



NEWSBRIEF

News from Global Care and our partner projects

Winter 2017

MAKING THE PEN MIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD

CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Peace-building, teacher-training and improving education for vulnerable children are all at the heart of Global Care's newest project, in war-torn South Sudan.

The world's newest nation, formed in 2011 after over 50 years of civil war, still struggles with civil unrest from rebel militia, which has been ongoing since 2013. Years of war and violence mean education has been severely disrupted across the country for several generations, and the current education system is fragile and poorly resourced.

With 83% of the population in rural areas, access to education is difficult, and even when a school is available, the quality of education is limited. Only 27% of adults are literate. Although English is the official language of instruction, most educated people were schooled in Arabic in northern Sudan, making the delivery of education in English even more of a challenge.



An initiative by the diocese of Wau, supported by Global Care, aims to change this. By putting young people who have completed secondary school, or who are in the latter stages of secondary education, through a three-year teacher training programme, we aim to begin improving the quality of education for children in schools across the region. Trainee teachers will teach in the mornings, and train in the afternoons.

The scheme also addresses another huge challenge – providing viable employment. Thousands of young people join militia groups every year in the absence of any other source of livelihood. It's a vicious cycle of destruction which makes the life chances of each succeeding generation even more fragile, and the hope of change ever more distant.

We hope that by providing alternative employment we will begin to build peace for families and communities who have experienced so much suffering.

The first 50 teachers supported by Global Care will start training in January 2018.

We have committed to funding the project for one year initially, at a cost of £10,000. This sum covers food, accommodation, training and resources for 50 teachers. The training will be delivered at St John's Theological College in Wau.

Our new partner, Archbishop Moses of the Diocese of Wau, writes: "Education is a big problem here in South Sudan, not just the education of reading and writing and

numbers, but the education of knowing things, and knowing the same things as everybody else, being part of a greater whole. I have been to England and in that country every child goes to school, no question... But here in South Sudan that is not the case and many adults here have never been children going to school. One



thing our church must work to ensure is that every child in South Sudan goes to school and grows up with an education. Because people with an education can think for themselves and not be fooled into making bad choices and accepting things that are really wrong."

CEO John White said: "At Global Care our passion is to do more to support more children who are more vulnerable. This new project is another step on the way to achieving that goal. Working with a new partner, we hope to bring both peace and hope to desperately vulnerable children and communities, through positive opportunities and education for children and

young people who otherwise face a bleak future."

Thousands of young people join militia groups every year in the absence of any other source of livelihood.



theBigGive.org.uk

CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE 2017

28 NOVEMBER - 5 DECEMBER

This year's Christmas appeal includes something different – for the first time Global Care will be participating in The Big Give Christmas Challenge.

This is a national initiative to encourage support for charities at Christmas through a match-funding campaign, offering donors the opportunity to see their gifts doubled in value by a consortium of donors and philanthropists.

We are delighted to say that our initiative in South Sudan has attracted match funding of £4000.

This means that for one week, starting on Giving Tuesday (28 November) any gifts to our appeal via the Big Give website will be matched, £1 for £1, up to a total of £4000

Donations must be made via the Big Give website from 28 Nov - 5 Dec to be eligible for match funding. Follow the link from our website, or use

<https://secure.thebiggive.org.uk/project/28109>



If you would like to be **reminded of this by email** nearer the time, please contact us with your email address on events@globalcare.org or using the enclosed form.



Could you **consider setting up a 'donation station'** at your church or workplace during the week of the Big Give? All you will need is an internet-ready device (phone, tablet or laptop) which will enable to people to give online, and some information about the appeal. Get in touch and we will send you a poster and other resources explaining the appeal and the Big Give.

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“JESUS TEACHES US THAT ANGER CAN BE COMPARED TO MURDER WHICH MANY MIGHT SAY IS A SHOCKING THING. BUT IN A CULTURE LIKE THE ONE WE HAVE IN SOUTH SUDAN, GUNS ARE EASILY OWNED SO ANGER EASILY LEADS TO MURDER. IF A PERSON CAN BE TOLD THAT IT IS RIGHT TO KILL SOMEONE, POSSIBLY BECAUSE OF WHAT THEY HAVE DONE, SUCH AS STEALING A COW, OR BECAUSE OF THE COMMUNITY THEY COME FROM SUCH AS LUO OR DINKA, THEN KILLING IS EVEN MORE LIKELY. PEOPLE NEED TO BE EDUCATED TO UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IS VERY WRONG. JESUS TEACHES US SO MUCH THAT IS GOOD, BUT IF YOU CANNOT READ, EVEN IN YOUR OWN LANGUAGE, HOW CAN YOU KNOW THESE THINGS UNLESS SOMEONE TELLS YOU. SO THIS IS A MISSION FOR US.”



