



ALAMO CITY MERCY FOUNDATION JULY 2015



JHHH SCHOOL RECEIVES TOP HONORS AND REGIONAL NOTORIETY!



On June 11, a Government Awards Ceremony was held in our Sub-County of Isinya, (in Kajiado County) to recognize the top performing schools on the 2014 Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) exam. Awards were given to the top three schools in each category. *JESUS Hobbs House of Hope School received six awards out of a possible eight categories in which we were eligible!* Categories and rankings were as follows...



'Best Performance by a student on the KCPE exam'—Clement Edwin Ochieng #2; 'Best Performing School according to Subjects'—English #1, Kiswahili #2, Science tied for #2; 'Best Performing Primary School with less than 50 students' #1; 'Best Performing Private Primary School Overall' #2. In addition to these sub-county awards, JHHH scored #2 overall out of 54 primary schools in the entire county of Kajiado which ranks among the top academic counties in Kenya!



The following week, on June 18 our students traveled to a sub-county-wide Speech, Poetry and Public Speaking competition. JHHH won 1st Place in 8 out of 17 categories (6 group, 2 individual). The children returned celebrating, singing, dancing and giving glory to GOD! We are so proud of them and grateful for our wonderful teachers and staff who lead them.

NOTORIETY AND SUBSEQUENT GROWTH LENDS TO CHANGE OF CONSTRUCTION PLANS—FROM KITCHEN TO DORMITORY

DORMITORY PHASE 1 (OF 4)
BALANCE NEEDED: \$56,374
(see breakdown below)

Concrete Substructure: \$46,135
(\$18,899 out of \$65,034 already given)

Preliminaries, Fees & Labor: \$10,239
(installment one of three)



Your giving continues to play an essential role in this ministry, and we are extremely grateful! If you would like to give towards this phase, please mail a check to the address on back or donate online at alamocitymercyfoundation.org. All donations are tax-deductible.

In our March newsletter, we explained the need for a new kitchen, however, upon Kristi Hobbs' arrival at JHHH in June, she saw the exponential growth due to the recognition the school is receiving. A meeting was held with the Njao's and the technical consortium and all agreed that the acute need right now is the construction of another dormitory. Currently we have 72 children enrolled in school, 42 of those live at JHHH (23 orphans, 19 boarders) and the remaining 30 are dayschoolers. Most parents of those dayschoolers would like us to board their children, but there is no room. In addition to those families, many others have been turned away due to lack of accommodations. In Africa, boarding school is a privilege afforded to families with the means to provide their children with quality education. The importance of accommodating more boarders at JHHH is that those **boarding fees will permit the children's home to be self-sustained**, allowing us to receive and provide for more orphans and indigent children. **This is the vision that the JESUS. Hobbs House of Hope Children's Home has had since its inception--** to establish a top performing school that would attract boarders and school-fee paying families, which would in turn **financially sustain the children's home and permit us to rescue more orphans and destitute children.**

Although we broke ground for our new kitchen while Kristi was there, we feel it is in our best interest to put the kitchen on hold and raise funds to build a multi-story dorm. The ground floor totaling 3,337 sqft will accommodate 80 children. The total cost of this project is \$192,625 which will be constructed in four phases. Please pray with us as we trust God for this provision.

JHHH HOSTS DAY OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

On June 27 the JESUS. Hobbs House of Hope hosted 300 people from the community for a day of thanksgiving and celebration. Party tents were set up and the 5 hour ceremony, which included singing, dancing and presentations by the children, culminated with the dedication and launching of our new library and computer lab. Our guests included several government officials, parents of current students, neighbors, and families of prospective students. The District Education Officer gave a speech touting the JHHH School as an exemplary school for which other Kenyan primary schools should strive to emulate. The prevailing message was, "With God ALL things are possible!" We wish to thank the Books are the Beginning Ministry team for setting up the library, and Southside Baptist Church, Abilene, TX for providing our computers.

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Personal Word from Kristi Hobbs ... An Unexpected Reunion

In the March 'Personal Word' I expressed my heartache as reality set in that our eight graduates, who are now in secondary schools literally all over the nation of Kenya, would not be at JHHH when I returned this summer. However, to my surprise, the Njao's wrote letters to the kids' principals requesting they be released from their campuses to attend the June 27 celebration. I was blessed to spend time with them as 7 out of the 8 were granted permission to come 'home.'

Another unexpected blessing came during the ceremony when Peter called on me to present gifts to each of the graduates pictured below. Tears welled up as I spoke a blessing and word of encouragement over each child. They are amazing!



L-R Laura, Vivian, Brian, Nicholas, Gladys & Purity



Brian Mwangi



Gladys Wangui



Nicholas Kimani



Clement Edwin Ochieng

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Please Make Tax-Deductible Contributions Payable to the Mercy Foundation, PO BOX 39910 San Antonio, TX 78218
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