



QUÉ PASA

What's Happening

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A Publication of International Children's Care
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YOUR Support "Adds UP" to a Transformed Life!



"Patmos was not just a place where I lived or studied. It was my second birth." Thank you for your support that gives young people like Bonheur new life!

Editor's Note: Following is an edited testimony from Bonheur, one of ICC's grown children in the D.R. Congo. Thank you for making a difference!

First, before I share my story, I want to give thanks to our Almighty God, the Creator who continues to give us the breath of life.

My story is not only mine. It is the story of a place of refuge, a second chance, and of people who believed in me when it felt like everything was lost.

After a volcanic eruption happened on January 17, 2002, I lost my biological mother. At the same time, I had to live through the loss of loved ones, and I became part of a group of orphan

children. Eventually, I was accepted into the Patmos Children's Village.

When I say "Patmos," I don't just mean a name. I think of the island where the Apostle John received the Revelation. Patmos represents a place of refuge, peace, and hope for children. I grew up there. I learned there. And it is there that I became the person I am today.

At Patmos, I found mothers who wiped away my tears. Every day, morning, noon, and night, they taught us God's Word. They even taught us a song I will never forget, which said: "Jesus loves the little children like me..."

I also found teachers who encouraged me. They told me, "Bonheur, you can go far."

Patmos taught me how to hold a pen, how to adapt to work, how to cultivate the land, how to respect others and most importantly, how to believe in God. At night, we studied mathematics with a lamp light. Who would have imagined that those figures on the board would become my passion?

By the grace of God, in primary school I found good teachers who

gave me a solid foundation. After finishing secondary one and two, I had to choose what I wanted to study. Unfortunately, our school did not offer a Mathematics section. The Patmos administrator directed me to a nearby school, so I walked for about two hours each day because there were no vehicles available for transportation.

I studied mathematics there for only two years and then transferred to another school to continue my studies. In 2013, by the grace of God, I obtained my State diploma in mathematics and physics.

After that, I returned to the Patmos village, not only to be a student again, but to help my broth-



Since his time at Patmos children's village, Bonheur has obtained his bachelor's degree and gotten married (Bonheur's wife is pictured on the left).

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Project Spotlight – Patmos Children’s Village, DR Congo

The Impact of Your Support

Your support of ICC children at the Patmos village is making a tremendous impact as can be seen in the following report. Thank you!

Joyful Voices



The Patmos children recently enjoyed a joyful choir concert featuring three groups. Each choir presented songs of praise, creating a beautiful atmosphere of worship, celebration, and fellowship. Music is an important part of life at Patmos Children’s Village. Through singing, the children develop their talents, build confidence, learn teamwork, and express their faith in God

Use this QR Code or go to <https://vimeo.com/iccmedia/patmoschoir> to watch a video clip of the Patmos children singing.



Adventist Youth Day



The children at Patmos celebrated Adventist Youth Day, one of their most joyful and eagerly anticipated occasions. They were

organized into age groups, allowing each child to participate in activities suited to their level of development. The program included marching, games, and Bible study. This special day provided a wonderful balance of spiritual growth, learning, and recreation. It was a memorable time for the children to celebrate their faith and enjoy being together.

Use this QR Code or go to <https://vimeo.com/iccmedia/patmosmarching> to watch a video clip of the Patmos children marching.



Children Being Children



During free time, some children used mud to build small model houses. Although it may seem like a simple activity, it revealed their creativity, imagination, and different ways of thinking. Each child approached the activity differently and built a house based on their own ideas. This helps us discover the children’s interests, abilities, and possible future dreams.

Use this QR Code or go to <https://vimeo.com/iccmedia/mudhuts> to watch a video clip of the Patmos children building model houses.



Caring For Others



This photograph shows one of the children lovingly caring for a younger child. It captures a simple but meaningful moment of tenderness, responsibility, and affection. At Patmos Children’s Village, the children grow up as members of a large family. They learn to care for one another and develop compassion through everyday experiences. Moments like this show how the children are learning that love is expressed through kindness, patience, and service to others.

Caring For Animals



During the school vacation, some of the children became interested in caring for the cows and goats. Our livestock herder explained to them how to feed the animals, handle them safely, observe their health, and care for them responsibly. The children were eager to listen, ask questions, and take part in the daily work.

Raising livestock is an important part of life and culture in the local community. Through these practical experiences, the children gain knowledge that may help them in adulthood.

A Personal Note from Joel

Moving Forward in Faith

I was recently thinking about a powerful scene from the story of the Exodus. The children of Israel have arrived at the Red Sea, yet there is no way to cross. To make matters worse, the most powerful army in the world has them trapped, and they have no way to escape. Even Moses does not know what to do.

That is when God steps in and tells him, “Tell the people to move on.” (Exodus 14:15)

So, the people move forward—not because they can see an open path, but simply because God told them to move.

