



QUÉ PASA

What's Happening

October 2025

A Publication of International Children's Care
P.O. Box 820610 Vancouver, WA 98682-0013

(360) 573-0429 • (800) 422-7729
VISIT OUR WEBSITE ForHisKids.ORG

A Future Filled With Love

Josephine Shares Her Gratitude

It goes without saying that there is much tragedy when it comes to the care of orphaned and abandoned children. With that, there is also the opportunity for great joy in healing. Josephine is an example of that! Orphaned as a child, she felt lost and alone. Then, thanks to the support of people like you, Josephine joined the Patmos Children's Village family. Now grown and on the verge of marriage, she shares her story of gratitude in the following letter.

When I first arrived at Patmos Children's Village, I was just a little girl, unable to do anything for myself. The parents I met shared invaluable wisdom, and I was fortunate to grow and thrive alongside other children.

I completed my primary and secondary education, as well as my university studies, including professional training.

I continue to thank God for the unwavering support from my sponsors. Growing up in a Christian family, I was taught to recite three Bible verses each day. Throughout my journey, I have never forgotten to sing and worship the Lord.



After losing both parents, Josephine felt lost and alone. Yet, people from all around the world, just like you, cared enough to help. Josephine healed within the Patmos Children's Village family. Now, she embarks on a new journey of marriage, where she dreams of starting her own family – full of laughter and love. (From left to right, Josephine in 2010 and then in 2021.)

After years of hard work and perseverance, I secured a job that allowed me to support myself as a young woman. I embraced my independence, taking pride in the life I was building for myself.

During this time, I also found love with Mr. Grace Bisimwa, a kind-hearted man who grew up alongside me in the ICC community. Our shared experiences strengthened our bond, and it wasn't long before we decided to take the next step in our relationship.

The excitement of starting this new chapter fills me with joy, and I look forward to building a family with Grace, who works as an



architect. We dream of a future filled with love and laughter.

As I stand on the verge of marriage, I can't help but reflect on how far I've come from a traumatized child to an independent woman prepared to start a new family. The challenges I faced have shaped me, and now, with a loving partner by my side, I am excited about the adventures that await.

May God bless my sponsors and everyone who has helped change my life. I am forever grateful.

Your daughter,
Josephine

Project Spotlight – Patmos Children's Village, Democratic Republic of Congo

The Impact of Your Support



Faces are blurred to protect the identities of the young children.

From left to right, Samuel in 2019, 2020, and 2024. Samuel arrived at Patmos without even a name. After being abandoned in a banana plantation as a newborn, he joined Patmos Children's Village. Your support made it possible for Samuel to not only survive, but to thrive. He is a beacon of hope at the village for others in similar situations.

From birth to young adulthood, Patmos Children's Village provides a safe home for kids to learn and grow. Désiré, the Patmos Director, recently shared several stories that exhibit the positive impact of such an environment. Lives are being transformed because of the care that YOU help to provide. Thank you for making a difference!

The “Banana Baby” – Today

Some of you may remember, almost seven-years ago, the arrival of one “banana baby” boy. Désiré recently shared an update on this child. With a shadowed past, he may be the youngest to ever arrive at Patmos. Yet, thanks to a loving home, which you help to provide, the boy is now thriving. This is his story.

On Christmas Eve, 2018, rain poured heavily upon an Idjwi Island banana plantation. There, cold and wet, a baby lay abandoned among the leaves. He could not even cry. By God's guiding hand, fishermen discovered the child at 5:30 a.m. They rushed to save the baby as

it shook with tremors. It's a miracle that he did not die!

Although the government searched for any who may be connected to this mystery child, no one came forward. That is when Patmos stepped in to welcome the “banana baby” home. They named him Samuel.

Today, Samuel is a joyful six-year-old, at the top of his class. He loves to eat cookies, play soccer, and sing in the children's choir. Every Sabbath, he learns about Jesus. Samuel helps around the house, too. He is growing into a healthy, intelligent, and courteous boy.

“To our cherished sponsors and donors, thank you for your

incredible love and support towards the orphaned and abandoned children like Samuel,” said Désiré. “Your kindness is the light guiding these children toward a brighter future, and we are truly grateful for your steadfast commitment.”

Backpacks and Uniforms

The start of the school year is full of excitement at Patmos Children's Village! During this time, children receive new school uniforms and backpacks. These items are more than just school supplies. They represent the importance of education in transforming lives.



Faces are blurred to protect the identities of the young children.

