



OCTOBER 2019

QUÉ PASA

What's Happening

A Publication of International Children's Care
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Showers of Blessings at Las Palmas

Severe Drought Ends Just in Time! ~ By Rick Fleck, ICC president

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." 2 Chronicles 7:14



Sharon and I recently visited the Las Palmas Children's Village in the Dominican Republic. They had been enduring a serious drought over the past several months. Yet through the difficulties this has created, God has yet again shown his mercy in caring for "His Kids" and even the cows.

The drought has been so severe that many of the elderly in the community can't recall a time when it has been so bad. Even though this country lies in the tropics, there has been little rain. Water levels in rivers and reservoirs have dropped so low that the government has had to implement water rationing. People have been able to drive on the dry bed of one reservoir.

The staff at Las Palmas have been increasingly alarmed as water levels in the stream which provides our main source of water went lower and lower. The water is needed to help replenish the

fish farm ponds and furnish irrigation for the gardens and water for the cows at the Las Palmas dairy. They were still able to purchase bottled water for drinking, but there was little to no water on some days in the homes for bathing, washing clothes and cleaning.

On Friday, September 6, the water was so low that the dairy manager came to me and said, "There is literally not a drop of water for the cows!" We acted quickly to rent a small pump to get some water from a very small creek or a fish pond to fill the water troughs of the cattle—we have about 80 head, including calves.

As the Las Palmas family gathered for evening worship at the chapel that night, there were fervent prayers for rain, for water, for relief from the drought. That evening, I listened as they emphasized reading and depending on the Word of God. Family members shared texts of encouragement like the one above in 2

Chronicles 7:14. Would God heal their land? Would He provide water for crops and the herd?

And then it happened! Seemingly from out of nowhere and quite unexpected, it started to rain!

The rain lasted for a short time, but it was a foretaste of what was to come. The next day it rained more heavily and the next day still even more heavily. The recent rain has been enough to lift the drought!

You can imagine the impact this has had on the expectant and praying ICC family members at Las Palmas. On the day the water ran out, God sent the rain. This is yet another visible example of God's loving care!

You are also a significant channel through which God takes care of "His Kids!" Thank you for the showers of blessing you provide for the children through your prayers and financial support.

10 Facts You Didn't Know About Idjwi Island

By William Hurtado

“Africans, we are lucky.” Jacques Sebisaho, MD, speaking at a Ted Talk, continues; “We have other creative minds that are focusing their efforts, wealth, and education to make our continent a better world. We are grateful to have them help us.”

Jacques is from one of the remotest places in Africa: Idjwi island on Lake Kivu between the Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda. The Patmos Children’s Village is located there and is home to 164 orphans supported by contributors like you.

While neighboring countries have endured wars and violence, Idjwi has remained a peaceful oasis for around 260,000 people. But when Sebisaho returned to Idjwi, he was shattered by what he saw and called “a forgotten place.”

Idjwi Island, the size of Atlanta, GA or Portland, OR has no electricity except through generators and solar panels, and much of the island lacks potable drinking water and paved roads.

As Sebisaho built a hospital on Idjwi to help relieve his people’s medical needs, he realized that helping Africans is more than financial. It is partnering with the right organizations who help natives maximize their own strength and creativity.

In his Ted Talk Sebisaho concluded, “today, I would like to introduce to you the less known creative minds that are also solving Africa’s problems. The women, the pygmies, and children. These are the people I



Munyaneza Louis at Patmos.

know. While they are grateful for all of the great minds, all of the wealthy and educated people who are focusing on Africa, they are in themselves a powerful solution to their problems.” When their creativity is empowered, there are no limits.

And that, ICC ministry partner, is what you do every time you support ICC’s children. Whether it be in Africa, Central America, or a country in between, every dollar you give translates to empowerment for a once-orphaned child. Through your faithful gifts, you give children, like Munyaneza, a new life.

Recently, I connected with Munyaneza Louis from the D.R. Congo. He says, “I’m at Patmos on Idjwi Island now. God is our protector.”

Munyaneza was taken to the Patmos Children’s Village after he lost his parents in an accident.

There he was cared for and given the opportunity to become educated. Even though the old school building at Patmos needed serious updating, the children still received an education that



Munyaneza Louis today.

helped Munyaneza eventually become a nurse.

This year Munyaneza finished nurses training and is ready to help people in his country. He is giving back. Through people like you, he is achieving so much! What he recently wrote to me he writes to you. “I’m your child.”

