

M A Y 2 0 1 3

New Life Foundation

God's heart hurts when children's hearts hurt!

President's Word

Hello friend,

I will begin, as always, by thanking you for your support. I always begin this way because I believe your love, prayers and support is one of the most important sustaining factors for New Life's continual health and growth.

This month has been a month of splendid additions into our lives as an organization. Our partnerships have grown through our involvement with GCF 5.0 and our internal ministry continues to blossom into what we believe God has intended for it.

We have begun our strategic planning and just recently completed the second phase of this foundational period. Please direct your prayers towards this as we have agreed to make 2013 our year of planning. Under the leadership of our Board Chairman, Pastor Elingarami Munisi, God has been guiding our steps and surely nudging us in his direction.

We are truly blessed. Again, thank you very much for your continued contributions to God's work here in Tanzania. You are loved, valued and appreciated by not only us – who you stretch your hand to support – but also by our Lord, Jesus Christ, who we all diligently serve.

*With love, Your Friends in Kilimanjaro,
Glorious & Josephine Shoo*



Looking to the Future

New Life was all about the future this month. From our ten year strategic planning meeting to Pastor Shoo's return from the International School of Fundraising in London with a fundraising trainer at New Life itself. We have been planning and looking forward to a future as glorious as the one God has planned out for us. New Life's work is not without its kinks and we ironed a huge chunk of them out this month – our departmental heads, administration along with our board chairman saw to this. Throughout this process, however, we are being reminded that God's plan for us is what matters most. We found ourselves not merely looking to the future but doing so by looking back to God's original plan and forging our way into

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord. Plans to give you a hope and a future! (Jeremiah 29:11)

May Highlights

School of Fundraising



Pastor Shoo organized and led a 4-day School of Fundraising for all available New Life staff. The workshop was held at NLF headquarters and was inspired by Pastor Shoo's visit to the Leadership Institute's International School of Fundraising '13 in the United Kingdom. We learnt a great deal on building relationships, tracking relationships, organizational self-improvement and many fundraising techniques. The feeling in the camp after the workshop was one of shared responsibility for fundraising so God's work here at New Life thrives.

NLF Strategic Planning

The first part of New Life's 10-yr strategic plan is now complete. Led by NLF's Board Chairman, Rev. Elingarami Munisi (MBA), the five-day sessions involved the organization's administrative arm, heads of department, representatives from the communications & teaching units, and an external observer from Norway. The highly successful meetings came up with new Vision & Mission Statements, identified New Life's key strategic issues – division by division – and set goals for each. Phase 2 has been set for May and will additionally involve the whole Board of Directors. Here, organizational restructuring, SWOT analysis and the full documentation will take place as we plan for NLF's amazing future!

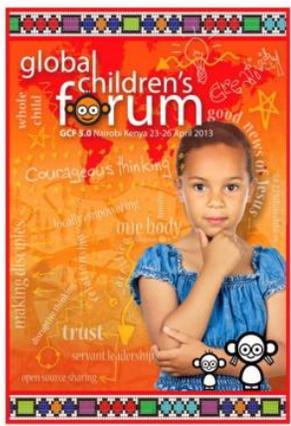


Juvenile Prison Ministry

Our form three students visited the Juvenile Prison this month as part of their Fountain of Love outreach program for a ministry mission. The students ministered to the young prisoners through preaching, counseling, prayer and playing with the inmates. We had a blessed time sharing God's love with children who many consider delinquent outcasts. We hope that this love can plant seeds of faith in them so they too, one day, may find the joy and salvation of knowing Christ Jesus!



May Focus: Global Children's Forum 5.0



New Life Foundation sent its communications officer, Princely H. Glorious, to Nairobi as their representative for the Global Children's Forum 5.0 (GCF 5). Delegates from more than a hundred nations around the world met to share their experiences, forge new partnerships and further the foundational message of Christ to children all over the world. Here is a comprehensive report from GCF on the event itself and all the amazing connections that grew out of it.

When the Global Children's Forum gathered in Kenya we had two main goals:

- To advance the work of our on-going global projects
- To explore the potential of Africa's church and children to bring about long term change and to catalyse African-based partnering initiatives

The first two days saw 65 people from all over the world focused on projects in 5 key areas – advocating for children, training workers and emerging leaders, focusing on families, empowering children and providing resources. Highlights of this time were the presentation of the inaugural issue of the AimLower Journal, the addition of Children-at-Risk to the advocacy discussion, the expansion of KidsHubsTV into Francophone Africa, an exploration of how all of us can be more involved with open source sharing of resources, the plan to convene a series of Family conversations in 2014 – the UN Year of the Family – and the maturing of ideas for the one-year leadership development experience.

At the end of this time, we were joined by an additional 75 people, primarily from Africa. The next three days were focused around Africa as a case study, guided by a team of Africans from within GCF. A focal piece for this process was a group exploration of God's work in children's lives and the ways in which our individual and collective activities can act to serve this work. This took shape as together we built a circular diagram of post-it notes on the floor. Rev Aiah Foday-Khabenje, Head of the Association of Evangelicals in Africa, also addressed us on the strengths and challenges of children's ministry in Africa and these were experienced as we visited local child-based projects. Much time was spent listening to the Africans, rejoicing in their strengths, sharing their pain and celebrating their dreams. As Africans and non-Africans listened to each other, it resulted in some thoughtful and honest dialogue and repentance.

As the picture of children and children's ministry in Africa was painted, the desire for multi-lateral partnering and innovate ideas grew. Delegates from other regions shared their experiences of starting GCF-style partnering and the group commenced a process of 'courageous thinking' to explore new ideas and directions. Some of those new to GCF had the opportunity to join existing work teams while others considered the next steps for African collaboration. The three key needs of training, resources and developing young leaders were identified and teams began to work on addressing them. Others began planning for GCF-style gatherings in their countries.

A focus on the centrality of Jesus as initiator, leader and provider also acted as a baseline for all our deliberations. This was expressed as he was placed at the centre of the exploratory process and as we looked at the metaphor of the Body of Christ in our devotional times. We left GCF5 determined to follow close after Christ our head and work better together as his Body.

Thank you!

New Life Foundation appreciates your continued interest and support as our organization grows forth. We would love to hear from you and see your friendly faces. Your time, expertise, donations and – above all – your hearts and prayers are what keep God's work at this organization rolling!



NEW LIFE
FOUNDATION

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