A Leap of Faith

When ministering to others, we sometimes find ourselves in situations where the needs are deeply compelling, but the resources are elusive or com-

pletely nonexistent. Yet, if we wait until the funding is fully available, lives will be lost.

The Congo was one of those places for ICC. Years ago, we were contacted about helping a group of about two hundred orphaned children in the Kivu region. They were victims of war and natural disasters who had lost their entire families.

At the time, there was no money for this new project and no reserves to cover such a massive financial need. Faced with such choice, our leaders and donors decided that turning their backs on 200 suffering children was simply not an option. Trusting in God, they chose to move forward.

24 Years of Impact

That was 24 years ago. Today, Patmos Children’s Village is one of the largest projects for desti-

tute children operated by ICC, and it is fully sustained by your generosity.

On behalf of the children of Patmos, we want to thank you for saving them and empowering them to become men and women of great value. I would also like to invite you to help us continue moving forward in faith. Like then, there are hundreds of children seeking refuge in the various ICC villages around the world and they are in need of sponsors. If you feel moved to be part of the success of an orphaned child, you may go to the sponsorship page and start today. **ForHisKids.org/Sponsor-A-Child**



*May the Lord
bless you,*

Joel Reyes
President

YOUR Support “Adds UP”... Cont.

ers and sisters. I began teaching mathematics in secondary school. I wanted to continue mathematics at university, but the money from teaching was not enough. When I became independent in 2017, I thought life would be hard for me. But I understood something important: in life, we must never give up. With God, everything is possible.

After six years, I obtained my bachelor’s degree in mathematics and physics, and I also managed

to pay the bride price. Today, I am married.

Every formula I write, every problem I solve, I owe to this village. Patmos was not just a place where I lived or studied. It was my second birth. To all my benefactors: you did not only help a child, you helped form a graduate. My daily prayer is that God continues to protect our sponsors, giving them the spirit of generosity, and that one day we will be able to meet in Heaven.

**YOU Can
Provide the
Gift of
Sponsorship!**



**Orphan children in the DR Congo
still need sponsors to help provide
for their care.**

Please provide the
gift of sponsorship
to a child today.
Contact Rachelle at
the ICC office (800-
422-7729) or use the
QR code.



*ForHisKids.org/
Sponsor-A-Child*

Don't Make Your Family Guess



Linda realized that estate planning isn't about being old or wealthy. It's about being prepared.

Linda was 61, healthy, still working, and living comfortably in the home she had owned for years. She wasn't wealthy and wasn't expecting any major changes in her life. Like many people, she thought estate planning was something she would get around to "someday."

Then a close friend suffered a sudden stroke.

As Linda watched her friend's family navigate an unexpected medical crisis, she began thinking about questions she had never considered urgent. Who would make my healthcare decisions if I couldn't speak for myself? Who could manage my finances? Where would they find my important documents? Who would know what I wanted? What would happen to my dog?

And then there were the less obvious questions. What about the family photographs on her com-

puter? Her online accounts and digital assets? What kind of funeral or memorial service would she want? And if something happened to her while she was responsible for her mother, who would step in?

Linda realized that estate planning wasn't really about being old or wealthy. It was about being prepared for the possibility that life might suddenly look very different. *So she made a plan.*

She created a will and considered whether a trust was appropriate for her circumstances. She completed a healthcare directive and designated someone she trusted to make medical decisions if she could not. She established a financial Power of Attorney so someone could handle her finances if necessary. She documented how she wanted her digital assets handled and put her wishes for her funeral or memorial service in writing.

She also made arrangements for the care of her beloved dog.

But Linda didn't stop with the question, "How can I protect the people I love?" She asked another: "How can I make a difference beyond my lifetime?"

Oct 18–24, 2026

National Estate Planning Awareness Week

It's a great time to review your estate plan documents to ensure they meet your goals.

Use the FREE estate planning tools provided by our partner FreeWill to make your updates.

Haven't completed your estate plan yet? Use this QR code to get started today:



Questions?

Email Wendy at:
Wendy@forhiskids.org
or call — (360) 573-0429.

That question led her to include International Children's Care in her will. Linda knew that her gift could help provide care, education, opportunity, and hope to orphaned and abandoned children—children she might never meet, but whose lives could be changed by her generosity.

Linda's estate plan wasn't about leaving behind a fortune. It was about leaving behind **clarity, care, and purpose.**

National Estate Planning Awareness Week, October 18–24, is an opportunity to ask yourself the same questions. You don't have to be old or wealthy to have an estate. If you own a home, have a bank account, take family photos, care for a pet, or have people who depend on you, you have a plan worth making.

Don't make your family guess. Give them the gift of knowing what you want. And consider making your legacy one that continues to bless others long after you're gone.

Save The Date!

World Orphan Sabbath
November 21



Engage your church: Notify your pastor or church board and request a special WOS at your church.

Use the QR code to Access and share the WOS resources: Poster, Bulletin Inserts, Video, Sermon notes, Ideas List and more. ForHisKids.org/WOS26

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.