

Christmas 2012

Dear friends,

**Thank you** for your continued prayers, interest, and gifts for the Congo orphanage! Again and again Georgette and her staff thank us for our support and our prayers.

We continue to support the orphanage director Georgette and her co-workers Clement and Nicole in providing 50 children with a home, food, health care, and education. Our collective goal is to help these children grow into responsible and self-sufficient adults with an education and a trade. For the annual 10 km **Run for Rights** held on June 2 you donated \$3,095. Thank you!

We had hoped to have Georgette in Winnipeg with us in October. Plans were for her to speak at River East MB church on Thanksgiving Sunday. We wanted you to meet her in person and hear her vision for the children. Georgette was to speak at a conference and in churches, schools, and universities about the orphanage and the development situation in Congo. Unfortunately she was denied a visa. We are trying again to bring her to Winnipeg in March 2013.



Georgette, husband, and child



Doing laundry

Although communication is difficult, especially when electricity is down, we are grateful for a **spirit of openness and cooperation** between Georgette and ourselves. We are pleased with the financial reporting.

The children at the orphanage are well, and **all are in school**. A few have finished high school and trade school, and are now working – starting to fulfill the goals we'd set with Georgette back in 2006.

**One girl needs back surgery**, which costs \$1000. This exceeds our budget. If some would like to make this a special project (perhaps together with friends), this would be wonderful!

**Food prices have nearly doubled in the last 2 years**. At times there is not enough food to go around. When food is insufficient or lacking in protein, the children are listless for lack of energy. They need food not only to be healthy but also to study well in school.

To address this need, we increased our food budget from \$500 per month to \$1000 per month in the spring. So our income needs to increase. We also send \$2300 every trimester to assist with school fees.



Rice and beans



Foundation of future school

Georgette's dream, and ours, is to make the orphanage more self-sustaining. This includes cooperating with other groups, building a school, and developing valley farmland that Georgette already owns. The valley is fertile and well watered. There are some fruit trees and buildings. The food produced could feed the orphans, and the excess could be sold locally.

To help us serve the orphanage better, we are in contact with other organizations. A German charity provides some ongoing help. Two American organizations help from time to time but have not committed to long term support.

**We invite you to a monthly commitment.**

Income tax receipts are issued for all donations.

Cheques may be made out to:

**Accountable Development Works,**

84 Ruby Street,

Winnipeg, MB R3G 2C9.

Thank you again.

**We wish you a blessed Christmas and a wonderful winter!**