



Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides.

Matthew 6:33

Helping Hands Healing Ministries, Inc.

Volume 5 Number 1

Quarterly Newsletter

March, 2007

GIVING—'God's Way'

God's Valentine to Us

For God so loVed the world,
That He gAve
His onLy
BegottEn
SoN
That whosoever
Believeth In Him
Should Not perish,
But have Everlasting life.

John 3:16

Submitted by
Julia Schweri

Let us unite in a prayer of thanks for God's passion & provision!

**Address: 4013 Deer Creek Dr.
Louisville/KY/40241-1581/USA**

**Internet Address
<http://hnhm.net>**

**Telephone: 502-744-2438
E-mail: drmargie@hnhm.net**

Requesting Your Assistance

We are in need of \$7,929 to make repairs to various buildings of **Tawa Primary School** in Tawa, in the diocese of Morogoro in Tanzania, a mountainous community serving 300 indigent children. These buildings are currently unsafe for use and are in desperate need of repair so that these children can continue their educations.

We have already collected \$4,897 toward this goal. Thanks to all who made memorial contributions in the name of *Marjorie Kelly Sweeney*, mother of *Mike Sweeney*, a board member of *HHHM*. Total contributions in her name were \$2,120. This amount was applied to the Tawa Primary School project and we were able to send a partial grant of \$4,000 to them on March 1st so that they may begin this much needed work to these school buildings.

We need an additional \$3,032 so that this project may be completed. Please help us to help these families become self-sufficient through education.

-X-X-X-X-X-X-

In the near future we will begin the process of setting up a scholarship fund within the framework of *HHHM* for the educational needs of the communities that we have visited in Africa. It will be vital to have an ongoing source of income for this endeavor. Anyone who would be willing to be a donor on a recurring basis for this fund or who would like to sponsor individual students, please feel free to call 502-744-2438 or e-mail drmargie@hhhm.net.

Thanking you for your generosity!

-X-X-X-X-X-X-



Fond Memories

By Mike Sweeney

Having lost my Dad in January, 2004 and now my Mom in January, 2007, I am grateful to have such great parents and so many fond memories. Their best gifts to my brothers, sister and I was their love and devotion to each other as well as to us. By their example, they taught us well.

My Dad, Thomas, was a chemical engineer, corporate leader and inventor, was always organized and always had goals. His charming personality, sense of humor and generosity were added bonuses for a guy with his ambition and are what people remember about him the most.

My Mom, Marjorie, was a high school teacher and guidance counselor also paid attention to detail. Her sharp mind and intellect were legendary but she used it to help others, not to laud over others. Besides her intelligence, she was also a very beautiful lady.

My parents complemented each other. I had every chance at success because of their encouragement, support, and excellent examples.

It was their wish to have contributions made to HHHM in lieu of flowers, but I wonder if that they would have known what a simple wish like that could mean to people a half a world away. In remembrance of them, contributions did the better part of establishing a dairy farm in Tanzania meeting the needs of a community of 6,000 malnourished and impoverished persons. Memorial donations made in Mom's name were used to support a grant to repair school buildings for a primary school serving 300 children also in Tanzania.

I just want to say thanks to my Mom and Dad for your great examples to living and also thanks as well to all those who remembered them in this way and for taking time to visit. Your presence, love and generosity were a great comfort and show of support.



List of Donors

Cash Donations

Anonymous/Miscellaneous Cash Donations

Karen Brand

Christine Day

Richard Dearing

Liz Francis

Elizabeth Gingerich

Dr. Robert & Marcia Hill

Raymond & Bonnie Kaelin

Jim & Lee Kuchenbrod

Sally Ann Mavri

Constance Morrison

Wade Jr. & June Poole

Ted & Alice Schneider

Patricia Sloan

Mike & Margie Sweeney

Martha Wiggington

Investments

PNC Bank Money Market Interest

In Memory of Eric Bissmeyer

Marian & F. H. Spalding

Community Programs

Thornton FundWorks

JustGive.org

Anonymous in the name of John Sweeney

Karen Hussey in the name of Kevin Costello

Paul Pinella

Kevin Spencer

Mike Sweeney in the name of Margie Sweeney

Corporate Donations

Tire Technical Services, Inc.

In-Kind Donations

Holy Family Radio—WLCR AM 1040

Louisville Business First

Louisville Office for International Affairs

Mother of Good Counsel Church

Publishers Printing Co.

Michael & Margie Sweeney

The Record

Trash for Cash Campaign

River Metals Recycling LLC

In Memory of Marjorie Kelly Sweeney



October 19, 1923 to January 8, 2007

Dale & Susan Barrett

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Ward Bowman

Braeburn Village Apartments Staff

Matthew Burnett—City Securities

Steve & Diane Castner

Patricia Cronin

Sandra Donovan

Michael & Catherine Golden

Edwin Jr. & Marguerite Hallman—in memory
of Thomas & Marjorie Sweeney & in honor of
their family

William & Mary Higgins, Jr.

