

DRU'S VIEWS
Special Edition – January 2011

This special edition of “Dru’s Views” is being written as an update for all of you dear friends who have been helping over the years to support a few young people who have been especially in need and dependent upon my assistance. As many of you know, for the past 8 years I have been raising support for these young people, mostly former street boys who were served by the ministry I helped to establish in 2000, Friends of the Street Children, sponsors of Piano House—a temporary shelter for street boys. When I left Zambia in 2004, I promised I would not abandon them. Three of the boys have no family and have been totally reliant on donors to survive. I didn’t know where the money would come from, but I knew that if I would be faithful, God would be faithful. He has not failed us. I had never directly asked for help until February last year, and the response was overwhelming. I cannot thank you enough as I have seen the hand of God working through all of you. The following is again their stories, an update on their current status and an estimate of their expenses for 2011.

Daudi Ibrahim

Daudi is 23 years old; he is an albino with limited vision. His mother died 6 years ago. His father is a Muslim, but he supports Daudi’s decision to follow Christ. I first found Daudi living in the streets and surviving by guarding parked cars. His parents were divorced, and his father would not allow him to stay with his mother. Since his father was often working in Congo, there was no food in the house. As an albino, Daudi was an outcast even among the other street boys. We had to be persistent to persuade him to come to the feeding program where he could wash himself and eat. When he finally came, the other boys would not eat with him. Slowly he was accepted and gained confidence. When we opened Piano House, he was one of the first to move in. As the others grew to know him, he won them over and became very popular. He has a special gift for music and was our song leader. We enrolled him in the Lions School for the Visually Impaired in Ndola. He was 16 years old and started in the second grade. He skipped a few grades, became the “Head Boy” in grade 9, and is now starting grade 12 at Mumbwa High School in Lusaka, a boarding school with a special unit for the visually impaired. He is very bright and has taught himself to play the keyboard and guitar. He treasures his large print Good News Bible, and he is the leader of his Scripture Union Bible study club. He is also treasurer of the Press Club, which shows they have confidence in his being trustworthy. He attends the United Methodist Church. His wants to become an English teacher and a journalist. *Budget for 2011 \$3,000*



Benson Kunda

Benson is about 23 years old also. He has no knowledge of the whereabouts of any family members or even if his parents are alive. His parents divorced, and when Benson was 6 years old, his father took him away from his mother to another town far away. He has not seen her since and has very little recollection of her. He was not allowed to attend school, was mistreated by his father and stepmother, and was once locked in a small room. He managed to escape, and went to his sister for help, but she refused. When he stole some money to buy food, he was beaten and sent away. He lived in the streets and earned money by working at a tavern, where he started drinking beer. He was caught by the owner and taken to the police; he spent 9 months in jail. He was only 10 years old. When released he went to Kitwe where he joined other street boys and followed their example of sniffing glue and smoking



marijuana. In 2002, he was discovered by Friends of the Street Children and was invited to stay at Piano House. In 2003, he was enrolled in Matete Basic School in grade 7. He says school was difficult, but he got up at 4:00 a.m. to study. When Benson completed high school in 2007, I took responsibility for his support. We rented a small cabin, and I gave him an allowance. I found him a job working as a houseboy for a friend of mine, who says he is the best he has ever had—honest, quick learning and hard working. In January 2010 he entered Cavendish University in Lusaka in pre-law. He is expected to be at Cavendish for three years. He has been trying to find a part-time job to help with his support, but so far has not had any success. *Budget for 2011 \$6,000*

Vincent Munsanje

Vinnie was born in 1992. His father died in 1994 and his mother in 1997. He has been raised by his father’s sister and her husband. He has only one sister, who is married and lives in Livingstone. In 2001, he ran away from home after being accused of stealing some money. Later, it was discovered that the money had only been misplaced, but the family could not find Vinnie who had traveled the 65 km to Kitwe and was staying in the streets. God was with him, because after only 4 days, he was found by Friends of the Street Children and taken to Piano House. Two weeks later, after contacting the family, he was returned to his home and enrolled in the 1st grade—his first opportunity to attend school. Vinnie is starting the 11th grade at Caritas High School in Ndola. He plays on the school soccer team. He lives in a small house with his aunt and uncle; their two sons (Amon in grade 4 and Kelvin in grade 6); their daughter, her husband and baby; and a cousin. The uncle, who is in poor health, earns only a limited amount of income by doing small jobs now and then. He was laid

off from his job with the town council several years ago. Vincent attends the Roman Catholic Church. He would like to be a lawyer someday. *Budget for 2011 \$1,500*



Kafuti Kilombe

Kafuti was born in Zambia to Congolese parents in 1991. His father died when Kafuti was just a week old. A few years later his mother died. Kafuti and his sister, Mary, were moved from house to house of various relatives in Congo. Wherever they were sent, they were abused—beaten, made to do hard labor, denied food and other necessities. When he was 8 years old, Kafuti ran away and, through perseverance and cleverness, found his way back to his home in Kitwe. A neighbor took Kafuti to Salem Children’s Village—another shelter for street children. He stayed there one year before he ran away with two friends. I found these three little boys in town and took them to Piano House. We enrolled him in the 4th grade at Matete School. When I had to leave Zambia in 2004, I set up a trust for Kafuti and purchased a small house that we rented for income, while Kafuti stayed in a little cabin we built in the back yard.

