

# Living Water Ministries: House of Hope



# Why House of “Hope”?

## Background

In 1998 Living Waters Ministries started Christian biblical meetings in southern Sudan. We witnessed the impoverished situation of so many children and saw the need for a children’s home. In 1999 the first orphanage opened for boys in an old hotel which we cleaned up and made home. Sometime later the state Ministry Of Social Development, Gender and Children Well fare gave us land on which to build and in 2011 we opened the House of Hope Girls Home with 5 girls and quickly more were added.

## Changed Lives

Girls are referred to us in various ways, prayer and our criteria help us know who to accept. The girls are usually aged between 3 – 7 years and orphaned or living the majority of the time on the street. To illustrate the changes we witness in the girls lives, allow us to introduce 3 of our girls to you (names changed for their protection).

### ***Sally***

Sally has a beautiful, peaceful spirit. She is gentle and loves to worship God. Sally is evidence of the power of God to change broken lives.

When she came to live with us, Sally was aggressive towards the staff and would beat up the other girls. She stole when the opportunity arose and was filled with anger and emotional pain. Both parents dead, Sally lived with her uncle and aunt who being blind struggled to care for her. She stole from them extensively disappearing for days to the market and was punished with beatings.

When Sally first came to us, God revealed His glory over her and so with this joy set before us we prayed unceasingly for this precious child. Soon after arriving, Sally ran away but was found the next morning in the market. Shortly after that, Sally committed her life to Jesus and was absolutely set free from all the pain of her past. Now she is a sweet pleasure in our home.

### ***Andrea***

Andrea’s village was destroyed in 2013 when violence erupted. She was never reunited with her mother or brothers again. Her father was killed three years earlier during tribal battles and thus Andrea was orphaned.

Neighbors took her in and on route to a relief camp on the border with Uganda, came through Juba. Hearing of the House of Hope, they contacted us and we met them and returned the following day to accept and collect Andrea, but they were gone. On receiving word they returned Andrea alone on an

arduous journey. She was taken in by a compassionate pharmacist and slept the night on the shop floor before we could bring her home in the morning.

On arriving at the House of Hope she was traumatized, spoke only her tribal language, could not adapt to city food, had malaria and typhoid. Her emotional state was so extreme she did not respond to our love for a long time. But we prayed and continue to pray for Andrea who accepted her new life and very slowly is learning the language. Despite this she is enjoying songs and prayers with her new sisters even if her understanding is limited.

### ***Three precious sister's***

The personalities of each precious girl is quite different: Emily is often quiet and wary, yet can be so affectionate; Lucy is transitioning from a serious child into a bubbly fun loving little girl; and Sara, who cared for the girls, even though only a child herself, demonstrates dependability but is struggling to find her lost childhood.

Together they lived with their father who is desperately sick with tuberculosis and incapable of caring for them; and their mother who is an alcoholic. Living next to a rubbish dump, their mother would go regularly to find items to sell for money to buy maressa and the girls would scavenge for food. They were found by an organization who work with impoverished adults and so contacted the House of Hope to ask if we could give the girls a home.

Emily, Lucy and Sara are a precious part of our family now. As with each child, we pray for God's healing and blessing for them. Significantly House of Hope offers these three precious sisters the chance to be children, to laugh, to play, to go to school and to allow grown-ups to be parent-providers and carers.

## What we do at the Girls home...

### ***Daily program***

Like any household with children, our day starts with a flurry of activity! But before breakfast and getting ready for school happens, the girls have their own time to read the bible and pray. Then before leaving the house, we review a new verse of scripture for the day and pray together.

The children start arriving home from 11.30am and before lunch at 2.30pm wash their school uniforms and have time to play. From 5pm a tutor arrives and revises the girls' school lesson from the day, followed by dinner, a group devotional time and bedtime.

### ***Weekend activities***

At the weekend the start of the day is a lot less pressured! On Saturday, the girls visit their families, and we do some other fun activities like playing all together,

Once a month we have a birthday party for the girls came to the house in this month. Each week we also have 'Sunday' School in two different locations. Once a month, the children from the surrounding area are welcomed into the House of Hope and together we enjoy Sunday School and other fun activities

## Our future

- **More girls**  
For now, we have enough rooms for 36 girls, we are praying as we need guidance before we welcome any more girls.
- **More Dorms / Buildings**  
Now, we have an Urgent need for a kitchen, dining room and food store .  
And after adding more girls, we will need more dorms for more another 12 Girls.
- **Skills and vocational training**  
Of course, the girls must get some skills such as tailoring, cooking, to help them to work and depend on theirselves after they are graduated from the House Of Hope
- **Self-sufficiency projects**  
As the living cost in Juba is very high, we have some small self sufficiency projects like Goats growing and planting some vegetables in the rainy season. We are now choosing from some other bigger alternatives.

## Current Cost

As there is no stability in the markets in South Sudan, prices are changing from time to time. The following are some of the current cost for the House Of Hope (All amounts are in US Dollars):

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Food (food materials + Coal)   | \$1375          |
| Electricity (Diesel and Oil for the generator)                             | \$1000          |
| Clean Water for all uses   | \$750           |
| Sewage   | \$375           |
| School (including School needs)  | \$425/Girl/year |
| Maintainance   | \$500           |
| Girls' Home Salaries (Cooker, Watchman, Cleaners, supervisor, driver.....) | \$1875          |

## Some Other needs

### ***Solar Power***

Now we are using a Diesel Generator to get power, but it's current cost is very high and the Diesel is not available every time in Juba, due to instability of the Market, so we need 5 kva Solar Power. This project will cost around \$ 21,000.

### ***Play Ground***

Of Course the Children needs a place to play, playground and some swings & Sea Saws. With a cost of (\$500) each, we can make some for them so they can play happily.

### ***Schooling***

We praise the Lord that last this academic year, we had 7 Girls were from the 10 Top pupils over their classes, three of them were the first in their classes.

To keep this progress, next academic year (starts Feb. 2015) we will need an amount of \$425 for each girl to Pay the school fees.....

Thanks for taking time o read about the House Of Hope. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any inquiries:

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