

I CARE Post



Fall 2012

Letter from the Director's Desk

The aim of the I CARE program is to free children from a cycle of poverty and hopelessness by empowering them to become confident, self-reliant and contributing members of their community. I CARE sponsorship helps keep children in school which, as many of you know, is often a stepping stone to a brighter future.

Two examples of children whose lives have been changed forever by I CARE are Daudi Michael and Joyce Abel. Their stories, like many others in our program, are remarkably similar. Before sponsorship both Daudi's and Joyce's families were struggling to meet their basic needs. Local I CARE staff knew both families well and realized how much of a difference sponsorship would make. Without I CARE it is very likely both children would have left school at a young age in order to help support their families.

In terms of living conditions, both families rented single rooms in mud homes. For many of us here in Canada, it is hard to imagine what life would be like if our entire family shared one small room in which to eat and sleep in.



Thanks to I CARE, the families were able to weather a difficult time in their lives. Today, both Daudi and Joyce's fathers enjoy stable employment at the local Coca Cola factory. Both Joyce and Daudi are continuing with their studies and working hard towards achieving their goals. Lastly, thanks to the increased income, both families now rent homes of their own.

I am often asked by potential sponsors how I know I CARE is making a difference in the lives of needy children. It is stories like these that confirm my belief in the work we do. Thank you to our sponsors for making this all possible.

Marcus

Swahili 101

As many of the children in our program are not comfortable with communicating in the English language, we encourage them to share their messages to sponsors in their native tongue which our staff can then translate.

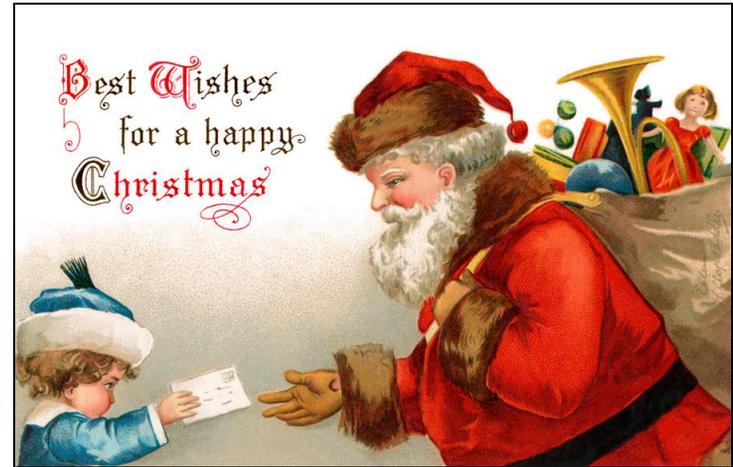


As part of a regular feature moving forward, the I CARE post will feature a selection of common Swahili phrases which, for sponsors who wish to write letters to their sponsor child, can be peppered into the communications.

Hello from Canada	Salamu kutoka Canada
Goodbye	Kwaheri
Please	Tafadhali
How are you	Unaendeleaje?
I am well	Niko salama
We are all okay	Wote wazima
How is your family?	Familia yako hawajambo?
How are you doing in school?	Unaendeleaje na masomo?
Merry Christmas and	
Happy new year	Heri ya Krismasi na mwaka mpya wenye
God bless you	Mungu awabariki
I love you all	Nawapenda wote
God take care of you	Mungu na awalinde

Christmas Letter Package to Igoma

With the holidays quickly approaching many of us begin the task of writing our annual Christmas cards to friends and family. As sponsors, many of you may also wish to write a message of good wishes to your sponsor child in Igoma.



This year we plan on sending a large package of letters to Igoma from our sponsors. The letters and cards will be distributed to the children at the end of year gathering scheduled for late December. If you would like to participate, please send your letter or card to the I CARE mailing address. Please write "Christmas Card to Igoma" on the envelope. If you would prefer email, please send your message to icaretanzania@yahoo.ca and I will ensure each message is delivered. Please write "Christmas message to Igoma" in the subject line.

New Website Content

If you haven't had the opportunity to visit the I CARE website recently, I would encourage you take a look. Aside from numerous photo collections, we have also begun posting videos. Over the coming months new content will be added so be certain to check back regularly. If your friends, family members or neighbours have an interest in sponsorship, the website is also a wonderful resource. Visit www.sipartnership.org and click on I CARE in the top right hand corner.

Post Profile

The fourth in our series of staff profiles features Mary Peter, one of our dedicated I CARE field workers. As with all field workers, Mary is assigned a group of approximately 25 children with whom she visits several times a month. During these visits Mary will speak with the families to understand how things are coming along. She will also help coordinate the writing of letters to sponsors and any other communications that are needed. Mary will also sit down with each family before the support funds become available to make a list of their needs for the coming month. She plays a very important role in helping to ensure each of her assigned children receives exactly the support they require. I hope you enjoy getting to know her.



“My name is Mary Peter. I am forty five years of age, a mother of two, a daughter Mariamu and son David. Mariamu has three kids which makes me a grandmother as well. My son David just completed college. I have been working with I CARE since the program was born in the year 2004. Being a pioneer I have seen I CARE grow from strength to strength.”

Orphans and other less privileged kids in Igoma have benefited from the program. They have received all round provisions from food, clothing, education, housing, medication as well as special gifts for their birthdays and Christmas. What can I say in explanation? May I CARE live to make a difference to thousands of needy children and God help us serve them. Amen.”

Mary

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