

GIVING HOPE INTERNATIONAL

Graceworks Kenya

Making a Difference in the Lives of HIV/AIDS Orphans in Africa, *One by One*

The tragedy of HIV/AIDS in Africa:

According to the World Health Organization, an estimated 13 million children have lost one or both parents to the HIV/AIDS pandemic globally. In **Kenya alone, there are over one million orphans!** While some of the children end up in orphanages, most are taken in by extended family members, usually elderly grandmothers, who struggle to care for them in extremely destitute conditions. To make matters worse, many of the relatives are too poor to afford school fees and supplies and therefore the children are unable to attend school. This condemns them to a life with little hope for the future.

How Graceworks came to be:

In April 2004, Susan Njemanze traveled from her home in Anaheim, California to Kenya (East Africa), accompanied by her three children. The purpose of the trip was to help launch a project she named **Graceworks** aimed at alleviating the suffering of children in her village of birth in Embu, Kenya that have been impacted by the HIV/AIDS pandemic. With support from friends, co-workers and her church, they were able to take new clothes, shoes, school supplies and hygiene products which they distributed to orphaned children.

Hope for the children:

During her trip to Kenya in April 2004 and working closely with the local Christian church and community leaders, Susan was able to help register a Community Based Organization (CBO) known as Giving Children Hope, Kenya (GCHK) with **Graceworks** as one of its projects. Targeting approximately **50 children in the area who have lost one or both parents to HIV/AIDS** and that are being raised by impoverished relatives, the goal of the **Graceworks Kenya program** is to help promote the development and well being of these children through the following assistance programs:

- Access to emergency food/clothing
- Access to education
- Access to medical care
- Counseling/basic needs.

Currently, **Graceworks** operates under the auspices of Giving Hope International (GHI), a faith-based 501 (c) (3) relief agency based in Buena Park, California. **GHI** reaches out to women and children in crisis, both locally and internationally, through partnership with individuals, churches and other charitable organizations. **GHI** recognizes the plight of HIV/AIDS orphans in Africa as urgent, and is partnering with **Graceworks Kenya** to provide assistance to the children and their caretakers.



To make a donation to the Gracework Kenya program, please make checks payable to:

Giving Hope International,
8332 Commonwealth Avenue,
Buena Park, California 90621
(When you make a donation, please specify that your gift is for Graceworks Kenya).
All gifts are tax-deductible!

EASTER IS A TIME FOR HOPE!

Be an Easter blessing for an AIDS orphan through the Graceworks Kenya program by providing a chance for education

This Easter, you have an opportunity to give a gift of hope that will keep giving throughout the year and which will make a difference for a child's lifetime. One time per year, the Graceworks Kenya program provides each school aged child in the program with a set of school uniforms and supplies which enables that child to attend school. While primary school education is usually free in Kenya, the children are required to provide their own school uniforms and school supplies such as notebooks, pencils, pens, etc. which many of the caregivers cannot afford. Without these, children usually drop out of school, taking away the only chance they might have for a meaningful future. The Graceworks Kenya program is committed to making sure that orphaned children remain in school because not only is it the only way to break the cycle of poverty but also because it gives children some normalcy in their otherwise tragic lives, as well as hope for the future.

This year, the Graceworks Kenya program has received a request to provide school uniforms for 48 orphaned children at a cost of \$50.00 each. **\$50.00 will provide the following items for an orphaned child:**

- Two shirts
- One dress/pair of shorts
- Three pairs of socks
- One sweater
- One pair of shoes

Below, Children in Africa show off their gifts donated by St. John's Lutheran Church, Orange, California



For information on other ways you can support the Graceworks Kenya project please contact:

Susan Njemanze MSW, LCSW
Office (714) 523 4454
Cell # (714) 932-5425
Email: snjemanze@adelphia.net

*A Hundred years from Now
It will not matter what my bank account was,
The sort of house I lived in, or the kind of car I
drove
But the world may be different because I was
Important in the life of a
CHILD*