

Notice Board

Seeds of Hope 16th Annual fundraising Banquet

Our biggest event to date featuring the launch of a new arm to the ministry!

A fun night of dinner, special music featuring the Grace Academy Children's Choir via video, silent and live Auction.

Come and hear of how lives are being changed around the world through Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry
Invite your friends to enjoy the evening and learn about the ministry

Saturday, November 5th, 2011 at 6PM
Venue: Christian Life Community Church
35131 Straiton Road Abbotsford, BC

For tickets, please call (604) 870 - 4810 or pay on line through a recent email sent to you and print off your tickets

Tickets: \$25 each, \$40 per couple or \$150 for a table of eight

Our current needs:

- ✓ Ongoing funding needs for Buseko Children's Home and Grace Academy in Zambia.
- ✓ We have numerous children needing sponsors in Zambia and in Myanmar.
- ✓ Grace 2 Grace - school support in local shanty.
- ✓ "Widow's Jar Fund".
- ✓ Please visit our web site at: www.seedsofhopecm.com to view our urgent needs.

Your prayers and financial support are greatly appreciated.

In Canada please make cheques to:

Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry

PO Box 3474

Mission, BC V2V 4L1

Or in the USA

Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry USA

PO Box 897

Chico, CA 95927

Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry is a certified member of the Canadian Council of Christian Charities and abides by all its strict ethical and financial standards, including annual audits by an independent accounting firm.

Spending of funds is confined to board approved programs and projects. Each gift designated toward an approved program will be used as designated with the understanding that when any given need has been met, designated gifts will be used in a similar project.

Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry is on Facebook. Please join our page to see regular updates and photos. Invite your friends to learn about this ministry.

Please go to: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Seeds-of-Hope-Childrens-Ministry/240992149265431>



facebook



seeds of hope

HELPING ORPHANS AROUND THE WORLD

General Inquiries

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Contacts

John Chalkias - Executive Director
Susan Chalkias - Dir of Operations
Cindy Wade - Office manager
Mieke Wishart - Child Sponsorship

Board of Directors

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Mission Statement

Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry is committed to serving Jesus Christ. Our mission is to help orphans and the less fortunate around the world by sharing God's love and what He has blessed us with. We have a particular call in the area of caring for children who are either infected or affected with HIV/AIDS

Fall 2011 Newsletter

He brought me up out of the pit of destruction, out of the miry clay, and He set my feet upon a rock making my footsteps firm. He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; Many will see and fear and will trust in the Lord. Psalm 40:2,3

Her name is Hope

By John Chalkias, Executive Director

The writer of the above scripture is writing about how God saved him out of a situation of complete despair and hopelessness where it felt like a being in a pit with no way out. A place of darkness, void of joy or happiness with no hope of things changing. A place where even one's own life is despised. Have you ever been in such a place?

We often get calls from social welfare saying that they have another "dumped" child for us. Usually, it means that the mother has abandoned the child in the hospital or some other public place. Feeling so hopeless and with such a burden that they abandon their own child; perhaps even thinking the child can have a better life with someone else.

I have heard of pregnant women in such desperate situations, not knowing what to do with another mouth to feed, actually giving birth in a pit latrine to get rid of the baby. I cannot imagine the hardships they are facing that can make them do such a thing. They must be in that horrible pit that the writer is talking about.

In August, one such woman in one of the local shanty slums where we work did just that. Feeling so overwhelmed with no way out and the burden of having a child, she gave birth in a pit latrine. However, someone heard the infant crying and went into the filth to rescue the child.

One of our teams visiting the children's hospital came upon the child. She weighed only 2 kilograms at two months old. The nurse told the team the story of

the child and we were able to bring her to Buseko Children's Home. An unwanted nameless child born in a pit latrine and left

to die in human waste. A child literally in a pit of such deep, dark despair... but God has other plans for her. We named her Hope and everything has changed for her. She went from being unloved to being cherished, from being a burden to being a joy, from hopeless to having a bright future! Please watch for updates on Hope's progress and celebrate with us as God redeems her life. Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry has been rescuing children since 1995. Please join us in this very urgent work. Inside this edition you will find ways that you can be involved.



Helping children and their communities since 1995

Seeds of Hope works with poorest people in the countries where we operate. In Zambia over one million people live in shanty slums. The article below is taken from Susan Chalkias' blog.