Candi & Scott Hunt

Indiana Attorney General's Office—
coworkers of Margo Sweeney

Eloise Kibler

Dr. & Mrs. William Morrissey

Holly Newell

Nazareth & Margaret Pieri

Barbara Rocap

Karen Steilberger

Marguerite Sweeney

Mike & Margie Sweeney

Thomas & Mary Sweeney

Mike & Teresa Venatta



And whoever receives one child such as this in
my name receives me. (Matthew 18:5)





Can I Get A Witness?

I have a dream

By Margie C. Sweeney, MD, SFO

I have a dream that I can help those less fortunate than myself. It is a big dream but one that has already begun to be realized. You see, this dream that I have had since childhood started taking shape when I went to East Africa in 2001. I went to East Africa to follow a dormant dream that I had in college to help those in poverty in distant lands. Little did I realize how that dream would unfold! I landed in Nairobi, Kenya on 9/11 and had a very blessed trip!

When I returned home from this awesome trip, I had a lot to think about. How were the experiences of my trip to be used so that my childhood and college dreams could become a reality? I prayed long and hard about this. Over the ensuing months the vision of founding a charity organization started to form and ***Helping Hands Healing Ministries, Inc. (HHHM)*** is now in the fifth year of helping the poorest of the poor. In this short period of time, we have raised over \$55,000 and completed more than a dozen projects or services, all of this at a grassroots level! We do not have a marketing budget because we aim to keep costs low so that donated monies go to the intended projects. Your prayers and generosity have made all of this possible!

I have a dream that ***HHHM*** will complete projects that are low cost and will have a high impact on those that are served. It is my dream that these projects will be self-sustaining and will help people become self-sufficient so that they feel empowered to help others as well. An excellent example of this dream is our very first project in 2003! With \$516.68 we were able to provide electrical hookup for ***St. Francis Community School*** (pictured to the right) in Itimpi, Zambia in Central Africa which serves over 900 students from grade school through high school. This school can now also provide evening classes for adults in the community. It is incredible how such a small amount of money can go such a long way. Thousands have been helped to get an education which is so vital to breaking the cycle of poverty.



Another example of low cost, high impact projects is the dairy farm established at Mgeta Parish in the Uruguru Mountains in Morogoro, Tanzania in East Africa in 2004. This community of 6,000 impoverished persons including those who are malnourished, the elderly, and those with AIDS is receiving nutritional support from 5 cows and one bull purchased with \$4,242. This grant from ***HHHM*** to this community also provided for enough fencing material to house a total of 30 animals in the future as this farm becomes populated. A side benefit of this farm, is the biogas for heating that will be generated from the manure of these animals making this an environmentally friendly project as well.

(continued on page 5)

The school electrical hookup and dairy farm project are just two examples of how this dream to provide low cost, high impact assistance to the poorest of the poor is becoming a reality!

I have a dream that **HHHM** will be able to provide for the needs of the impoverished on a shoestring budget. This dream is already being materialized in part by your generous response to this newsletter. Because our printing costs are being taken care of by **Publishers Printing Company**, we are able to raise funds through this newsletter at a minimal cost. We are also able to raise some funds through online donations at <http://hhhm.net> which also helps keep costs down. We also have our **Trash for Cash Campaign** in which **HHHM** earns money by recycling aluminum cans, used printer cartridges, and old cell phones, so please keep those items coming in! As you spread the word about the work of this ministry to your family, friends, coworkers, and congregations, additional no cost publicity is provided helping us to be good stewards of the donations received. We thank you for your part in this dream!



I have a dream that others will be as passionate about my dream to help our brothers and sisters in need as I am. To this end, I have been blessed with a board of directors that agrees that this is a 'love of neighbor endeavor' and agree that we are providing direction to this charity on a volunteer basis. We have additionally had other volunteers at various times to assist with administrative duties and community awareness events for **HHHM**.

I have a dream that my family will be able to understand and share my passion with me. My daughter, Kelly has visited Tanzania with me in 2005 and Liberia in 2006. My son, Patrick has visited Liberia with me in 2006. Kelly has experienced Easter and Christmas in Africa and Patrick has experienced Christmas in Africa. Through these trips their lives have been enriched. My husband, Mike has been financially supportive of our trips so he has not been able to travel with us, but I dream that some day he will be able to take time away from his busy work schedule to join me. In the meantime, he shares my passion through my stories and pictures. Pictured at right are some of the children of **Our Lady of Fatima Rehab Center** in Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa.



