



Capstone Ministries



Restoring Children! Strengthening Families!

"The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone" Psalm 118:22

Monthly Newsletter of Capstone Ministries, Kisumu, Kenya

June, 2015 Volume 10 Issue 6

In this Issue

- Page 1: "A time and a way"
- p. 2 Dan's travel in USA almost complete
- P. 2: Prayers and Praise
- p. 2: Donor slip, Fund Raising Schedule
- p. 2 Photo of the month



USA Address:
 Capstone Ministries
 P.O. Box 2080
 Oakdale, CA 95361



Kenya Address:
 Dan and Patty Schmelzer
 P.O. Box 3962
 Kismu, Kenya 40100

The number of street boys reconciled with family by Capstone Ministries to date:

314

3 reconciled in May

Select Capstone Ministries for your Thrivent Choice Dollars. Go to:

<https://www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice/index.html>



Email: CapstoneMinistries@gmail.com
 Website: WWW.CapstoneMinistries.org

"Brian Goes Home – A time and a way"

"For there is a time and a way for everything, although man's trouble lies heavy on him." Ecclesiastes 8:6

Finding a boy on the street who wants to go home has become a challenge in Kisumu. Many boys have developed the habit of "recycling" by going to the many organizations that work with street kids so they can get what's available for them in the way of food, clothes etc. These well intentioned acts of mercy are intended to meet a perceived need but end up "enabling" vulnerable children to remain on the street. When life is made comfortable for a boy to live on the street he can't see into the future, consider the importance of family and school and is tempted to think the street is his best option. A boy begins to think: *"Street is where my friends are, there is food on the street, there is work to get a few shillings, and there is even a chance for education to some small level."* At Capstone we believe strongly in the Biblical principle that home is best; home is where God places children. Our God is a God of relationships not only a relationship with Him but with family and community.

It is a challenge to find a boy on the street who wants to go home, so we often pray for God's leading. We pray to find a boy who He has been set apart for us. We don't focus on numbers but rather on individuals. This prayer was answered for us last Saturday; two boys were set apart for the work of Capstone. I'd like to share the story of one of these boys called Brian. (name changed to protect him)

Pastor Isaiah was on the street talking with boys in front of a local grocery store. This is where many street boys congregate for begging. Isaiah noticed a very small boy begging but he didn't seem to be with the other boys. He was in shorts, wearing a shirt with the back torn out and no shoes. Isaiah talked to him and got what was most likely half the story. The boy cried while he talked with Isaiah. It was almost sunset and dark rain clouds were looming in the eastern sky. Isaiah knew he couldn't leave this boy. Brian was taken to a partner organization for safe keeping overnight.

Imagine the challenge in getting a young boy to his home when there are no road signs and no numbers on houses. Brian could only remember the main shopping area near his home and the name of his school. But that was enough. If a child is attending school, even the youngest will be able to trace his steps to get home because most children in Kenya walk to and from school

The rescue was successful. The boy was returned home to his father who cried when he saw his son. The story of how the boy was lost is a long and complicated one, but the ending is an answer to our prayer. *"Lord set aside the ones with whom you want us to work! Give us wisdom; give us perseverance; May we be your servants. Thank you we found Brian!! Amen"*

Prayers, Praises

1. Dan returns to Kenya on June 9. Pray for safe travels.
2. Pray for all the Ambassadors of Capstone who spread the word in their churches.
3. We are still looking for a missionary couple or individuals who are interested in foreign mission work and might consider long or short term service with Capstone. Write to Dan and Patty for more info.
4. Patty is currently visiting family in California for a few weeks and to attend a wedding. Pray for safe travels.
5. Pray for good health and safety for Derek and Penny Oliver as they fill in for Dan and Patty while they travel
6. Praise for our mothers, Josey and Chrysta, who are both strong and active in their 80's.
7. Thanksgiving for those who hosted and will host Dan on his travels. They are already too many to mention.
8. Pray for good friends and fellow missionaries Derek and Penny Oliver who are serving at Capstone currently and learning more about Capstone's processes and procedures.
9. Interested in short term mission trips for your church? Read this first.
<http://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/why-you-should-consider-cancelling-your-short-term-mission-trips>
10. Prayers of thanksgiving for the recovery of 10 year old Amelia Gillard. Amelia spent time in ICU in Minneapolis for a recurring infection from surgery last November. She is home now and regaining her strength.
11. We offer the following names for intercession, trusting the Lord knows their circumstance: Jennifer, Pat, Barry, Eunice, Gabriel, Christian, Troy, Phil, Liz, Mary Anne, Mike, Jim, Joel, Jen, Jan, Susan, Landon, Ernie, Lori, Timothy, Curt, Alexa, Nicole, Elisabeth, Rod, Donna, Delanna, Bob, Daniel, Amelia

Dan's trip to USA

Dan is concluding this time in the US this week. The one remaining visit is this Sunday. June 7 Immanuel, Valparaiso, IND

Poverty Tourism – Orphanages

If you have been reading this newsletter regularly you know that Capstone believes strongly in home-based care. There are many Scriptural, sociological and cultural reasons for this. The link below describes some of the pitfalls of Orphanages and visits by westerners to Orphanages in third world countries.

Here is a sample from the article:

Q. What's wrong with orphanage tourism exactly?

A. The majority of the children in these orphanages are not orphans. They are children from poor families. Struggling parents entrust their children into the care of orphanages in the hope that they will find a path out of poverty to a better life. Yet these families do not fully understand the negative impact that living in an orphanage can have on their children. At best, even children growing up in 'good' orphanages will be at high risk of developing clinical personality disorders, growth and speech delays, and an impaired ability to re-enter society later in life.

<http://grantourismotravels.com/2014/06/17/why-you-should-avoid-orphanage-visits-in-cambodia/>

Photo of the Month



Dan visited western Minn. in May with his mom. Chrysta (center) was able to visit two childhood friends: Norma (left) and Ruth (right). Dan's mom spent her childhood in Johnson, MN

Donation: For Capstone & Dan and Patty Support

Name _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____

Donation Amount: _____

Specific Designation? _____

Need a S.H.A.R.E.S Card ? _____

Check here if you do not need a hard copy of the newsletter and prefer to read it online _____

Make checks payable to Capstone Ministries.

All donations are tax deductible.

CapstoneMinistries@gmail.com

Send to:

Capstone Ministries, P.O. Box 2080,
Oakdale. CA 95361

Donation: "4S Primary School Sponsorship"

Name _____

Address _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____

Check here if you do not need a hard copy of the newsletter and prefer to read it online _____

Donation Amount _____

Student name(s) _____

Make checks payable to Capstone Ministries.

All donations are tax deductible.

CapstoneMinistries@gmail.com

Send to:

Capstone Ministries, P.O. Box 2080,
Oakdale, CA 95361