

# ADOPT A CHILD

## WILL YOU INVEST IN A CHILD'S FUTURE?

WE ARE ALWAYS IN NEED OF CHILD SPONSORS FOR BOTH THE FULANI SCHOOL KIDS AND ORPHAN BOYS. YOUR PARTNERSHIP WITH HELP WILL PROVIDE A STABLE ENVIRONMENT, EDUCATION AND AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THESE KIDS TO BE RAISED UP AS CHILDREN OF GOD.



TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR ADOPT-A-CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

WEBSITE: [WWW.HELPWESTAFRICA.ORG](http://WWW.HELPWESTAFRICA.ORG)

EMAIL JENNI: [SPONSORSHIP@HELPWESTAFRICA.ORG](mailto:SPONSORSHIP@HELPWESTAFRICA.ORG)



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COLLEGE STATION, TX 77845



# HELP, INC

partnering with West Africa

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## SAYING GOODBYE

by: courtney sakhvoruk

Every good thing must come to an end. And every ending brings a new beginning. Very cliché, very true! As my husband and I have pursued the Lord and His plan for our lives as parents, we have embraced the calling to adopt a child/children from Ukraine. Nearly a year after starting the adoption process, we are gearing up to travel there this summer, requiring that I leave work at the end of May to focus on our new family. It has been such a blessing to work for HELP over the past two years – playing a small role in such a BIG vision. God has done amazing things in and through this ministry, and I know incredible plans are yet to unfold. Jessica Mack will be replacing me as Mission Trip Coordinator at the new HELP office in the Fort Worth area.

For information about mission trips e-mail: [missions@helpwestafrica.org](mailto:missions@helpwestafrica.org)



by: lisa alexander

The last two years have been such a blessing working as the Administrator for HELP. By far this has been the best experience I have had in a work environment and I feel very blessed to have been a part of this ministry. A new chapter is coming to pass in the life of my family, and with that the old must be closed. After seven years of marriage and having lived with an infertility condition since the age of 14, my husband Stephen and I heard the shocking news two days after Christmas that I am expecting a baby, due in early September. The Lord really knocked our socks off, and nearly five months later, we are still in awe at this very much unexpected miracle. I will be leaving HELP at the end of May to travel as well as prepare for a move and the arrival of this little one. It is bittersweet that I must say goodbye, but I am very thankful for the long season the Lord allowed me to be with this ministry and look forward to embarking on the new season coming upon us.

You can reach the HELP office at the same e-mail address: [office@helpwestafrica.org](mailto:office@helpwestafrica.org)



## THE HELP OFFICE IS MOVING!

AS OF JUNE 1 OUR NEW INFO IS:

HELP, INC.  
700 HARWOOD, STE A  
HURST, TX 76054

PHONE: 817.581.7875  
FAX: 817.581.9697

[WWW.HELPWESTAFRICA.ORG](http://WWW.HELPWESTAFRICA.ORG)

## LETTER FROM BRYCE BUSHMAN

volunteer missionary in egbe for five months



WOW! Egbe is amazing. I love it here! Everything is so relaxed; the schedule is more of a suggested use of your time; and on a hot day, it's okay to leave your shirt half-buttoned.

My main role in Nigeria is overseeing construction on the new guesthouse donated to HELP, which I greatly enjoy. So far, we've built a security wall around the property; put in necessary drainage that will prolong the life of the property;

cont'd inside

## A SMILE WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS

by: Jenni Sternberg, from the Feb. 2009 trip

As I drove up to the CARE Center, it was as if I had never left. Instantly, beautiful faces were smiling at me, calling my name, shaking my hand. My heart filled with joy as the 13 orphan boys that became my family last summer greeted me. They were so eager to see the letters and pictures their sponsors sent to them. Their gratefulness is indescribable. They relished every word written from their sponsors and asked me myriads of questions about each and every person.

As Nigerian orphans, the relationship formed with their sponsors is truly becoming a deep part of their life and heart. They do not take this lightly. Many of their letters are addressed to "Mommy and Daddy" or say things such as "You are now my new family." They pray heartfelt prayers for the people who are enabling them to go to school and live much better lives than they had formerly known.