RIGHT REVD MOSES DENG BOL,
ARCHBISHOP OF WAU.



BRINGING PEACE this Christmas

Our Christmas Appeal this year focuses on our new Teacher Training programme in South Sudan. We hope to raise a minimum of £10,000, to fund the first year. If we exceed this amount, additional funds will go to towards further years of training.

£5 will pay accommodation costs for one student for one month.

£25 will pay tuition and accommodation costs for one student for one month.

£100 will pay tuition and accommodation costs for one student for one term.

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Prince of Peace, born a displaced child in a humble stable, whose family fled brutal violence to become refugees when he was still very young, please remember the children of South Sudan in your prayers.

Still living in humble circumstances, still fleeing or facing brutal violence. We can make a difference.

Use the enclosed form or visit www.globalcare.org/Christmas2017 to give or find out more.



FACTFILE

72% of South Sudan's population is aged under 30, with 51% living below the poverty line.

83% of the population live in rural areas, and 73% do not have access to clean water.

The average life expectancy in South Sudan is just 55 years.

73% of adults in South Sudan are illiterate, and 70% of children aged 6-17 have never set foot in a classroom.

The completion rate in primary school is less than 10%, one of the lowest in the world.

Only 13% of primary schools offer the full primary cycle, from Grades 1-8.

A mere 44,027 children are in secondary schools in the whole country, compared to 1.4 million in primary schools.



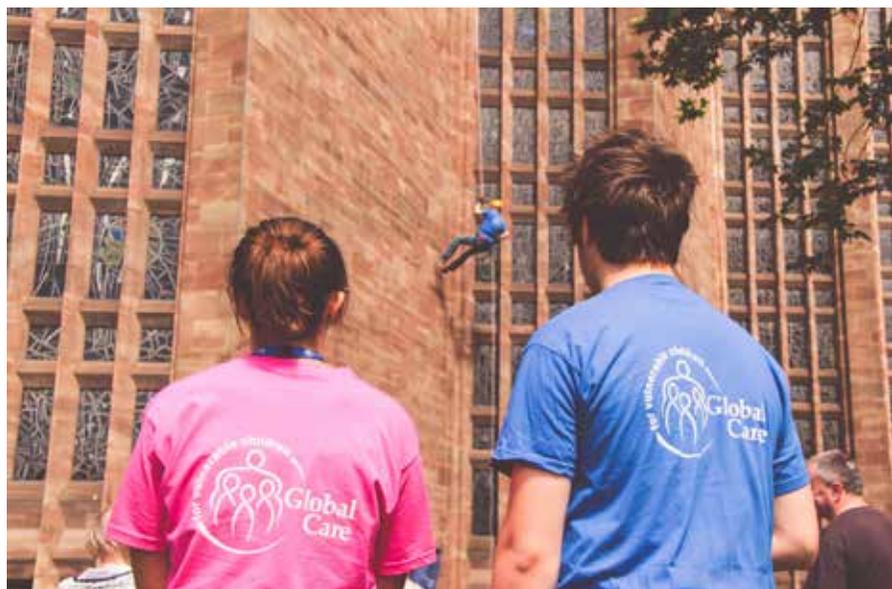
TAKING A RISK FOR CHILDREN@RISK

A huge thanks to everyone who took part in our charity abseil from the roof of Coventry Cathedral in June.

You raised £19,173 in sponsorship donations and a further £2,340 in pledges from new Children@Risk partners – a truly fabulous sum.

Feedback from everyone who took part has been very positive, with many comments on the day about how much fun people had, and what a great atmosphere the event created.

Funds from the event are supporting Global Care's Children@Risk fund, to help vulnerable children and communities at moments of crisis, including our Medical Response Fund for health emergencies, and to kickstart new initiatives.



Saving lives...



