



# Capstone Ministries



***Restoring Children! Strengthening Families!***

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

A prayer letter from Dan and Patty Schmelzer, Kisumu, Kenya

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## In this Issue

- Page 1: "Press On"
- 2: "Press On" cont.
- 2: Rescues in April
- 2: Dan's Travel Schedule



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The number of  
street boys  
reconciled with  
family by  
Capstone  
Ministries since  
2005

# 621

***Rescued to date  
2 rescued in April***



Check out Capstone  
on Facebook.



Capstone Ministries is an RSO of the LC-  
MS (Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)

## "Press On"

***"Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:13,14***

I asked Pastor Isaiah Apiyo, Operations Supervisor of Capstone Ministries in Kenya to describe the story of one of the boys who came for orientation into Capstone's Education scholarship program. Collince qualified for Capstone's secondary school scholarship. High School in Kenya is not free and poor rural residents are not able to afford the fees. Capstone provides a scholarship in academic or vocational training for deserving and achieving students. Nine students qualified including Collince. The following is Isaiah's description of Collince Ouma, rescue #578.

Paul is in prison suffering for doing what is right. The life in prison could have distracted him from the goal of proclaiming the Gospel but he stayed focused. Paul could still adapt to the challenging environment, as he was resilient. Resilience is the quality of being able to adapt to stressful life changes and hardship.

This is the story of Collince Ouma, who was rescued on 14/09/2019. His father had died of cancer just three months earlier. His father was the only bread winner.

**Collince Ouma**



His mother was physically challenged and was staying with Collince's uncle who was epileptic and mentally challenged. The mother had tasked him to care for the uncle as she often went out to do casual jobs to support the family. Collince did not like it so he ran away to the streets of Kisumu. Collince life had not been easy but he continued to stay at home and Capstone staff did several follow up visits on him and his family and counseled them. The family joined Kisumu Bible study group which strengthened them spiritually. They met every month to encourage one another. This served as a social support.



#### **Kisumu Bible Study Group**

Collince had been performing well and Capstone assisted him with both grade 7 and 8 Targetter Revision Books. This year he sat for his final grade 8 exams and scored, emerging the top of all Capstone grade 8 candidates. He was admitted to a school in Nyeri, Central Kenya and this was another challenge as the family could not afford regular transport to that school. This week we managed to secure him admission to Ramba High School and he will join Form one on 5th May 2022.

One enemy of resilience is the incorrect assumption that we know how things will end, when a situation seems out of control or does not appear to be headed in the right direction we tend to write "the end" over the story. Nobody was certain of how Collince will perform in school but his life is a testimony of how God is using Capstone Ministries to touch the lives of reconciled street boys and create impact on communities. At Capstone Ministries each step is a success. God bless you for your support of Capstone.

A child leaving the streets is a success, a child staying at home is a success, a child going to school is a success, a child becoming self-reliant is success. We continue to press towards the goal, putting our trust in the Lord, He will direct our paths.

#### **Dan's Travel Schedule through June 5**

April 24 Victory Lutheran, Medicine Hat, AB, Canada

April 27,28 CALC Presentation at Pastor's Retreat of CALC, Hastings Lake Bible Camp.

April 29,30 CALC Convention, Holiday Inn, Edmonton, AB, Canada

May 1 Chinese Lutheran Church, Calgary, AB, Canada

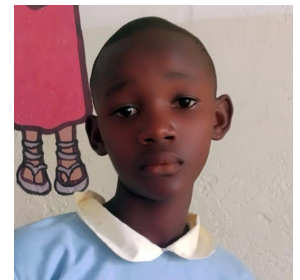
May 15 Prince of Peace Lutheran, Topeka, KS

May 22 Messiah Lutheran, Mounds View, MN

June 5 Trinity Lutheran – Africa Missions Celebration, Freistadt, Mequon, WI

#### **Rescues: 2 boys were rescued in February**

They are: Delvan and Daisy



#### **Convention of CALC attended by Dan (Canadian Association of Lutheran Churches)**