As many of us prepare our children to go back to school, college or university, millions of parents around the world can only dream of sending their children to school.

Did you know?

124 MILLION CHILDREN between the ages of 6 and 15 years, have either never started school or have dropped out.

59 MILLION CHILDREN of primary school age are not attending any school at all.

31 MILLION of the 59 million primary school-age children out of school are girls.

UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS), data for the school year ending in 2013.
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Children in the developing world face many challenges and barriers to accessing an education. Some are obvious like not having a school to go to. 59 million children of primary school age have no access to a classroom. That's more than the population of Canada! Others are unable to pay school fees or purchase the books and materials they need to attend school.

Education is more than learning to read, write or do math. It is one of the most important investments a country can make in its people and future, and is critical to reducing poverty and inequality.

Girls have their own set of challenges to education such as early marriage, cultural norms, and gender-based discrimination. Investing in girls’ education brings high returns and is fundamental to a country’s social and economic well-being as it promotes the health and welfare for the next generation.

There is a multiplier effect to educating girls and women. More educated women tend to be healthier, participate more in the formal labour market, earn more income and provide better health care and education to their children. All of this will eventually improve the well-being of families and can lift them out of poverty. These benefits transmit across generations and the communities at large.

At International Needs, we believe that every child should be given the opportunity to go to school. Education has the capacity to greatly improve a person’s quality of life and offers children in need a chance to reach their full potential.

PRAYER CORNER

Items for Prayer

“To get nations back on their feet, we must first get down on our knees.” Billy Graham

Please pray that many children will have opportunity to access education and have hope for their future.
Sponsorship by Divine Appointment

Marguerite Poirier is no stranger to Kenya having visited the country numerous times. On one of her visits, Marguerite attended a church service in the Kibera Slum on the outskirts of Nairobi. There she saw a young man deep in prayer and decided to approach him after the service to give him a Bible. His name was Nixon and after talking with him for a while Marguerite discovered that Nixon was raising his younger brother and sister in the Kibera Slum, having lost both his parents in the post-election violence of 2007.

A bright young man, Nixon was unable to go to college because he had to care for his siblings and finance their education. It was at that moment that Marguerite decided to help Nixon by sponsoring his little sister Sylvia through International Needs Canada. As a result, Nixon was able to go to college and graduated in Journalism in January 2015. Marguerite has visited Sylvia 3 times and is pleased to see how well she is learning at school.

Marguerite shares, “My prayer for Nixon is that he will soon be able to find full-time work in his field, be paid a good wage and be able to move his family out of the Kibera Slum. I’d like to see him completely self-sufficient with no need of sponsorship for his sister.”

Women Making A Difference Provides Water to Drought Ridden Area

Water... cool, refreshing, thirst-quenching water. Essential to our wellbeing and a fundamental part of our lives, water is a commodity that we often take for granted. Yet in many parts of the world, clean drinking water is a luxury, especially for people who live in dry, rural areas.

In the drought ridden village of Makindu, a group of Canadian women have brought the ultimate gift; pure, clean, drinking water from a 50 foot deep well. The well has a submersible pump that supplies water to two huge water tanks where the locals come to draw water for their families. The well also has irrigation hoses that go directly to the adjoining fields, irrigating the land. Irrigation helps increase agricultural production and ensures that the land produces crops throughout the year. The yield for irrigated crops are two to three times higher than farms relying on the rain or hand watering.

The new well has brought hope and encouragement to the people of Makindu. International Needs operates a Good News Club in Makindu and the children are very excited to have clean drinking water in their community. Water is life and the people of Makindu are grateful to WMAD for this life changing gift. Thank you Nancy Bolton and Women Making a Difference, for your fundraising efforts and for all your hard work in providing fresh water to the people of Makindu.

This is the 5th water project undertaken by WMAD. The other four wells are in Ghana.

Items for Praise

“O give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; for His loving kindness is everlasting.” 1 Chronicles 16:34

Praise God for fresh water in Makindu. Thanks to the generosity of a group of Canadian women, the people of Makindu have a well producing fresh, clean, drinking water. This well also irrigates the adjoining fields and will increase food production. Praise the Lord!
Let’s Walk and Roll!

Our 2015 Ride for Refuge is coming up soon, on Saturday, October 3. As we have previously shared with our readers, there is now a 5km walk for those who are not comfortable riding a bicycle, so everyone can participate! Now would be a good time to sign up with an existing team or start your own team and join our family friendly cycling/walking fundraiser.

This year, the funds raised will go towards the redevelopment efforts of International Needs Nepal. Since the earthquake hit Nepal in April, many rural families have been living in tents and makeshift shelters.

Please join one of our Ride for Refuge teams or start one in your region. If you are unable to ride or walk this year, please consider supporting a team or individual, and help our friends in Nepal reconstruct their lives. For more information go to www.rideforrefuge.org/charity/internationalneedscanada

Thank you!

Ontario Sisters Join Forces to Impact Children’s Lives

Amanda Redpath-Moorman and Holly Redpath are business partners with a lot of heart. The sisters who own clothing stores, Once Upon a Child and Plato’s Closet in St. Catharines, ON., sponsor four children through their businesses. Amanda says, “My sister and I believe it is important to give back to the community but also to look beyond our borders to the needs of others in developing countries.” The sisters became acquainted with the work of International Needs through their step-father who is a long-time supporter of International Needs and very involved in the work in Uganda.

“My sister and I grew up in a home that cared for the needs of people in the community. Our parents often took us to visit seniors on Sunday afternoons, after church and Swiss Chalet. They were extremely giving people with a heart for others.”

Following in their parents footsteps, Amanda and Holly help support children in Kenya, Zambia and Uganda, and share the work of International Needs with others by hanging photos of their sponsored children on their store walls, and encouraging others to get involved through posts on their website.

“We don’t feel like we’re doing a lot but for the children we sponsor it’s making a big difference in their lives and we are happy to be part of it. We also believe in the work and philosophy of International Needs. It’s a great organization. We would love to go visit our sponsored children someday, when our own children are older and the time is right.”

The sisters live, work, and raise their families in Ontario’s beautiful Niagara region. Thank you and blessings on all you do in your community and beyond.

Save the Date

International Needs Canada invites you to attend a celebration of local and global collaboration. Business strategists, authors and philanthropists present their most successful innovations.

When: Tuesday November 10, 2015 from 6-9pm
Where: Royal Botanical Gardens
680 Plains Road West Burlington, Ontario
RSVP: October 30th to Corrie Mulder
905.637.9411 or info@internationalneeds.ca

FREE ADMISSION