A gift of just £211 from C@R funds saved the life of 8 year-old *Jemma, from Uganda, after she was run over twice, first by a car and then by a boda-boda, a bicycle taxi, as she lay in the road.

Jemma was rushed to hospital with multiple injuries including a suspected ruptured liver, where she spent 11 days in intensive care.

Jemma lives with her elderly grandmother and five half-siblings and had recently been

accepted onto our sponsorship scheme, thanks to the income from our student hostel in Mukono. There is no way her family could have afforded her medical costs, but our Kampala staff knew they had medical funds available through C@R and were able to cover her fees.

Thankfully Jemma recovered completely and is now back at school, happy and well.

...building hope

A peace-building initiative for young refugees living in Lebanon was also funded through C@R this summer.

The pilot project, called Tools for Peace, aimed to provide teenagers and young people in their early 20s with skills they will need to help re-build their homeland in the future, through a series of training sessions.

The ground-breaking training included eight sessions covering topics like conflict resolution, communication skills, time management and team building.

The project allowed refugees from different backgrounds to discuss how they wish to build a better Syria, one founded on equality and mutual respect. 14 year-old Refaat reported: "Their impact is profound and positive. These sessions not only teach us how to act and communicate in a professional setting, but also help us build a better society, with stronger bonds. And that will help us seek and find love, forgiveness, and equality."

16 year-old Houdwa wrote: "Prior to our sessions, we didn't know the importance of communication and the art of building relationships with people. Now, we fundamentally understand these things. Moreover, we now know how to share our

ideas and how to better communicate with creativity".

The project benefited a wide range of refugees, mainly Syrian, but also included members of the Iraqi, Yazidi, Kurdish and Palestinian refugee communities living in Lebanon.



John White commented: "Our partners hoped that by beginning to educate these young people in the importance of relationship-building, conflict resolution and equality, they will equip them to work against attitudes which seek to keep communities fragmented and insecure."

ALL CHANGE

When 'development' means exactly that... growth, change, fresh

KIBERA, KENYA



Children at Spurgeon's Academy, in Kibera, Kenya, are due to move into a brand new school building early in 2018, following major developments in Kibera.

The school is moving due to the expansion of the nearby railway across the present site, and all existing buildings will be demolished, including the permanent classroom block we built in 2013.

In compensation, the railway authorities are rehousing the school in a brand-new suite of 15 classrooms and other accommodation, in the building they are erecting along the perimeter of the new

railway. This building effectively creates a wall to keep people off the tracks, but also provides accommodation to those displaced by the railway development programme.

Spurgeon's Academy is one of only three schools in Kibera to be re-housed in this way. Many other schools, clinics and businesses were affected, without such compensation being offered.

Negotiating with the authorities throughout this period has been extremely challenging, as we fought the eviction to protect our asset, which Kenya Railways had previously granted permission to build. We had also recently received a large grant to extend our building with a second storey. This work never started due to administrative delays, fortuitously as it

turns out, and we had to return the donor funds.

The entire process has been a significant learning experience and as a result we will be making changes to our processes and partnership agreements.

However, ultimately, thanks to the grace of God and the hard work of staff and partners, the result is that for the first time in the history of the project, Spurgeons Academy will have secure tenure, with a 45-year lease, and improved facilities, ultimately with more rooms and toilets than at present.

In total, we expect the school to have use of 15 double rooms, 20+ toilets, a staffroom and office, and a ramp for disabled access. Playground space will be more constricted than at present.

CEO John White said: "This has been an extremely painful and difficult process. However the well-being of the children has rightly remained at the heart of all we have tried to achieve, and we are delighted that the final outcome allows the work of the school to continue without interruption, in its current location, serving its current students, with improved facilities."

Kenyanito Dudi, director of Spurgeon's Childcare Kenya, said: "The road map has not been easy but full of bumps, lows, bends, yet with resilience, we are about to leap to a brand new building! We look back and thank God for a mutual partnership with Global Care and sponsors who have kept us going. I am beginning to see light at the end of the tunnel. Our children will definitely have a new learning environment come 2018."

...n starts, new challenges. Keeping you abreast of some major changes at a number of our projects in the last six months.

COLOMBIA

Our long-standing association with Futuro Juvenil, a home for former street children in Colombia, has ended. We were in the process of a staged withdrawal from this project, as over the years a local church began taking on more responsibility for the work, making our contribution less significant.