Morning Coffee

The first thing John does after his morning shower is to make a pot of coffee and he makes me a cup of tea. This is our morning ritual both here in Africa and at home. It is the “kick start” to what seems- never to be enough sleep.

The poverty in Zambia is overwhelming. At times it makes you want to shut down all your emotions and just pretend it really isn't there. It makes me see the sin inside my heart thinking that yesterday I wrote about my frustrating shopping day, and today I am thinking, ‘wow, I filled two shopping carts while most people around me will never get the chance to even enter that store.’ Mud huts are a small structure made of clay/soil. If they have windows it is not a glass pane that opens and closes but a small space where there are no clay bricks. This leaves the house VERY dark. A better off family will have a mattress for the parents; however, the children will sleep on a sack on the dirt floor. Blankets –what blankets? Pillow – nonexistent. The kitchen consists of a straw shelter with a small brazier that holds the charcoal. The bathroom is a hand dug pit latrine surrounded by straw or plastic and is located outside the home. Toilet paper?

I married my best friend. My favourite place to be is, “anywhere with him”. We rise early each morning here and enjoy each other's company while we have our tea/coffee together. Today we talked about how blessed we are; how even the simplest of pleasures are a blessing to us. We talked how marriages (for the most part) are so different in the Zambian culture...how can they not be? To have coffee together would mean:

1. Having enough money to buy coffee/when you struggle to buy food for your children
2. Forget the cream all together! It is not even possible to have cream. (You can't have a fridge as you have no electricity)



3. Light the charcoal brazier
4. Go to the well or stream and haul the water back to the house
5. Having enough money to use the charcoal up on a pleasure.
6. Mmm... this one is the hardest...where would we sit to enjoy each other's company?

Today when you have your cup of coffee make sure to “thank God” for it. Even better, instead of having that cup of coffee, consider making donation to those who will never have one. After all you sleep not only on a mattress, but that mattress is in your beautiful home. You flick the switch on your wall to have “light”. You open your cupboard and take out your favourite coffee. You go to your sink (one of many in your home) and fill the machine with water. You make your coffee by simply pushing a button. Your fridge keeps your “cream” from spoiling. Now you find your favorite chair or sofa and enjoy your coffee. If you are a second cup person, not to worry the carafe is on a hot plate!



The amount of orphaned children in Zambia is overwhelming. Children like Hope would not have a chance unless someone intervenes. We are building eight more homes for orphaned children. These homes



will have children like Hope in a family atmosphere where they are loved and feel like they belong. We are also looking after their educational needs with the building of the new high school; scheduled to be open in January 2012. We believe that if we saved the lives of children and raised them only for them to go back to the shanty slums – then we failed. Through having loving homes, a good education and raised in a Godly manner, we believe that the children will have a chance to escape the cycle of poverty and to be a blessing to their communities and their country. We need your help as we are building, as we have many needs. You can give financially to help us with costs of materials. You can also join us on a team. There is a building team scheduled for January 2012. We need carpenters and trades people. Besides building we will also be training our Zambian crew in modern building methods. Please call our office for information.



Thank you to all who contributed in getting items for the container recently shipped to Zambia. It included commercial washers and dryers, building materials and tools, children's clothing, toys and over 8,000 books for our new library at the high school. A big thank you to all who came to load the container. It was a big job made easier with the many hands that shared the work.

The Launch

The Bible says in James 2:15; Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, “Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

We are launching our biggest project since Grace Academy on November 5th live during our annual

banquet in Abbotsford. If you are in the Abbotsford area, you are invited to come and be part of our exciting evening. Please see the back page for information on the banquet. This new project will be holistic and self sustaining. It will give people in the countries where we work an opportunity to better their lives and their families so that situations like Hope's mother don't happen. It will give people hope and a future by creating jobs – not a hand out. It will be the Gospel changing the lives of people by love in action. It will give people here in North



America a chance, no matter what their economic situation an opportunity to make a real impact on people living in third world nations.

Please come to the banquet to find out how. We are asking all those who attend to bring an additional \$15 above what they were planning to give. All of our projects were launched at our banquets with the help of our very generous donors; so we look forward to a very successful evening. If you are not able to attend, please give generously to help us. We will be announcing the exciting news the following day on our web site and through Facebook. If you are not on our Facebook page, then please “like” us and recommend us to your friends.

Child Sponsorship is a great way to change the destiny of a child. Help give a child a loving home, an education and hope for the future for less than a \$1 a day. Please call our office today or visit our web site for more information. We need sponsors in our Asian and African