Kafuti, only 12 years old, learned to take care of himself while he attended school. He is active in his church, a small non-denominational congregation, leading praise and worship teams and serving in several offices. He completed his grade 12 exams in November 2009, and he will start a 2-year course in Electrical Crafts at Luanshya Technical College on January 10. While waiting to start college, he took computer classes and helped at Lifesong School by coordinating sports activities and games and listening to children read. His goal is to join the Zambian army after he completes college. Last year he traveled back to Lubumbashi in Congo and located his grandmother’s home where he found many relatives who were overjoyed to see him. He also reunited with his sister, who is married and has a small child. He returned to spend two weeks with family just before Christmas 2010, and the old wounds are healing. *Budget for 2011 \$6,000*



Jonathan Mwape

Joe is 23 years old and lives with his cousin and her family. His parents were divorced many years ago. After his mother died, Joe went to the streets to try to earn money, but he went home at night. Eventually he became friends with some of the other street boys and started staying in the streets and sniffing drugs. He became involved with Friends of the Street Children where he says he was encouraged and helped to see that he had no future living in the streets. When Piano House opened, Joe was one of the first boys to live there. When his cousin learned he was there, she took him home with her and he started attending school in grade 4. He could speak no English and couldn’t read, but he tried. He would sometimes run back to the streets, especially during school breaks. However, he soon realized his mistake, went back

home and has never returned to street life. He says, “Thanks to God. He took me away from the streets. I am a good boy and I can never go back.” He often talks to the children he meets in the streets and encourages them to go home. Joe has struggled with his studies; his English is limited, and he is not very good at academics. He just barely passed his grade nine exam on his third try. However, what he lacks in intelligence, he makes up for in determination. He is currently entering the 11th grade at Makuba High School. Joe attends the Chimwemwe United Methodist Church. *Budget for 2011 \$1,500*

Joseph Mulenga

Joseph is about 22 years old. He came to Zambia in 2002 when he ran away from Congo, where he was kidnapped and forced to join the Congolese army as a young boy. He came to Piano House asking for food; we took him in as a resident and worked to communicate with him. He spoke only French and Swahili, but he quickly learned English and Bemba. It was obvious that he’d come from a middle class family and was educated, so he was enrolled in a public school in the 6th grade. When I left Zambia in 2004, I enrolled him in boarding school. In his senior year, he was named boarding captain, a high honor. However, he was led astray by friends, and one night he went out without permission, started drinking, and got caught returning after hours. This was grounds for immediate dismissal with no appeal. Fortunately we were able to enroll him in a local high school. He wrote his exams but failed. He then got into some more trouble using alcohol, ended up in jail, and then went back to Congo to find his sisters. He returned, determined that he had to correct his mistakes. He was given another chance and is attending remedial classes at Mindolo High School; he wrote three subjects last fall, and we are waiting for the results. This year he will take four more subjects. He is active in the youth group and choir of Kawama United Methodist Church. His pastor and other church leaders have given me good reports on his behavior saying they have seen big changes. He has discovered a gift for evangelism and is on the district committee. He says, “I used to carry a gun, but now I carry the Bible.” *Budget for 2011 \$2,500*



Andella Chabaninge

Andella is 15 years old and lives with her parents and three brothers. I met Andella when I helped with the feeding program for street children at St. Michael’s Anglican Church in downtown Kitwe. Her grandparents worked at the church, and the family lived in a 2-room cabin in back. She was 5 years old and did not attend school. A small private school rented the church during the week, and Andella stood outside the door listening to the children recite their lessons. When they practiced for their Christmas play, Andella memorized everyone’s part! It broke my heart that this bright little girl would be denied an education because she had brothers, and the family couldn’t afford to send all of the children to school. So I enrolled her in preschool. This year she is in 9th grade at Mama Monty Basic School in Chimwemwe. She is very shy, but she enjoys coming to my house for an overnight. She loves to read and will bury her nose in any book she can find! She is active in the Girls Brigade at the Anglican Church and hopes to join the youth choir this year. *Budget for 2011 \$500*



As you can see, I must come up with at least **\$21,000** this year to continue support of these young people. If you can help in any small way, it would be greatly appreciated. Some people are making a monthly pledge. All donations go 100 percent to the kids; there are no administrative fees involved. A tax deductible contribution (you will receive a receipt) can be sent as follows:

Check made out to “Wings of the Morning” with a note clearly stating it is for “**Dru’s Kids in Zambia.**” Mail to:

Enright Flight Ministry
1919 Jackson Lane
Port Orange, FL 32128

I want to humbly and heartily thank those who have so faithfully contributed over the years and have made it possible for these children to survive and have a future with hope. “I was hungry and you fed me, I was thirsty and you gave me a drink, I was homeless and you gave me a room, I was shivering and you gave me clothes...” God will reward you.

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