I have a dream that **HHHM** will expand beyond the borders of Kenya and Tanzania in East Africa, and Zambia in Central Africa to serve others as well. A leap of faith was all that was needed for this dream. In 2006, that dream became a reality as we raised \$25,000 to build a medical clinic for **Our Lady of Fatima Rehab Center** in Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa. It took us 18 months to raise this money but I am amazed at the size of project that we were able to complete in the fourth year of this ministry! An additional blessing to this leap of faith—I was able to afford to travel to Liberia in Decem-

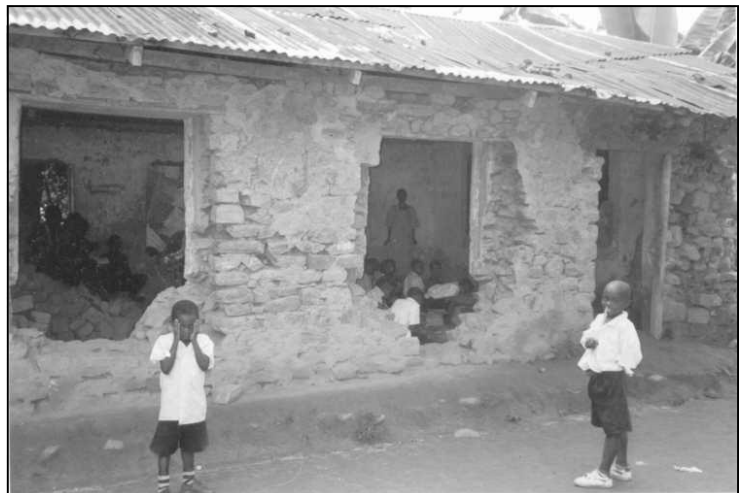
(continued on page 6)



ber with my two children, Patrick and Kelly, to visit and learn first-hand the needs of the residents of the rehab center. It was a Christmas we will not soon forget! When you say yes, God's providence knows no bounds! In the picture to the left, I am handing a check to Sr. Sponsa as the clinic staff witness this transaction at the site of the new clinic. The foundation was being laid during the week of our visit and plans were to have the clinic completed and ready for use within a few months.

I have a dream that besides the financial assistance that *HHHM* provides, we will also be able to provide spiritual assistance. This dream has been realized in answered prayers and assistance with providing spiritual materials, items for a retreat center, and a healing service in 2005. While *HHHM* is not a religious organization, part of the human condition needs spiritual nurturing and we offer direction in this capacity when it is requested.

I have a dream that all people will have an equal opportunity for education and quality of life consistent with the dignity that is theirs. Toward this end, we have provided electrical hookup for *St. Francis Community School* in Zambia, tuition for various students in Kenya, Tanzania, and Zambia, school desks for *St. Monica School* in Tanzania, and we are currently raising funds to repair school buildings for *Tawa Primary School* in Tanzania. The picture to the right shows one of the buildings for *Tawa Primary School* that are in desperate need of repair due to unsafe conditions. We are currently in the discussion stages of forming a scholarship fund within the framework of *HHHM* to meet additional educational needs. For this dream to become a reality, we will need an ongoing funding source.



I have a dream that you will join me in prayer, passion, and provision as we experience God's providence and enter into His promised land!



Niko na ndoto!

(I have a dream!)

President's Corner

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

May the risen Christ bring you peace!

We remain grateful for your faithfulness to the call to discipleship and to your missionary spirit. So many lives have been blessed by your giving. The world is truly a better place when love is the source and foundation of an endeavor. And we have the greatest example of love and ultimate sacrifice in Jesus, who laid down His life for us. I hope you enjoyed the message of love on the first page of this newsletter. It is something we can truly treasure this Easter Season.

My trip to Liberia, West Africa this past December gave me a new inspiration (as do all my trips to Africa). As I pondered the plight of the children at the Rehab Center at ***Our Lady of Fatima***, I realized that once these children are grown they will have to leave the center and reintegrate into society. What better way to do that than through continuation of the education that they have begun at the center. These children are so full of life and can give back to society in such a tremendous way, but they need the opportunity for an education which they presently do not have. We at ***HHHM*** would love to give them that chance, therefore we are in the process of forming a scholarship fund. Any ideas or suggestions that you have are welcome.

It is a little scary to begin an endeavor that will require ongoing funding but God does provide for all our needs and a leap of faith is all that is needed. I already learned that lesson when we took the leap of faith in 2005 to expand beyond the countries that we were then serving. That resulted in the request for \$25,000 to build a medical clinic, a project which seemed daunting at the time because our largest project to date was \$4,242 for a dairy farm in Tanzania in 2004. But God does not call the equipped. He equips the called! So we must trust and forge ahead. We ask for your continued prayers and support of this work.

I hope you enjoyed the article titled ***"I have a dream ..."*** on pages 4 through 6. In it I share more about my experiences of God's providence and provision when we say 'yes' to His call. Thank you for answering that call!

Please keep our ***Trash for Cash Campaign*** in mind when you are throwing away your empty aluminum cans, old cell phones, and used printer cartridges. We can recycle them for cash that will bless others and at the same time save our environment!

Please join me in prayer, passion, and provision as we experience God's providence and enter into His promised land!

Yours in Christ,

Margie C. Sweeney, MD, SFO

Phone: 502-744-2438

E-mail: drmargie@hhhm.net

Web Site: <http://hhhm.net>

Mailing Address for tax-deductible donations:

4013 Deer Creek Dr.

Louisville, KY 40241-1581





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4013 Deer Creek Dr.
Louisville, KY 40241-1581

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To save on postage, statements for donations made in 2007 will be mailed out in early January, 2008. If you require a receipt prior to that time please let us know.