

WorldVision

SUMMER 2011

✦

FORGET ME NOT

ONGOING STRUGGLES IN
HAITI AND THE WORLD'S
TOUGHEST PLACES.





“I’m giving back the blessings I received in life.”

I always knew that I would leave something in my will for World Vision. For me, it’s important to support the things I believe in—to promote God’s kingdom—not just while I’m here, but when I’m gone too.

My name is

Beverly Durbin Berntson

And World Vision is helping me leave a lasting legacy.

We’re here to help . . .

Do your current plans reflect the legacy you wish to leave? If you have questions or would like assistance, call 1.866.952.4453.

Read more stories like Beverly’s at www.worldvision.org/mylegacy.

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WORLD VISION

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World Vision



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Ellerenchise, 2, gets treatment at a World Vision clinic at a displacement camp in Port-au-Prince.

JON WARREN/WORLD VISION



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Christ Revealed

BY RICH STEARNS

I had visited Haiti twice before my most recent trip. The first time was in 1986, just after the end of the brutal dictatorship of Baby Doc Duvalier. At that time Haiti had endured many years of both poverty and oppression. But there was hope for a better future.

Over the next 24 years, however, Haitians realized little of that hope as regime after regime came and went, with little economic or social progress.

Then came Jan. 12, 2010. An already fragile country was flattened by the worst earthquake in modern memory, killing 230,000 and leaving more than a million homeless. Just one week after the quake I walked the streets of Port-au-Prince, surveying the devastation and asking myself how any people could continue on after such an astounding run of misfortune.

Flash forward 11 months and imagine my amazement during a worship service in that same city. In a crude tent in the middle of a sprawling camp for thousands of the displaced, I heard worship that was full of hope and courage, overflowing with thanksgiving to God.

The date of the earthquake was mentioned in every prayer and multiple times during the sermon. It is clear that Haitians now define their lives in terms of BE ("before earthquake") and AE ("after earthquake").

In the front row of this little church sat not one but six amputees, ranging in age from 6 to 60. They were clapping and smiling as they sang song after song and lifted their prayers to God. Demosi Louphine was one of them. Her right arm and left leg had been amputated after a building collapsed on her and she endured four days without medical attention.

But there she was up in front—leading the choir and leading prayers, lifting her one hand high in praise to God.

Following the service, we went to where Demosi lives in a



ION WARREN/WORLD VISION

Demosi, in white, leads worship.

“[Trials] have come so that your faith . . . may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.”

— 1 PETER 1:7

camp with her two daughters, ages 8 and 10. After losing both limbs, her job, and her home, she lived in a tent just 5 feet tall and perhaps 8 feet wide. She recently moved into a small, temporary home World Vision built in her camp.

She expresses no bitterness; rather, she is deeply grateful that God spared her life. “He brought me back like Lazarus,” she told us. She hopes to find work as a seller in the market when she gets her new arm. She believes she was saved for a reason—to raise her girls and to serve her Lord for a few more years.

Peter’s first letter helps me get a handle on how Haitians like Demosi can possess such courage and faith. Peter reminds us that we can still rejoice, even in trials, even through deep grief, because of the inheritance God has promised us. These trials only prove that our faith is “of greater worth than gold, which perishes

even though refined by fire” (1 Peter 1:7).

Part of the mystery of our faith is the role that suffering plays in drawing us closer to God. None of us seeks this suffering, but for those with faith in Christ who do suffer, surely he meets them in the deep places of faith, providing some supernatural source of courage and strength—and perhaps understanding.

We have much to learn from God’s beloved poor. ●



SCAN THIS CODE with your smartphone to watch Rich Stearns share “one of the most moving things I’ve seen” about Haiti.

FRONTLINES

Compiled by James Addis



ABRAHAM NIJAL/WORLD VISION

f

DANCE OF HOPE

Celebrations erupted across southern Sudan following January's referendum, when 98 percent of southern voters cast their ballots in favor of independence from the north. In turn, Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir declared he would abide by their wishes. Southern Sudan is likely to be formally recognized as a new state in July. It's not yet clear what this change will bring. War between the Arabic Muslim north and the mainly black and Christian south first broke out in 1955 and has claimed

an estimated 2 million lives. At various times, the conflict has prompted World Vision to mount extensive long-term relief operations to help the displaced and the starving. But experts warn that southern independence does not guarantee peace. An unrelated conflict in the Darfur region continues to simmer, disputes over ownership of the country's oil reserves remain unsettled, and factional grievances in the south could erupt into more violence. All the same, for now it seems appropriate to dance. ●



JAPAN

MITSUKO SOBATA/WORLD VISION

JAPAN | KILLER QUAKE

World Vision delivered blankets, bottled water, clothing, powdered milk, and diapers for thousands facing freezing temperatures after fleeing their homes following the strongest earthquake in Japanese history. The organization followed up by establishing Child-Friendly Spaces to help children recover from emotional scars. The magnitude 9 earthquake struck the main island of Honshu in March, destroying tens of thousands of homes and damaging nuclear reactors, which subsequently leaked radiation. The quake also unleashed 23-foot-high tsunami waves that penetrated six miles inland, displaced more than 350,000 people, and killed more than 11,000.



