

# Report from Makang'wa

**This Report focuses specifically on the Home for former Street Children at the village of Mahoma Makulu.**

There are currently 36 children and youth is cared for within this ministry. Recently the staff/volunteers at the Home have been reaching out to children of the adjacent village and identifying the orphan, children single parent households and older youth who failed in primary



school and are simply at a loose end'. Loose ends tend to fray and that is the truth of such young lives. There is now a football field on the DCMP land. It has become a popular and safe place. Currently nine adults and older teenagers live at the Home. All other children are either with Guardian Families in Dodoma or away secondary or high school.

It is a mighty struggle to maintain care for the children, especially in the areas of education expenses and their 'daily bread'. We understand that we cannot continue to rely heavily on off shore donors for all needs.

Some months ago we commenced a Vegetable Project. This was made possible through the installation of a deep well, financed through gifts from friends in the USA. This project continues well but has limited potential in meeting the monthly requirements. Last year the Rotary Club of Pensacola North, Florida, donated funds for the building of the first Chicken Shed. This has housed local chickens, producing eggs for use at the Home and for sale. We are now preparing to house 100 broiler chickens in this shed. They will be delivered there last week of June. These chicks will have been inoculated against disease at the Amani Center. At eight weeks they will be ready for market.



However, the needs are greater than this limited income can supply. We urgently need to build two further sheds. This will enable us to maintain a regular flow of developed broilers. Our intention is also to have one shed housing improved laying hens. There is a ready market for eggs. Pensacola North Rotary recently donated a further \$500.00 towards this project. The current exchange rate for the dollar here in Tanzania stretches this to about 1,150,000/= shillings! We need a further \$1,300.00 to enable us to build the second shed, holding 200 chickens. This is an urgent matter. From our understanding here, we believe that we have a limited time in which to become basically financially self sufficient. At present, vegetables, broilers and eggs seems to be the way to go! A valuable aspect of this plan is that the older teenagers and young adults, the ones 'at a loose end',

are keen to become involved. They will learn the process of the proper care of chickens and, in time, can develop their own business.

I am excited by the potential of this development and encouraged by the gifts given, and especially by the enthusiasm of the young people at the Home. Think of a sprinter, in the blocks, waiting for the starting gun. Can we fire that 'gun' and set them on the way?

The photos from the top: We are gathered outside following lunch of bread rolls and sodas! The football team was arriving for an afternoon game. Several women, teachers, were away, conducting tuition classes. Then, gathered at the end of the egg plant garden, admiring the size of the fruit. Below, left, another view of the garden. Right, the basic style of chicken shed we wish to build. (This one is at the Amani Center. It will house 300 chickens, and will be completed within two weeks.)

With thanks for your prayers and support.

John Naumann

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