Backpacks and school supplies represent more than just the start of a new school year. These items represent the start of a new life that is made possible by the transformative power of education! Thank you for helping to change lives.

Project Spotlight – Patmos Children's Village, Democratic Republic of Congo

The Impact of Your Support

“Education sets a person free and increases one’s confidence,” said Désiré. “We have drawn a conclusion that education constitutes the first inheritance that a parent should leave to their children because it goes with us throughout our lives. Educating a child is the best way to make their future bright and help them fulfill their dreams so that they live their ideal life.”

Thanks to you, these children get to celebrate new beginnings. They get a chance to live full and meaningful lives. Thank you for making a difference!

Independence Ceremony

At Patmos Children’s Village, great care is taken to prepare young people for independent living. Children leave the village when they reach a milestone that will set them up for success. For example, two young men recently celebrated their independence ceremony after completing higher education: Henri and Japhet. Désiré shared a bit about that special day.

It started at 10 a.m. with the national anthem and an opening prayer. The day continued with choir performances from all age groups, meditations on scripture, and speeches of encouragement.

One thing that stood out in almost every speech was that the young men should never hesitate to seek support and advice from their very own family: the Patmos Children’s Village.

A former Patmos Child shared the following, “Remember the lessons you’ve learned, and

know that the community is here to support you... Together, let us create a cycle of empowerment, ensuring that every young person knows they are worthy of love, success, and happiness.”

For the young children in attendance, the ceremony paused in the middle for spiritual-themed games! Finally, Henri and Japhet received gifts and enjoyed a special group meal. The ceremony ended at 4 p.m.

Henri and Japhet worked together to write the following message to the family of ICC sponsors and donors:

“Thanks to your efforts, we have access to education, nourishment, and the opportunity to pursue our dreams. We choose to define ourselves not by what we have lost, but by what we have gained and the positive impact we wish to create... Thank you for believing in us and for being a part of our journey toward independence.”



Henri and Japhet celebrated an independence ceremony, but they know that the Patmos Children's Village will always be their family. Thank you for providing the blessing of family to orphaned and abandoned children!

To enjoy a special video message from Désiré, scan the QR code or visit:



<https://vimeo.com/1117280653?share=copy>

Will You Take Action?



Many children's lives have been transformed thanks to the care of people just like you! Yet, even more children continue to arrive in great need. Will you take action to change a life – today? You can make a difference!

ForHisKids.org/donate



A Letter From Future Me

Dear Past Me,

Thanks for writing that will, the financial and healthcare Power of Attorney documents, and designating guardians for the children.

The kids didn't fight over the money, the minor-aged kids were cared for as you wished, the bills were covered, and no one cursed your name in probate court. You prevented putting a burden on the rest of the family and created peace. Good job!

During your illness, the Financial Power of Attorney (POA) made it possible to keep your bills up to date, and the Healthcare POA helped your family make final decisions that were according to your wishes.

Most importantly, your assets were distributed among your heirs as you wished, and you created a legacy of hope and a future for ICC orphans. These kids grew up in safety, love, and met Jesus, their Savior.

Sincerely,
Future You.

NEPAW

National Estate Planning Awareness Week is **October 19-25**, shining a spotlight on the importance of completing one's estate planning. Best done early in life, it prepares for unexpected situations and protects your family from undue stress. If you are still alive, it's not too late to get your plan together!

Make or update your free plan here:



<https://www.freewill.com/iccwa>

Save The Date!

World Orphan Sabbath

November 15, 2025

The Adventist world church has designated Sabbath, November 15 as "World Orphans and Vulnerable Children's Day." **As you know, every day within the ICC family is World Orphan Day because this ministry is actively involved each day in rescuing and/or transforming the lives of orphan and vulnerable children.** However, "World Orphan Sabbath" is a wonderful opportunity to shine a spotlight on the needs of these children as well as the wonderful opportunities that exist to help support them through prayer and care.

You can engage and involve your church by...

- Informing your pastor or church board about this special day and encouraging them to participate,
- Accessing and sharing the resources ICC has available for this day by using the QR code or link below. Resources include action steps, poster, bulletin inserts, videos, and presentations.

Find out more by scanning the QR code or visit <https://forhiskids.org/wos25>



When soliciting funds for a specific need, we occasionally receive more in donations than requested. In those instances when we do receive more money than solicited, those extra funds are placed in "Alcyon's Angel Fund." To protect the privacy of our children, ICC uses fictitious names in the Que Pasa when referring to minor children.