many children living in third world countries still cannot afford the most basic of necessities. To compound this matter, many of these children are orphaned, handicapped, and suffer from debilitating health issues. To gain perspective on your life, I ask each of you to seriously reflect upon these children and the daunting situations they face daily. No doubt such reflection will help you grasp how fortunate you truly are, regardless of those areas in your life which are less than perfect. Antoine de Saint-Exupery best summarizes our existence by saying, *"It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye."*

Orphaned and disabled children in third world nations rarely have the opportunity to experience life the way each of us do. How can you not afford to help? The mission of World Forgotten Children's Foundation (WFCF) is *"to support projects in third world countries that promote the healthcare needs of suffering children, who are disabled and orphaned."* WFCF also believes in educating our supporters on children's issues in third world countries. The world is our project and we are here to serve as many children as possible.

Please enjoy reading this educational newsletter and be sure to share with your friends and colleagues! Co-authored by two of our Advisory Board Members, Attorney Gary James and Reverend Michael Gingerich, this issue's feature article focuses on the tragedy of AIDS orphans in Africa. You will also find information regarding recent assistance and funding for two orphanages in Ukraine.

WFCF is an entirely volunteer-driven initiative. 100% of contributed funds go to help orphaned and disabled children in third world countries as we have no overhead expenses. To learn more about WFCF, please visit www.world-forgotten-children.org. All inquires may be made at help@world-forgotten-children.org, or please contact Beth Peiffer at bpeiffer@ralphejonesinc.com.

Yours in providing helping hands to less fortunate children around the world,

Beth A. Peiffer
President
World Forgotten Children's Foundation

Help Us Spread the Word

Please forward a copy of this newsletter to your friends and colleagues and make them aware of the WFCF mission.

To be removed from the WFCF mailing list,
please send a message to
help@world-forgotten-children.org

WFCF Mission

The World Forgotten Children's Foundation (WFCF) is a private nonprofit effort, founded for the sole purpose of supporting projects in Third World countries that promote the healthcare needs of suffering children who are disabled and orphaned.

www.world-forgotten-children.org

Providing Helping Hands to Less Fortunate Children of the World

HIV/AIDS in AFRICA

The statistics are overwhelming and devastating:

- An estimated 770,000 children orphaned by HIV/AIDS in the Democratic Republic of Congo, 720,000 in Ethiopia, 1,800,000 in Nigeria and 1,100,000 in South Africa.
- An estimated 1,200,000 adults and children living with HIV/AIDS in Kenya, 1,300,000 in Mozambique, 1,600,000 in Tanzania and 1,800,000 in Zimbabwe.
- Life expectancy rates at birth of 36 in Lesotho, 40 in Malawi, 34 in Sierra Leone and 39 in Swaziland.
- An estimated 49,000 deaths due to AIDS in Cameroon in 2003, 47,000 in Cote d'Ivoire, 78,000 in Uganda and 89,000 in Zambia.

The human toll is unimaginable. The current situation is mind-numbing and heart-wrenching. The future outlook is frightening and bleak. HIV/AIDS is decimating Africa and help is needed urgently to begin to stop this pandemic from destroying the present and the future of this great and beautiful continent.

According to the Web site **AIDS and Africa** (www.aidsandafrika.com), whichever way you look at AIDS in Africa, either through the overwhelming statistics, moving personal stories, or the disturbing images, one cannot help but acknowledge the magnitude of the health catastrophe facing Africa today. The challenge of treating 26 million AIDS victims (about 3.2 million new infections annually) is unfortunately very huge. But there are dozens of organizations and foundations dedicated to fighting this scourge and changing the course of the disease. From governmental agencies to private charities to religious-sponsored ministries, there are many efforts already at work in ways large and small. Each one is making a difference, whether through broad legislative change or focused grass roots efforts. All have the goal of bringing healthier living to individuals and societies in across the continent.

The World Forgotten Children's Foundation is committed to pursuing ways in which it may have a small impact on helping to alleviate Africa's HIV/AIDS crisis. Currently, WFCF board members Attorney Gary James and Rev. Michael Gingerich are researching these various organizations. They are concentrating on those groups that focus their efforts on children who have been orphaned by HIV/AIDS. At the fall board meeting they plan to present recommendations about which groups might be supported with WFCF funds. Even small amounts of money can purchase many medications, treatments and life-saving care for children in Africa who are orphaned by HIV/AIDS. The World Forgotten Children's Foundation is poised to make a difference in a very important way.



Mr. Kern testing the electric tricycle

Handicapes en Avant Project

Recently Beth Peiffer (President), Mehdi Khosrow-Pour (Executive Director) and Chuck Kern (Advisory Board Member) met with Prof. David Vader at Messiah College, Grantham PA, USA who is the college's contact person for Handicapes en Avant (A French charity group in West Africa) about additional funding in support of handicapped children at the facility in Burkina Faso. During the visit, the group visited and tested a model electric tricycle that is currently under development by the college's faculty/students for use by the children of Handicapes en Avant. Prof. Vader has presented WFCF with a proposal for this electric tricycle as well as a solar energy charger. Currently the Advisory Board is reviewing these proposals for possible funding.

Ukrainian Children Project

WFCF is pleased to announce the funding of two handicapped orphanages in Ukraine with the amount US\$1,000 for the purchase of nutritional and medicinal products needed by the Zgurovka Orphanage and Bovarka Orphanage. The funds have been dispensed through the Ukraine Peace Fund that monitors the appropriate use of the funds. Many thanks to Rev. Michael Gingerich for all his efforts in assisting WFCF to fund these orphanages!

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