Munyaneza is one of many stories of children growing up into Christ-likeness from the 41 years of faithful giving from donors like you. You make stories like this possible!

You make an eternal difference in the lives of children. The investments of money and time you make are considered “pure and undefiled religion” by our Heavenly Father.

Thank you so much for taking the time to be His hands and feet. It is true — Your gifts save and empower lives!

P.S. Were you able to find 10 interesting facts about Idjwi Island? Try sharing them with a friend! You never know, through your encouragement and their new support, all of us may be hugging more children in Heaven soon.

Unusual Legacy Donation Blesses Children

Editor's Note: ICC's ministry is a world-wide ministry that touches the lives of not only orphan children, but many people who have a compassionate heart for "His Kids!"

The following is a report from Richard Van der Pols, ICC Netherlands director. He shares a recent experience of how God blessed the children of ICC through an unusual manner.

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I recently received a call from a man who lives in Utrecht. He wanted to make a donation. But first, he wanted to talk to me in person, so he got on the train to Leeuwarden and we met at the ICC Netherlands office.

Piet (not his real name) told me that his uncle died and that he had received a legacy from him. He never had a real relationship

with his uncle, so for Piet it felt a bit weird to have this money.

That is why he started a search. During the search, he found out that his uncle was a donor of ICC Netherlands.

Piet told me that he did not want to use the legacy for himself. He wanted to give it to ICC Netherlands. And he also does not want his name to be used with the money. It is an anonymous gift.

I promised him that we would treat the gift as he wishes. The total amount will be around €49,000 (about \$54,000).

Isn't this amazing? I thanked Piet with tears in my eyes and told him that his legacy will give us the opportunity to support a lot of children. His gift is very generous. It's not every day that you meet a person like Piet.



Richard Van der Pols is the director of ICC's partner in the Netherlands. His unusual encounter with someone who received money from his uncle shows that God is working to bless ICC children in amazing ways.

Note: Many ICC family members generously include ICC in their estate planning.

We are happy to provide information to you free of charge that may help you be a further blessing to "His Kids." Call Doug Conleton at 800-422-7729 for more details.

Urgent Equipment Needs

Los Pinos in Guatemala Needs Your Help

In these modern times, even in remote places like our Los Pinos Children's Village in Guatemala, ICC children and staff members benefit from the wonders of technology and equipment that functions properly.

At this time, Los Pinos is in urgent need of replacing three computers.

This will assist the project secretary, the accountant and the school as it manages the information on the children for the

secretary of education. The current computers are old, outdated and are not functioning properly.

In addition, two video projectors are needed to replace one at the school and one used by the social worker and psychologist on campus.

Please consider giving an extra gift this month to help purchase one or more of these items to bless the children and staff of Los Pinos.

Thank you!

2 Projectors
— \$621 Each

1 Laptop
For Children's
School Records
— \$649

2 Computers
For Office Staff
— \$878 Each

School is in Session on El Oasis Campus

Much of the recent news we've shared about ICC's El Oasis project in Mexico has centered on the growth of the Jalapeño pepper project. God continues to bless, and the little seeds have sprung up into a successful crop that is still being harvested.

While the pepper project is one way that God has blessed us in helping to provide for the children, agriculture is not ICC's primary focus. It's the children! They are like growing plants that have such potential to be a part of the harvest that Jesus will take with Him to Heaven. And one way that the children grow best, is to have them experience quality education.

School has recently started for ICC children at El Oasis, and we're excited to report that the children are

attending their classes at the school on campus.

Even though a school facility has been provided on campus through the generosity of the Malcolm Smith Foundation, it just hasn't been feasible for ICC to operate the school. It has been very difficult to obtain the necessary approvals from the government.

However, ICC's model of care is best realized, and the children flourish best in a school program that accommodates for their special needs. A campus school provides a safe and nurturing environment for the children.

With that in mind, the El Oasis administrative team has been trying to find a way to make this possible. And this year, through God's blessing, we

can operate a type of home school program on campus. Students in the lower grades are enrolled in a school some distance away and students in the upper grades are enrolled in a different school. Under the supervision of El Oasis staff, the children will take their class work on campus and will only have to travel to the school in which they are enrolled to take standardized tests.

This is a huge blessing for the children!

In time we hope to be able to grow the program further so that we can operate the school on campus for the benefit of the children.

Please pray that God will bless the children this school year as they daily engage in their studies on campus. Thank you!



A Legacy of Love

*P*roviding for the future
through planned giving

You can leave a lasting legacy
in the life of an orphan child.

Contact Doug today
for more details.

(800) 422-7729

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