

Change Lives Now

envisioning, educating, equipping

Dear friends,

May the grace and peace of the season be yours! Change Lives Now is comprised of a small group of people who saw some very real needs among the desperately poor in Kenya. We've never looked for a need – we've never had to. They surface usually in a profound way, and if it's within our power to effect change or work toward a solution, we will. It's been a while since our last letter to you, and in that time we've been enlightened by the needs that have surfaced with the young people we've served in Kenya.

I was contacted by a young woman whom we've mentored for many years. When we first met, she was an orphan at Mogra, and is now married with a child of her own. Her husband was disabled in a work related accident and is not able to work full time. Her meager salary has not been enough to support her family. She wrote to tell me she had been offered a wonderful "job" opportunity with a great salary if she agreed to a "2-year commitment" in Qatar. She would have to leave her husband and son behind, but she thought it was the only way for them to survive. Something did not sit well with me, so I contacted some of our resources in Kenya and discovered this "company" was a sex trafficking operation. We have some great people on the ground in Kenya who rushed to rescue her from falling prey to a horrific trap. It was a tense few days, and it revealed to us with even greater certainty where Change Lives Now was being called to help.

I wish I could say it's an isolated instance. **These trafficking operations are strategic in how they prey on the desperation of young women in the slums.** One of our girls told me, "Sometimes you close your eyes and go because ANYTHING is better than having to live on the streets and do what I have to do to eat." We have been searching for existing programs or nonprofits offering older girls a safe home and the help they need to grow into a successful young adults. Our initial thought was to come alongside this program or non-profit. We were amazed to find programs like the one we envision do not exist.

We are planning a January trip to Kenya to look at the needs presenting themselves. **Ultimately, our goal is to start a transitional home for girls and women who've aged out of the orphanage.** For them, their options are few, and they often end up back in the slums being forced into prostitution, or lured away into the trafficking industry by a false promise of a better life. This transitional home for young women will provide some essential life skills and tools to be better equipped as they make their way in the world. We believe that this particular group of women will become the future leaders in the work that we are doing in Kenya. They know the gift of education that has been given to them, and they are anxious for the opportunity to come along side Change Lives Now and give back. Our best gift to them is to continue to mentor them until they have what they need to mentor the next generation. We are truly inspired by this new opportunity and look forward to reporting back what we accomplish on this next visit.

Big things are happening at CLN. Like us on Facebook, and get on board!

We will be closely monitoring the progress of the transitional home and posting the updates online.

For all of us at Change Lives Now, these kids and young adults are far more than a "project." Our lives are filled with their stories and faces. As with our own children, we have listened to their hearts, shared their struggles, encouraged their dreams, and been inspired by their faith and courage. And, *because of your support*, we have been able to continue to act on this inspiration. I have never been more grateful to be part of something that can and DOES make a difference. Our lives have been changed for good, and we will continue to do whatever we can to make a significant difference one life at a time. PLEASE consider sending a donation to Change Lives Now, Inc.

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May every grace and blessing be multiplied to you. For all you do,

THANK YOU.

We will bring you with us when we go in January. It absolutely astounds them that people over 6,000 miles away care so much. You help us give life to HOPE. You make Jesus' love real to them. We are so very grateful.

Sincerely,

Anne & the CLN Board of Directors



"We can do no great things. Only small things with great love."

Mother Teresa

Donate today!

There are numerous ways to donate to Change Lives Now, and some **don't even require spending your own money!**

- Use your card of **PayPal** to donate on our website
- Register yourself with CLN on **Amazon Smile** and **CauseNetwork**, and a portion of every purchase will come our way.
- You can even **donate your old cars** through the CauseNetwork website!



Francis



Linet's boys



Rahab



Monicah



John



Catherine