



April 2025

# QUÉ PASA

What's Happening

A Publication of International Children's Care  
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## The Immeasurable Impact of Your Support



Anuarate's life was transformed thanks to caring ICC family members like you! Thank you!

**Editor's Note: Anuarate grew up in the Patmos Children's Village in the D.R. Congo. Following is an edited excerpt of her testimony of God's goodness and your support.**

In 2002, when I was just a child, I arrived at Patmos Village. Despite my young age, I vividly recall the warm welcome I received. Upon my arrival, I met Mama Carine, the head mother and supervisor. Accompanied by my step-mother, I entered her office. My feet were bare and my clothes were worn and dirty. However, Mama Carine's kindness knew no bounds. She promptly provided me with a dress and a pair of shoes, a moment etched for-

ever in my memory. At mealtime, I felt a sense of belonging among the other children who had been there before me.

My ICC family played a pivotal role in my life. You supported me with healthcare, food, clothing, housing, and valuable advice. Moreover, you imparted spiritual guidance, shaping the person I am today. In 2008-2009, I proudly obtained my primary school certificate, a testament to the dedicated teachers and the nurturing environment you provided. Our home consisted of 15 children—10 boys and 5 girls—under the watchful eye of a remarkable mother who cared for us as if we were her own. Her unwavering love and sacrifices made all the difference, and for that, I am forever grateful.

I pursued my studies diligently until I achieved my state diploma with excellent results. After completing secondary school, your unwavering support continued, granting me the opportunity to pursue university education. Today, I proudly hold a degree in Nursing Sciences. I attribute all of this to your generous heart and unwavering commitment to orphans like me. My life feels like

a miraculous gift from God, and your kindness has played a significant role.

After a year of independence, I received a call from Désiré, Patmos' director, inviting me to work on a project assisting indigenous peoples (pygmies). Despite initial challenges due to cultural differences, we gradually fostered understanding and love. Through education and guidance, we teach them to live harmoniously, embracing the love of God and contributing positively to society—all thanks to the education ICC provided. **Your impact on my life is immeasurable, and I am forever grateful.**



Anuarate had humble beginnings as an orphaned child, with no shoes and worn clothes. Your support has played a significant role in changing the course of her life. Thank you!



# Project Spotlight – Patmos Children’s Village, DR Congo

## The Impact of Your Support



Désiré, project director in Patmos, with an ICC child. Désiré is ensuring the children are kept safe and well cared for.

**T**hanks to your support, the Patmos Children’s Village continues to be a haven of refuge for orphan and vulnerable children in this war-torn country. The children are safe and continue to thrive thanks to the nurturing care they receive. This is made possible through the generosity of ICC family members like YOU!

### Though Conflict Rages, Children Continue to Live in Safety

Since the beginning of 2025, M23 rebels have escalated their military actions in the eastern DR Congo capturing Goma at the end of January and Bukavu by mid-February. This has significantly impacted the lives of the local populations as well as those living on Idjwi island where ICC’s Patmos Children’s Village is located. The United Nations reports that more than one million individuals have been forced to flee since the beginning of the year, escaping the rising violence and insecurity.

The connections between Idjwi and the cities of Goma and Bukavu are vital for supplying essential goods, including food,

medicines, and medical supplies. The M23’s control of these towns has imposed strict restrictions on movement and trade. This has disrupted supply chains to Idjwi. It has been difficult for ICC’s project director, Désiré, to secure the essential items needed by the children.

However, praise the Lord, He has provided. Through quick action and resourcefulness, Désiré was able to locate the food and supplies needed through the end of March though prices had risen sharply on many items. ICC’s primary focus during this time of crisis has been to keep the chil-



Patmos children are paying forward your support by collecting items from local churches. These were given to refugees.

dren’s village calm and secure from outside pressures and influence so the children can stay removed from the conflict that surrounds them. Many of the children know all too well the ravages of war.

The conflict continues, and that part of the DR Congo faces uncertain days ahead. Désiré and the caregivers are doing their best to provide the safety, food, essential medicine, and supplies that are needed.

**They could not do this if it weren’t for the caring support of ICC family members like you who have answered the urgent appeals for support. Because YOU CARE and have provided emergency funds, Désiré has the financial resources to purchase the food and supplies that the children need – for as long as he can source them. On behalf of ICC’s Patmos Family, thank you very much for your support, especially during this time of crisis! Please continue to pray for their safety and that peace will return to the region. Thank you!**

### Paying Forward the Support YOU Have Given Them

The conflict and resulting suffering of refugees has touched the hearts of Patmos children and has had a positive impact. According to Désiré, ICC children have undertaken a mission to support nearby refugees. They collected food and clothing from members of local churches and helped to distribute them to refugees nearby.

