



November 2006

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

A Publication of International Children's Care
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VISIT OUR WEBSITE! www.ForHisKids.org

We are so very thankful for...

We are very thankful to all of you who have continued to be so faithful in giving to the children of ICC. Lives have been changed, and literally saved because of your unselfish acts of love on behalf of "His kids."

We believe that you feel the same as we do when we read James 1:27. *"What God the Father considers to be pure and genuine religion is this: To take care of orphans and widows in their suffering... (KJV)"* Because of what Jesus has told us in this passage, and because of the many other times that He tells us in His word how special these precious children are to Him, we know that He wants this great work to continue.

...the response on the Congo container which is now safely on it's way.

It is no secret that this has been an extremely difficult year financially for ICC. A large percentage of our European donations have dried up, which has really damaged our ability to continue to provide the minimal budgets needed to the children's projects. The economy in some of the countries that we operate in

are suffering greatly, which has caused a big strain on those project budgets. These are just two of the numerous financial difficulties that we are facing.

...the new sponsors who have joined our ICC family.

Today, our financial picture is not a good one, and we have continued to daily petition God for an answer to this need as we are on our knees faithfully to Him. Our ICC personnel have given along with you in doing all that they can to assist in this time of need. We believe that somehow, God will provide for "His kids." We know that this is His work for His children. We feel that each one of us that is reading this message is blessed to be able to be a part of His great work here at ICC in some way.

Because of the tremendous financial difficulties that we currently face, we are asking each one of you to pray with us for the greatest November/December months of giving that the children of ICC have ever experienced. We are praying daily for this outpouring from God's hand to make these next two months "fill the cup to

overflowing" for the children who need it the most. This prayer is not for expansion, but instead, it is for the ability to provide the monthly budgets that continue for "His kids."

We are asking you for two things:

1. Most important of all, we invite you to join with us in this special time of prayer for a need that is tremendous for this special outreach of His work to continue as we know it.

2. We also ask that if you or someone you know is contemplating their year-end giving plan, that you or they would please consider the children of ICC in a very special way at the closing of this year. Please talk with your friends and those you know that are able to help financially, and with God's help, this year-end will be all that we are praying for it to be.

Please pray with us for the floodgates of heaven to open wide and to let it pour!

Doug Congleton

...our faithful sponsors who continue to change the lives of His kids.

Kids Caring for Kids

Ingrid has two young sons of whom she is very proud. Recently she shared one of ICC's videos with her sons Grayson, 6 and Colter, 3. After seeing the video, both boys wanted to help the children of ICC.

They decided to have bake sales (with a little help from Mom) and did little jobs to raise money for items to be shipped to the Congo. One day they visited their grandparents who were in the process of building a new home. When the construction crew heard why these young boys were selling baked goods, they were very generous. Grayson and Colter raised \$93 on that one day.

Grayson and Colter were so excited to be able to earn money and then go with Mom to shop for things for the Congo children. They sent two boxes full of things like sheets, colored pencils, notebooks, hand towels, placemats, toothbrushes and toothpaste along with personal notes from both Grayson and Colter. Those boxes are in the cargo container that just left for our project in the DR Congo. Ingrid has told us it was a wonderful blessing for these boys and their family to be able to help the children of ICC.



Some of what the children bought

Congo Container Ships Out

As you read this, our Congo Container is plying the ocean waves on board a cargo vessel on its transoceanic journey to our project in the DR Congo.

Loaded here at ICC HQ and launched from the shipping terminal in Tacoma, WA, the container is in transit to a port in Kenya. From there it will be trucked overland to Goma in the DR Congo. After it is unloaded, the container will be used for permanent storage at our receiving center in Goma.

We want to take this opportunity to thank all of you who donated both goods and funds to this endeavor. Items were

being donated even on the day we were loading the container. This has been an uplifting experience to see how many people took the children of our Patmos Children's Village to their hearts and donated the many, many items they needed so much. God bless all of you for making a huge difference in the lives of these children.

We'll keep you updated as to the container's progress and do our best to bring you the news of how these magnificent gifts have blessed the children.



A few shots of the container



Happy Thanksgiving

from all of us
here at ICC!

...house parents who have continued to show the love of Jesus everyday to our children.

Wills TRUSTS

A Legacy of Love

Providing for the future through planned giving

Contact Doug Congleton at ICC for more information on how you can become part of the "Legacy of Love"

(800) 422-7729
Doug@ForHisKids.org

A Personal Note



Dear ICC Family,

Some of you may be wondering what happened to me! Actually, I have been keeping track of all that has been happening with our children around the world. I guess God saw that I needed some time to slow down. After battling what I thought was a sciatica problem, an X-ray showed that a new hip was the only solution. Our son, Ron, a doctor in Walla Walla, recommended his friend, Dr. Scott Hutson. "He is the best I know of," he told me. So we went to Walla Walla, and the surgery was done May 25. Hopefully, I will be as good as new before long.

Now I have a lot more sympathy for people who have problems to deal with like this. Also, Ken says he had no idea what it meant to get meals and keep things going at home! He is happy that I am back in that role now. I appreciated all the prayers and good wishes for my recovery. I was especially touched when Rick told me that the children at the Pines were praying for me all that week of the surgery. I am sure God heard them.

