

I CARE Post



FALL 2011

Message from the Director's Desk

As many of you know, one of the most severe droughts in decades is threatening millions of lives in the Horn of Africa. Insufficient rains have created difficult conditions throughout the region — destroying crops and killing livestock. Malnutrition and disease are on the rise as families travel long distances in search of food and water. Here in Canada, daily newspaper and television reports have shared heart wrenching stories of entire families walking for days in search of refuge.

For many in search of help, their destination has been the Dabaab refugee camp located in north eastern Kenya. Several reports indicate that 1500 new people arrive each day at this single camp alone, increasing the population to 460,000, making it the largest of its kind in the world.

While Kenya, Somalia, and Ethiopia have felt the brunt of the disaster and consequently received the majority of coverage in the media, Tanzania has also been impacted. According to I CARE's local staff, it has not rained in the area for several months resulting in a poor crop. Consequently, food prices have more than doubled since the Spring putting further pressure on

families already stretched to meet their basic needs. During this same time, power shortages have become more and more common, putting further strain on the lives of local residents.

It is during difficult times like these that I CARE's role in the community is especially important. Children are often the most vulnerable in situations like these and by focusing our support on the young, I CARE is doing its part to ensure a child has their basic needs met. Perhaps even more importantly, the monthly support provided by sponsors is ensuring that entire families have food to eat. At the present time I CARE sponsors 120 needy children in Igoma; however our support reaches much further by assisting brothers and sisters, mothers and fathers and numerous other people in the community.

On behalf of the I CARE children and their families, thank you for your ongoing support. You truly are making a world of difference to people in need.

Asantes ana (thank you in Swahili)

Marcus Gordon
Program Director

Expressions of Generosity: I CARE Sponsors Going Above and Beyond

It is truly inspiring how often sponsors step forward to ask what else they can do to assist their I CARE child and their family beyond the fresh food, medical care and other support monthly sponsorship delivers.

The following is a short list of some of the many items I CARE sponsors have purchased over the past year:

- Bicycles
- Sewing Machines
- Clothing and shoes
- Medical treatment for family members
- Doors and other building supplies
- Text books
- Additional school fees
- Backpacks
- Wheelchairs
- Beds for family members
- Support for a Tailor training program

Over this past summer, one I CARE sponsor stepped forward to assist their child and her family in building a new home. This wonderfully generous act will transform the life of not only the I CARE child but her entire family, who now have a safe and secure home in which to live.

The pictures on the right capture some of the many gifts that sponsors have provided to their I CARE children and families.

Below: I CARE's Family Services Director delivering bicycles purchased by sponsors.



Below: I CARE child and her family pictured in front of their new home under construction.



Below: Mother of I CARE child working on a new sewing machine.



Post Profile

In this edition of the Post Profile, I have asked Moses Hosea, I CARE's Program Director in Tanzania to share a few words about himself, his family and thoughts on the program. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated and caring individual supporting the program in Igoma. I hope you enjoy getting to know him.



"My name is Moses Hosea, I am married with one woman (Sarah), we have two children Joy(7years) she is in class 1, another is Sharon (one and 4 months years old). I thank God has blessed me with a wonderful family. My wife Sarah is a holder of Bachelor Degree of Arts (BA) with Education so she is working with the Government as a Secondary School Teacher.

I am a Computer Technician. I was supported by I CARE to join the University of Computing Centre, one of the colleges that teach IT. I am self employed now. Also I am working with Dynapharm International promoting Health, Foods Supplements and Manure Products.

When I first heard of I CARE program and that it meets a families basic needs, due to the burden I have in my heart for the needy, I yearned to be part of I CARE as a volunteer so that I too can help the community. Since 2004 I have witnessed tremendous changes to I CARE supported families and the children as well. We have passed through lots of challenges but we thank God I CARE still exist and still helpful to our community.

I can't afford to write how each sponsored child has benefited from the program, but I have some few examples which I would like to highlight.

- *Jesca Said and Juliana Paulo are being sponsored by I CARE to take Tailoring Training for their self employment.*
- *One particular child who is a relative of an I CARE child was born with the problem that he is unable to walk. The sponsor generously donated a wheelchair for the family to be able to move this child easily to church and other places.*

The program has impacted many lives and still affecting the community positively. There are so many evidences of how the program has impacted and changed many lives. It is not easy to mention them all in this paper.

Success in Life depends on others contributions; I am appreciating the support of the sponsors who have been part of the Africans' families by being in their homes through their support. We have a big family now of 120 children who are currently in the program and are getting support from their sponsors.

I would like on behalf of Igoma Team and I CARE families to send thanks and good wishes to all I CARE sponsors and staff in Canada for their heart of love towards us. I CARE is becoming strong and now is known in Igoma area for the impact it has made. I would also like to send special thanks to Rod & Cathy the Founders of I CARE for their tireless work of nursing the I CARE up to this moment. May the Lord God bless you. "

From
Moses Hosea

Receive I CARE Information via Email

100% of sponsorship funds for the I CARE program go directly to the Igoma community. As a result, any administrative costs such as printing and mailing fees are covered through other means. In an effort to keep these costs to a minimum, I CARE would like to provide sponsors with the option of receiving all updates and information from the program electronically via email. This approach would benefit sponsors by allowing them to receive photographs, newsletters and updated child information cards directly to their inbox as soon as they are available. This method would also reduce some of the administrative costs I CARE currently faces. If you would like to receive updates electronically, please send an email to icaretanzania@yahoo.ca indicating so.

For those sponsors who would prefer to receive hard copy materials through regular mail or through your EastRidge mail box, I CARE will continue to do so.

New I CARE Logo

We had hoped to reveal a new I CARE logo as part of this edition of the I CARE Post. Unfortunately, I am still exploring various options and am not in a position to reveal it just yet. I hope to have the new logo ready for inclusion in the next edition of the I CARE Post scheduled for the Spring of 2012. Stay tuned!

I CARE Year-End Celebration

On November 26th, I CARE children and their families, along with the local staff will gather for a year end celebration at the Hill Front Hotel in Igoma. This will be a wonderful opportunity for the entire I CARE community to come together as one and celebrate the end of another year. Stay tuned for photos of the event in the next edition of the I CARE Post.

Do you want to send your I CARE child a monetary gift for Christmas or their birthday? If so, please mail the cheque to the following address and we will ensure it is sent as part of an upcoming transfer. The cheque should be made out to "The Stouffville Igoma Partnership". On the memo line, please indicate "I CARE Christmas/Birthday gift – child's name".

Mailing address:

I CARE
c/o Stouffville Igoma Partnership
P.O Box 104, Station Main
Stouffville, Ontario
L4A 7Z4

Phone number: 905-642-1791

Email address: icaretanzania@yahoo.ca

Christmas/Birthday cards or letters to your sponsor child can be mailed directly to the following address and I CARE staff will make sure it arrives safely (and translated into Swahili).

I CARE
c/o Merceline Magwamu
P.O Box 8071, Mwanza-Igoma
Tanzania, East Africa