After my departure, I learned of 10 new orphan boys taken in by the CARE Center – the smallest being only four years old. I cannot wait to go this summer and spend two months getting to know these new precious lives that God loves so dearly. We are also hoping to take in girls, if we can find a woman to live at the CARE Center with them.

*Currently (including the new boys) we are in need of about 50 more sponsors for the orphans at the CARE Center. Would you consider becoming a sponsor? Or, if you are one currently, would you tell your friends about orphans in Nigeria?*

The Good Shepherd Primary School is another one of my favorite places in the entire world. The minute I get out of the van I am mobbed by small Fulani hands. Rubbing my arm, touching my clothes, mesmerized by this white skin they so seldom see. These kids fill up the deepest places of my heart, as I know they would be illiterate and uneducated without this school. During this trip, I had the honor of meeting 36 new children that were added to the school. The Fulani kids are also eager to draw pictures and practice their handwriting for the people who are making it possible for them to be educated.

*Currently, we are in need of 60 more sponsors for the Fulani school kids. Would you consider becoming a sponsor? Or, if you are one currently, would you tell your friends about the Fulani?*



## CREATIVITY FOR A CAUSE

Live music spills through the doors, as customers pass in and out of a South Carolina Starbucks on a Wednesday afternoon. Inside sit Landon Thompson, a former HELP mission trip participant, and Darryl Van-Horne using their musical talents to entertain a coffee shop with various stringed instruments, percussions and, occasionally, a harmonica. Their cause: raising funds for HELP's orphanage in Egbe and the medical clinic in Okoloke, where Fulani walk for miles to be seen by HELP's Nurse Practitioner. A vibrant, hand-made sign displays this mission and prompts listeners to make donations while waiting for their espresso to brew.

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This creative combination of coffee, music and a heart for Africa has resulted in hundreds of dollars in donations over the past two months alone! It adds up to make a lasting impact in the lives of many Nigerians. What a great example of "talents" being multiplied by simply using them for the Kingdom.



bryce cont'd

and renovated the inside to make it more suitable for large groups staying for either short- or long-term trips. A water tower and building for a generator were erected, as well as a security house where our guards will stay throughout the day and night.

The entire house has minimal plumbing and condemned electrical wiring. So, I've hired an electrician and plumber to rewire and replumb the whole compound. A borehole was also drilled on the property, and we will be supplying ourselves with water for future missionaries. This guesthouse, when not in use by missionaries, may be used as a venue for large events such as weddings and ceremonies. Inside, it has a big kitchen and will also have a large outdoor kitchen. This will bring some income back to HELP.

I've been working with builders, electricians and plumbers. The builder has 20-25 men who work on the guesthouse, so HELP is putting money and resources into the economy. I also participate in the manual labor and befriend many of the workers. I've had many spiritual and biblical conversations with several people that I think have done a lot of good. My goal is to be a witness to the Nigerian workers while they are doing their jobs.

Apart from my work, I've had some opportunities to travel to the bush with Pastor Babangida for Fulani outreach. The Fulani are amazing! They would beat the man on the TV show "Man Versus Wild" any day of the week! I figure the best way to minister to the Fulani is to learn their culture. The language is coming along just fine – it is much easier than expected. One of the pastors told me to answer everything in the Fulani camps with "jam." So, that became my reply to everything. I'm still unsure of its exact meaning, but every time I say "jam", the Fulani laugh and agree. I think it's a catch-all word; the variety of situations in which I've used it are quite expansive. So, at that rate I only have about five or six other words to learn, and I'll be good!

On a personal note, I've been settling in well at the CARE Center. The staff are very nice and attentive. I've been enjoying getting to know and learn from each one, never having to travel more than a stone's throw away to find someone to talk to. Sometimes the little house I stay in can be lonely; until recently, a little translucent lizard moved into my room. Under normal circumstances, I would run this funny little guy out of my house! However, this time I thought I could use the company, so I adopted him as my free roaming pet and named him Solomon.

I really miss everyone in the U.S., and I look forward to coming back and telling people more stories about what God is doing here.