It seems impossible that another year is nearing the end. That always means that we here at ICC have to take a hard look at our finances. The first months of a new year are always critical and we do a lot of praying and watching the incoming mail to be sure we will be able to send the monthly budget to every program we have around the world. I'm sure you are aware that we depend on the sponsorships of the children to provide the funds that will keep them eating, as well as providing for their other needs.

It is no secret that all the tragedies, hurricanes, tsunamis and other tragedies have overwhelmed the news, and stretched the generosity of the concerned public. Some of our children's programs have, themselves, been involved in helping those suffering from the disasters. We have cut back on our monthly budgets that must be sent out every month as much as possible, but the children's needs go on.

When we first started International Children's Care, we started small, one house in one country. Our original board members suggested names of people who might be willing to help us and our first list for the newsletter was just 50 people. I was naive enough to think that we could use mostly volunteers and only have to buy the actual food and supplies for the children. Actually, we soon found out that it would be impossible to have a solid basis for the proper care of the children with that plan.

First of all, these children come from all kinds of trauma and tragedies. The children have physical, emotional, and many other needs. They have to have security and the best care possible. For instance, I thought that if we just provided food and housing for house parents, it would be enough. However, the children, who have already suffered abandonment, and separations, are devastated when the house parents they want to call Mommy and Daddy, decide to leave for whatever reason. These house parents need security, too. Besides that, most local governments have labor laws that compel us to pay up to their standards, and those amounts are increased all too often. Another factor is that, to maintain the standard of care for the children and to meet the needs of the children, we need continually to educate all the staff we have. That helps control how the children are treated and cared for.

In ICC our goal is to care for our children with the same quality and love that we do our own children as far as possible. I am happy to say that we have held to that standard. We don't want our children to feel like orphans any more. Now that our children world wide number well over a thousand, the task of maintaining that standard is daunting, in keeping quality staff as well as providing the needed funds every month.

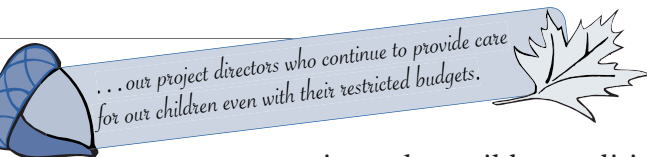
Those of you, who are sponsoring children, know that we have a shared sponsorship program. In other words, we try to assign enough sponsors to each child to cover the expenses of that child. Most sponsorships are at least \$25, and so it would take four sponsor if it costs \$100 to take care of a child. Every country is different in their economy and what we have to budget for their monthly needs.

Unfortunately, since the world has been hit with so many unforeseen tragedies and critical needs, we no longer can say that every child is sponsored, and budgets have had to be cut. We hated having to tell



...all the ICC donors, who have given unselfishly.





our directors that they had to cut down on the number of children they can accept. I can tell you from experience; that is a painful decision to have to make when the children who come are in such terrible conditions and needs.

I would like to appeal to each of you to try to find some friends who would be willing to sponsor at least one child. Thankfully we have many faithful sponsors who have helped several children at once for years. The sponsorship funds are used to fill these budgets every month that go to the projects around the world. There may be some who would rather just send a donation. You can ask that it be used for the fund that provides the care for the children.

They just gave me five new Introduction papers for new children, and as I was reading them I was so thankful they could be accepted.

A little six-year-old girl lost both of her parents one day. While they were working in their field a tiger came out of the bush and attacked her father. Her mother tried to beat on the tiger's back so he would let her husband go. But it only turned and killed her, and then went back and carried the father's body away. That little girl is from a different tribe and speaks a different language than the children at our children's village. Naturally, she is sad and frightened, but the other children are all doing all they can to help her. She is beginning to play with them, and can smile now.

A little boy lost his parents by a lightning strike. The mother died instantly and the father died on the way to the hospital. The pastor of the Adventist church arranged for different members to feed him. When they heard about our homes for children, they brought him to us. He is already adjusting and making friends with the other children.

Each one of the five children had been left completely alone in the world. We just can't turn children like this away.

It has been 28 years since ICC was founded, and it has amazed me how God has provided for the needs of our children. It really is a work of faith. The budgets are made based on past experience, and new projects are started, and children taken in, trusting that, again, God will impress the hearts of people to help us meet these desperate needs. If you would like a video or information to show to your friends, just contact our office, and we will help you.

I have received several letters lately, and phone calls, from some of our older children, who were little abandoned helpless children. They have become professionals, some pastors, nurses, teachers, business graduates, and they have all learned to know the God who is the Father of the fatherless, and who has a special love for them.

When I was in Romania at the opening of our Receiving Center, Elder Mark Finley was there with Denzil and Donna McNeilus, who had helped to make that building possible. I noticed that they all gravitated to the nursery that was full of babies and little toddlers. Elder Finley picked up a baby and sat in the rocking chair we had there. Later when he was giving a talk in the program to a group of officials, including the mayor, he told about holding that baby. In a way that brought tears to many eyes, he said, "When I was holding that baby, I remembered that Jesus said, 'What you do for one of these little ones you do to me. I felt like I was holding the baby Jesus!'"

I never forgot the emotion of that moment, and it has inspired me through the years to do all I can to bring in these little forgotten and abandoned children of this world, give them love and security, and most of all, teach them about Jesus who loved the little children so much.

I want to personally thank each of you who have helped us to change the lives of so many hundreds of children. But, we are just getting started, there are so many more out there!

With our love and prayers,

Aleyou and Fen