

# Friends of St. Jude's

Fighting poverty by spreading awareness

Dear Friends of St. Jude's,

The School of St. Jude

January 14, 2009

Happy New Year!! Since last year, the Friend's program has been growing so fast, that I can only feel that 2009 will be even better. Here at St. Jude's we have begun a busy time again. We have classes filled with new little additions to the St. Jude's family, all of our new children are outfitted with new uniforms, and we have begun a brand new school year. It appears, that the Friends program has been equally busy, with the news of St. Jude's being spread at family events, work, or even specific events. I was just overwhelmed by the great ideas and determination of our Friend's all over the world. Enjoy these stories, and please remember to send us pictures of any gathering or event you hold in conjunction with St. Jude's. I would love to share them with all our Friends.

## Friends Near and Far

My favorite thing about the Friend's program is that it is for anyone, everywhere. Most of the time we feature support stories from around the world. But today I will tell you about support that came right here from Tanzania. Paul Joynson-Hicks is an internationally renowned photographer, with a deep and passionate love for Africa. Paul has been a great organizer and supporter of many charitable organizations in Tanzania, and as part of our Friend's program, he decided to help St. Jude's spread awareness.

True to his talents, Paul found his own unique way in spreading the word, namely by showing all our supporters, near and far, the beauty of St. Jude's. I know that as much as people wish to, not everyone has the time or means to visit Arusha and see the smiling faces racing across the playground. Thanks to Paul, however, we can now offer you a glimpse into the world here at St. Jude's, with dozens of beautiful photographs that speak to the heart, taken throughout the school day, and on both campuses. Thanks Paul, we really appreciate it!!



Paul's story is great, because it shows how everyone can contribute in their own personal way to make a difference. Friend's is not just about making events, it is about helping, and spreading awareness. Feel free to be creative :)

*Above: Paul Joynson-Hicks in action, capturing priceless moments at The School of St. Jude.*

*Left: Paul has offered his talents to bring St. Jude's to you. Today we are learning rhyming words...*

## Friends Near and Far



The second story I wanted to share with you, is one of sheer determination. WorldServe International/Angel Mission/Africa 6000 drilled a well that St. Jude's now has on our boarding campus, and this is the endeavor of the two remarkable young women who brought water to the children at St. Jude's.

*Left: Christa and Elizabeth, showing off their jewelry and t-shirts. Through sheer determination they managed to raise over \$ 10,000 for a new well at St. Jude's Moshono boarding campus  
Below: Fruits of their labor. Silvia happily filling her cup with clean, fresh drinking water from our wells.  
(Picture by Paul Joynton-Hicks).*

Two American students about to enter University, Christa Agnello and Elizabeth Rahner, decided they wanted to help raise money with Africa 6000 International for their senior project, and hoped to put enough money towards a well at the School of St. Jude. Christa and Elizabeth were determined to raise \$10,000 U.S. dollars for the well, but were told by their teachers that this would be an impossible goal to achieve in just four months. Instead, they were encouraged to set a more reasonable target of \$2,000.

But Christa and Elizabeth were determined and worked tirelessly to achieve the standards they hoped to reach. They called themselves "Drops of Hope," held fundraisers, sold jewelry and even designed and sold their own t-shirts featuring the "Drops of Hope" logo. Armed with determination, they went to schools and churches, speaking on behalf of the water-well project, and inspired others to help fund the project. When Africa 6000 went to pick up the check, they were astounded and thrilled. Not only had Christa and Elizabeth met their goal, they had actually raised just over \$10,000 U.S. Dollars. Thank you girls! This is simply amazing!



## Looking Forwards

I hope these personal stories help to highlight how incredibly important the support of our Friends is. Every effort, big or small, is so appreciated and very, very much needed. Please send us your stories and pictures. We already have some amazing events to tell you about in next month's Newsletter, so stay involved and please stay in touch.

Finally, I have some sad news. Our Friends and Marketing coordinator, Alexandra, has to relocate to Mozambique. While she will continue to manage Friend's and Marketing from there, we are also looking for a dedicated and enthusiastic person to spearhead the Friend's and Marketing position right here in Arusha. If you know of anyone willing and able to take on this challenge, please email me anytime at [schoolofstjude@habari.co.tz](mailto:schoolofstjude@habari.co.tz).

Thank you for your continued support and dedication.  
I can't wait to hear from you!!

*Gemma*