

Change Lives Now

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Newsletter
Vol. III
Dec. 2014

*May the peace and blessings of the holidays
be with you and yours from Change Lives Now!*

In the blink of an eye another year has passed and we are excited to take this time and share with you where we've been and where we are on this journey! First, thank you SO much for walking with us for 9 years. Any good thing that we've accomplished is because of your love and commitment, and your belief WITH us that we can change lives, one life at a time.

Several of us have just returned from Nairobi, where we visited the Mogra Star Rescue Center, met with many of our students and graduates of the Change Lives Now Scholarship Program, and began to plan our next steps moving forward on a new project with One Life Africa to build a leadership center for our students preparing for higher education.

God has totally blessed your partnership with us, to the great benefit of Mogra Star Academy. Our walk with them over the years has provided not only a new orphanage, tilapia farms, and green houses, but they now also have cows, pigs, goats, chickens and rabbits who provide needed protein and a marketable source of income for the school and orphanage. Because of your support, they are now self-sustaining and continuing to grow. Although they remain our heart project, and we will continue to be on call for their special needs, we feel confident in saying "Mission Mogra Accomplished."

We are continuing to address the increasing need for higher education and suitable training programs that lead to gainful employment after graduation. And it quickly became apparent we needed someone on the ground in Nairobi to mentor these college students as their basic needs for food, books, and exam fees were difficult for us to monitor from the United States. Through our ongoing relationship with Greg Burns of Bridge Ministries, we met Andrew and Stephanie Onguka who run OneLife Africa.

They too, desire to help bright, but needy students get to college or trade school. Andrew grew up in Mathare. He knows the challenges and the needs. We are INCREDIBLY BLESSED to walk along side One Life Africa, and cannot tell you what a difference Andrew's presence has made to our students. Andrew has done an incredible job over the last 3 years with absolutely no compensation from Change Lives Now. The gift of OneLife Africa's presence in this project has made your donations that much more effective and efficient. We could not be more thrilled. Our newest project is working with OneLife Africa to provide a safe transitional facility where students in dire poverty, who are alone and aging out of the orphanage, can go to live and learn life skills while they wait for an opportunity to attend college.

We are committed to changing lives, and we hope YOU are with us! Your donations will help us continue to give deserving students the opportunity for a future with a hope. These are kids who have already proven themselves as servant leaders. We have every hope that they WILL make a difference in their community and their country. With our support and Andrew's able leadership, life is changing for some very deserving young people in Nairobi, Kenya.

We invite you to buckle your seatbelt and join us for the continued adventure of Change Lives Now! Any good thing that we've accomplished is because of your love and commitment, and your belief WITH us that we can change lives, one life at a time. We thank you for your continued support. Through the power of education and inspiration we want to strengthen individuals, families and their communities by building bridges to healing, believing and hope. We will continue to give you our deepest pledge to treasure your gift and use it in a way that most honors your commitment. Thank you so much!

*Anne Trufant
president, Change Lives Now*

Mission Accomplished!



Mogra Star Academy

Sponsored hundreds of children at Mogra Star Academy in the Mathare Slum. Established health insurance program for teachers at St Mary's Mission Hospital. Helped pave the way for self-sufficiency.



Farm Project



Purchased two greenhouses and transformed vacant field into self-sustaining food factory for the Rescue Center, with 12 milk cows, 200 pigs, dozens of rabbits and goats, and regular harvests of nourishing vegetables.

Provided funds for construction of Mogra Rescue Center, bringing over 120 orphans and abandoned children out of the slums. Currently helping to find families for over 40 children under age two.

Mogra Rescue Center



Scholarship Program

College Scholarships
Provided college scholarships for 18 Mogra Star students and computer literacy classes for dozens of others.

...and there is so much more to be done!

Change Lives Now and OneLife Africa to Build Groundbreaking Leadership Center



This is the plan for the development of a student leadership center that allows us to offer a residential gap year program for high school graduates that incorporates a formal academic, Bible-based curriculum, hands on training and community service projects. OneLife Africa Fellows (which includes Mogra Star graduates) will participate in this six-month holistic program while living in an intentional community with students from diverse tribal backgrounds and Christian mentors. Emphasis will be placed on servant leadership, integrity, accountability and reconciliation. Preparing them to be ambassadors for Christ in university and beyond.

In January 2015, we plan to break ground for the center with following plan for phased construction:

- Phase 1 - Dorm and classroom (40 students)
- Phase 2 - Dining hall and kitchen
- Phase 3 - Doubles capacity (40 students)
- Phase 4 - Office, reception, library, storage.



Andrew Onguka (of OneLife Africa) with Jan Pommerenke and Bahati, a child whom Jan has sponsored for years and who plans to go on to higher education herself!

Space for pricing stuff?

Words from Our Graduates

Living in abject poverty since birth isn't a joke. Poverty is like a disease. I have known it since I was born, a first one in a family of seven. My name is Francis Ndung'u Kahihia, 32 years old. Living in the village, 50 miles from Nairobi, the Capital City of Kenya.

I lost my mother in 2002 to Cancer, so I decided to pursue a career in the medical field to help and serve the sick. I talked to Change Lives Now, which began my quest for higher education, a journey that has positively changed my life. I met Mr. Andrew Onguka of One Life Africa who was very instrumental to me and other students. He engaged us often and changed the aspect of thinking for many of us especially me. I am now a pharmacist, in a rural hospital in the middle of a village. I am forever grateful to Change Lives Now, they truly changed my life!

I have tremendous respect for the entire Change Lives Now fraternity and One Life Africa.

God bless you all!

Francis Ndungu, CLN beneficiary in Kenya



Pictured: Francis Ngungu (left), scholarship recipient, with Jan Pommerenke (right).

Jeremiah 29:11 says, "I know the plans I have for you. They are plans for good and not for evil...to give you a future with a hope."

Change Lives Now, Inc. incorporated is a charitable organization in North Carolina in 2007, and is recognized by the IRS as a tax exempt 501 (c) (3) corporation, EIN 26-0297528.



Pictured: John Gatuma, scholarship recipient

Hello,

It is with great joy to say that I am a living testimony, having successfully completed my diploma course in teacher education from Mt Kenya University, Thika. This was made possible when CLN came to Kenya and granted me a full scholarship. Before that, I was hopeless, and I was illiterate but now I have knowledge and I have hope! I thank you all for your unfailing love you have bestowed by offering us the opportunity for education

To improve our future. Please continue with this good work as you plan to change more lives in future.

Thank you all.

*Kind regards,
John, CLN beneficiary in Kenya
God bless you!!!*

What's To Come:

We are also feeling the tug to meet some of the same needs closer to home. We love where we are in Kenya, AND we're looking towards home. Many of our amazing donors see the same needs. If there is something close to your heart, please let us know! We are here to help provide a future with a hope. We can't do everything, but we can do SOME things, and what we CAN do, we INTEND to do!

We are also organizing some of our efforts right now toward being more digitally approachable. Like our (new) Facebook for news about the coming website!



Stay in touch!

We love hearing from you! It's what keeps us going. We're currently working on developing our online presence, and would love for you to be a part of that!

Like and follow us on Facebook!



*facebook.com/
ChangeLivesNowUSA*

Drop us a line and stay connected! We are also now receiving email at our new address:

changelivesnowusa@gmail.com

Address Service Requested

Change Lives Now, Inc.
c/o Camps Kahdalea & Chosatonga
2500 Morgan Mill Rd.
Brevard, NC 28712

