



# 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

January, 2016 Volume 13 Issue 1

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 Oakdale, CA 95361



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 Kismu, Kenya 40100

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

# 333

1 boy went home in Dec.

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

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



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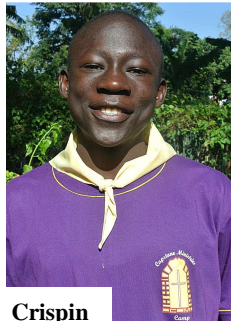
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## “Let the wise listen!”

*“Let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance—the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.” Proverbs 1:5, 7*

Education is the road out of poverty. No place is that more true than in sub-Saharan Africa, particularly Kenya. And that road begins in primary school where Kenyan children wake before the sun, do their chores, walk to their local school and spend most of their day in class. And 8 years of primary education culminates in the dreaded KCPE exam. (Kenya Certificate of Primary Education) It is an exam that takes 3 days and on it the future education of these--mostly 13 year olds--depends. Score high and the child is selected for premier placement in a national or provincial school.

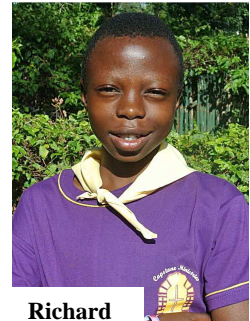
However, for the poor the challenge has just begun, for secondary school is not government supported like primary education. High School fees range from \$400-\$700 per year for provincial schools and even higher for national schools. A family supported by subsistence farming cannot afford either. For this reason, Capstone has developed a sponsorship program for secondary school. However, we also have our standards and qualifications. A child becomes eligible only if he scores 280+ on his KCPE and the family must demonstrate significant financial need. As most boys who are reconciled with their family from the street come from rural



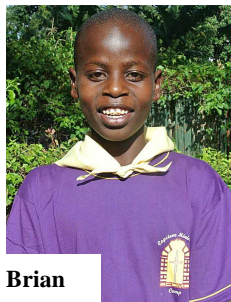
Crispin



Eddyson



Richard



Brian



Brian P.



Franklin

## Prayers, Praises, News

### Special Project Support

Looking for a special project to support with your donation. You can target your gift to any number of special projects conducted by Capstone in the upcoming year. Here are a few to consider along with the expense for each.

**Capstone Camp** – Every year in August we hold a one week camp for boys who have gone home in the last two years, have remained at home for at least six months and are in school. The objective of the camp is to encourage the boys spiritually as well as to help them deal with challenges at home through group, peer and individual counseling. Scout training plays a major role in this project along with Biblical instruction. Cost \$3000

**Day of Prayer** This event is held at the ELCK compound in Kisumu and involves the 10 local Lutheran congregations in and around Kisumu. All the Sunday School children are invited for a day of games, instruction and Prayer for Vulnerable Children around the world. Cost - \$500

**Bible Study Group Gathering.** This event gathers together the 13 Bible study groups comprised of parents of boys who have been reconciled. The objective is to encourage these parents in the Word and mutual support. Cost - \$300

Thanks! We are thankful for those who supported the Christmas Gift for Needy families as well as the Staff Retreat for 2016. More in next month's newsletter!

### Thrivent Choice Dollars Instructions:

It is easy to designate your Thrivent Choice dollars for the work of the Capstone Ministries!

Online: Step 1 – Visit [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice).

Step 2 – Click on “**log in**” at the top right of your screen & enter your MyThrivent user ID & password. (If you haven't registered on Thrivent.com, click on “**register now**” to register for full access.) Step 3 – Look for your designated Choice Dollars on the right side of the screen.

Step 4 – Click on “**Direct Choice Dollars**” on the Thrivent Choice box on your MyThrivent page.

Step 5 – Search the catalog of organizations to find and select the “Capstone Ministries”

Step 6 – Click on “**Direct Choice Dollars Now**” to direct your designated Choice Dollars to benefit the reconciliation of street children with God and family! By phone:

Step 1 – Call **1-800-847-4836** and when prompted, say, “**Thrivent Choice.**”

Step 2 – When prompted, say, “**Choice Dollars.**”

Step 3 – Say or enter your Social Security number.

Step 4 – **Press 1** to direct Choice Dollars or **press 2** to hear the Thrivent Choice program terms and conditions.

Step 5 – A representative will then work with you to direct Choice Dollars for Capstone Ministries.

areas, financial constraints are almost always a challenge.

In the past five years Capstone has assisted with High School fees for 8 boys. Our first graduate attended Capstone Camp last August. But we knew that the 2015 KCPE candidates had the potential to excel. Eleven boys reconciled with family over the years were taking this exam and many were very bright. We were hoping that as many as 4 would qualify, especially since we had sponsors already for 4. But a week after we returned, Patty, I and Berlin sat in our home and sent text messages with each boy's registration number to the KCPE results line. It was thrilling to see each returned text give us the results of each boy. Seven exceeded the minimum qualification. Not four! SEVEN! And one boy far exceeded the highest score ever by a Capstone 8<sup>th</sup> grader. The highest grade by any reconciled former street boy was 311 until 2015. But Brian Poi scored 364! **364!!!** If you knew Brian's story of former street life: rejection, dysfunction, shifting schools and homes, etc, you would be amazed that this boy could score so well in school. It is a testament to his perseverance and determination. In fact, it is encouraging to see any boy who has spent time away from school, living on the streets, and now reconciled in challenging circumstances, score so well on the national exam.

You can partner with Capstone in helping one of these boys achieve a high school education, something most of these boys have only dreamt about. We still need several sponsors for these boys. Just write to us at the email on p. 1 and we will send you the information packet and program. The cost per year for 4 years is \$650. Six of the seven boys who are eligible are pictured in this newsletter.

We give God the glory for what he is doing through Capstone in Kenya. These boys' changed lives and performance in school is just one of the marvelous living testimonies of the power of the Gospel in challenging circumstances. God is able! His Word is powerful! The Holy Spirit is working. The Gospel changes lives. The founding verse of Capstone is Ps. 118:22. “*The stone the builders rejected has become the Capstone!*” The next verse dramatically announces: “*The Lord has done this and it is marvelous in our eyes!*”

### Donation: Capstone Ministries & Dan and Patty support

Name \_\_\_\_\_  Address \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Designation if any \_\_\_\_\_ Donation Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Capstone Ministries. All donations are tax deductible.

Email: [CapstoneMinistries@gmail.com](mailto:CapstoneMinistries@gmail.com) Website: [WWW.CapstoneMinistries.org](http://WWW.CapstoneMinistries.org)

Send to: Capstone Ministries, P.O. Box 2080, Oakdale, CA 95361