Two of the Patmos children publicly testified that they saw the connection of how God remem-



Your timely support is enabling the children to have the food and supplies needed to help them thrive! Thank you!



Though conflict continues in the DR Congo, the children had reasons to smile as they were able to help refugees in need.

bered them when they needed help. He sent benefactors and sponsors to support their housing, food, schooling, and healthcare — all for free. These children also expressed their commitment to assist refugees, as they are experiencing the same hardships their parents once faced.

According to Désiré, “This powerful testimony has inspired many other children in the community, encouraging them to share their own stories and support one another... Thanks to the generosity of the community, we have been able to gather resources to help those who are suffering... May God continue to guide and strengthen us in our efforts to help our brothers and sisters in distress.”

### A BIG THANK YOU for YOUR HELP!

What a challenging few months

the Patmos Family has experienced. Even before the conflict flared up in Eastern DR Congo, Patmos Children’s Village experienced torrential rain which caused massive flooding and erosion. Through it all, our children were protected.

**And thanks to your recent generosity, work is underway to recover from the flooding and prevent further damage from heavy rains in the future.**



Thanks to your support, the work can be done to recover from massive flooding in Patmos.

**Thank you very much for your assistance in helping to protect buildings and keep the children safe!**

### Patmos Gardens are Vital, and YOU can help!

For many years, your support of Patmos children has enabled them to learn valuable lessons and skills in the family’s garden. Here’s how Désiré explains it:

**In normal life, children learn to cultivate and maintain gardens. Each family must have its own garden so that children can learn these essential skills. When they leave the village, they must know how to cultivate their own fields.**

**When we prepare the budget, we should consider the harvest period. Even if we can only harvest fresh food that can be consumed for three or four days, the children are happy because they see that others have fresh corn, fresh beans, and other fruits as well as some profit from soy. The food we buy from the market is often exposed to the sun for a long time, especially in environments without refrigeration.**



Because of your support, ICC children learn the valuable skill of gardening.

Recently, when flooding caused widespread damage at Patmos, it decimated the crops of four families. The children and house mothers were discouraged. They had put in so much effort. Our ICC family has already rallied around this project to help with the erosion issues.

**If you’d like to help the families recover from their loss to their gardens, support the well-being of the children, and help enable them to prepare for the next planting season, please send in a gift today and designate it as “Congo Gardens.” You can help the children grow fresh and natural food with your gift. Thank you!**



# Young People Experience the Joy of Giving – Part 3

By Wendy Clark



Owen worked hard to save money so that he could purchase toys and clothes for ICC kids. He specifically wanted to get soccer balls to share his love of the sport. Thank you, Owen, for blessing His Kids!

In the previous two issues of the *Que Pasa*, we told you about two generous young women, one who directed her birthday present money to ICC orphans and the other who collected toys and other items at school to be sent to children's villages. This month we are highlighting the efforts of another young person to the cause.

**Owen Fleck**, 16, is an enterpris-

ing young man. A few years ago, he decided to do something to help the orphans at ICC.

Recently Owen commented, "I did chores for my grandparents and parents to save up money to buy kids at ICC soccer balls. I was really getting into playing soccer at the time and wanted other kids to be able to enjoy soccer just like me."

After saving a substantial amount, Owen went shopping with his grandparents to purchase balls, clothing, and other equipment for soccer. This will be sent to ICC children's villages for the orphans.

Like Emily and Kalea whose stories were reported in the last two issues, Owen discovered the true secret to happiness lies in serving others. He didn't just share his time and energy, Owen shared his love for soccer with other children in far-off countries who also enjoy the sport.

## Donor Advised Funds: Your Giving Powerhouse

Last month, we shared some non-cash ways to support orphan care through ICC—specifically, Stocks and Donor Advised Funds (DAFs). But why is a DAF a great way to give?

DAFs have surged in popularity because they offer a quick and simple way to receive an immediate tax deduction by transferring appreciated assets—like stocks and bonds—into a dedicated charitable account. Think of a DAF as your personal mini-foundation: you control when and where to distribute funds to your favorite charities.

Major financial institutions like Fidelity, Schwab, and National Philanthropic Trust manage the largest DAF programs, and many workplaces now offer charitable accounts for employees. DAFs provide a strategic tool to manage both tax liability and charitable giving, allowing donors to maximize their impact. Once assets are in your DAF, you can direct the sponsor to send them to ICC or any other charity of your choice.

*If you have questions about giving to ICC through your DAF, contact Wendy Clark at [wendy@ForHisKids.org](mailto:wendy@ForHisKids.org) or call 800-422-7729.*

"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Romans 5:8



May you have peace this season. And thank you for blessing His Kids!