However we heard earlier this summer that the children had been returned to relatives pending some necessary work at the home, and all were safe and attending school. It seemed unnecessary to continue the partnership in the light of these events.

CEO John White said: "Over the years we have been thrilled to see the local church not only running the home but take over the funding of the home themselves. We feel that now is the right time to move our focus to other needs around the world."

HONDURAS

Five senior members of staff resigned from the Manuelito Home in Honduras, following a disagreement with the local board of trustees.

Our local partner, Duncan Dyason, has visited the home to monitor the situation and meet the new director of the project, the son of founder Jorge Pinto. Around 40 children are living there, and all are safe and well.

The situation will be reviewed when Global Care's CEO John White visits in February. Please pray the home is able to move forward positively after this difficult time.

ZIMBABWE

GROWING CHANGE IN A FRAGILE STATE



Children at the Houtberg Child Care Centre in Zimbabwe are benefitting from improved diet and improved financial stability at the home, thanks to agricultural initiatives which are – quite literally – bearing fruit.

Despite severe economic challenges in Zimbabwe, now a cashless society, our partners have delivered two projects: Developing a vegetable garden, funded through our Harvest Appeal in 2015, and a much larger initiative to secure and irrigate a five-hectare plot for commercial farming, providing a sustainable income for the centre. This project was funded by Jersey Overseas Aid.

CEO John White visited in August and was delighted at what he found: "Just a few short years ago the children were drinking river water, unable to grow more than the scantiest amount of food, and day-to-day feeding was an ongoing challenge as prices soared and the economy collapsed. We have come so far since those dark days, even though the wider situation in Zimbabwe has continued to deteriorate.

"The home is now fully self-sufficient in vegetables. Any surplus is given out by the children to elderly folk who live in the community nearby. I think it is very special that the children, through their hard work, are such a blessing to others. There was also a great deal of rejoicing that they now have a protected field where they can not only grow more of the staple food they need, but also cash crops like bananas. In the midst of a country going through such a difficult time, the home is a beacon of hope."



ABUNDANCE

2017 HARVEST APPEAL

A massive thanks to all our supporters for your generous gifts in aid of our 2017 Harvest Appeal, helping the hungry families of Soroti, Uganda, after prolonged drought devastated three successive harvests.

A wonderful £16,634.46 had already been raised by early October. Thank you! This sum more than covers the cost of feeding the 274 children and families we have supporting in Soroti. The additional funds will support further feeding for selected

families where children are particularly vulnerable, perhaps due to health needs such as HIV/AIDS or disability.

A sample group of children weighed and measured before food relief was initially distributed in June, and again in August, showed weight gains of up to 4kgs. Further benefits included dramatic improvements in school attendance, and the number of Global Care children attending local medical centres dropped by half.

Our Soroti staff report that some rains have now fallen, planting has taken place, and they are hopeful families will get a reasonable harvest by December, so we hope the feeding crisis will be over by Christmas. Thank you for your support.

*Names have been changed to protect the identity of children

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Registered Charity No. 1054008

Christmas Cards

We have three designs available for our Global Care Christmas Cards this year – two of them showing stills from a Christmas film produced by children at our Project Manuelito in Honduras, and one of them showing children from the Pavement Club in Kolkata, India.

Cards are sold in packs of 10, including envelopes, for a price of £3.49. Please make your order using the enclosed reply slip, or call 030 030 21 030.



Design 1:
Project Manuelito, Honduras

Card reads outside:
"For unto us a child is born.
Unto us a Son is given."

Card reads inside:
"Happy Christmas!"



Design 2:
Project Manuelito, Honduras

Card reads outside:
"For God so loved the world
that he gave his one and only
Son, that whoever believes in
him shall not perish but have
eternal life."

Card reads inside:
"Happy Christmas!"



Design 3:
Pavement Club, India

Card reads outside:
"Happy Christmas and
a blessed New Year."

Card reads inside:
"For to us a child is born, to us a son
is given, and the government will be
on his shoulders. And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Isaiah 9:6"

35 YEARS THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN

2018 marks 35 years since Global Care began! We will be celebrating this milestone with a range of events throughout the year, including a volunteer visit to Uganda, where our work started. Watch this space for more details and please join us in our celebrations!