JON WARREN/WORLD VISION

NIGER | SEED MEETS NEED

World Vision distributed approximately 140 metric tons of millet and bean seeds last year to help families recover from severe food shortages. By December, farmers in several drought-hit regions were able to store surplus grain in their granaries. Before the distribution, many families had been forced to eat their seed stocks, leaving them nothing to plant.

BURUNDI | HUNGER BUSTER

A new fortified rice product, Ultra Rice, will be introduced into Africa by World Vision. Ultra Rice is made from rice flour and is enriched



SLAVERY TODAY

2.5 MILLION

Estimated number of people in the world trafficked for the purposes of prostitution and forced labor.

1.25 MILLION

Number of those trafficked who are children.

\$32 BILLION

Money invested in the human-trafficking industry.

SOURCE: UNICEF, JANUARY 2011 PRESS RELEASE

with a range of micronutrients to help prevent malnutrition. The product will benefit 15,000 children in a school-feeding program in Burundi. World Vision believes that Ultra Rice has enormous potential for reducing world hunger.



WORLD VISION STAFF

SOUTH KOREA | ISLAND ESCAPE

Residents who fled Yeonpyeong Island following shelling by North Korea received warm winter clothes from World Vision. Around 500 islanders sheltering near Incheon benefited from the distributions. Most were unable to grab adequate warm clothes before their hurried evacuation. Four people died in the November attack, which North Korea claims was retaliation for the South Korean navy's firing into northern waters.

CAMBODIA | FATAL FEAR

A three-day festival to honor Cambodian naval forces in November turned tragic when a footbridge in Phnom Penh began to sway. Thousands on the bridge stampeded, fearing it would collapse. More than 340 were trampled to death and hundreds more were injured. World Vision provided food and water for the injured and supported local hospitals with medicine.

BOLIVIA | MOSQUITO MENACE

The government declared an emergency in January following outbreaks of dengue fever. More than 6,000 people contracted the disease and at least 10 died. The outbreak is blamed on the accumulation of garbage around residential areas, which provides fertile breeding grounds for dengue-transmitting mosquitoes. World Vision worked alongside local authorities to conduct dengue-prevention campaigns in affected areas.

ROMANIA | TRAFFICKING EXPOSED

Teenagers benefiting from World Vision anti-human-trafficking programs created a traveling photo exhibition to raise awareness. The exhibition followed a workshop on photography and advocacy organized by World Vision and UK charity PhotoVoice. The pictures will be combined with others from young people in countries with big trafficking problems as part of the photo project "See It Our Way."



PATRICIA GREEN/WORLD VISION

WORLD'S POOREST COUNTRIES

Countries with the lowest per-capita annual income (\$US)

DR CONGO*	\$300
BURUNDI*	\$300
ZIMBABWE*	\$400
LIBERIA	\$500
SOMALIA*	\$600
NIGER*	\$700
ERITREA	\$700
CENTRAL AFRICAN REP.	\$700
SIERRA LEONE*	\$900
TOGO	\$900

* Indicates where World Vision is working to alleviate poverty.

SOURCE: WORLD FACTBOOK, 2010 ESTIMATES

PHILIPPINES | BULUSAN BLOWS

Hundreds were evacuated in November when Mount Bulusan spewed clouds of ash 2,000 feet into the air. When the ash fell to the ground, it buried farmers' vegetable gardens. World Vision distributed supplies of food and soap to those worst affected, as well as facemasks to prevent people from inhaling the ash.

UNITED STATES | FROZEN FRUIT

Freezing conditions in December in Immokalee, Fla., destroyed crops and caused about 14,000 farmworkers to face food shortages. World Vision volunteers assembled 60,000 food kits containing rice, beans, and macaroni and

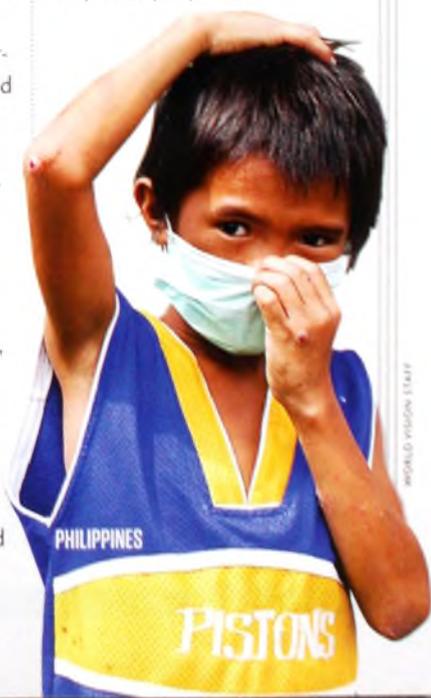


COURTESY JOHN CURREY

cheese to feed the workers and their families. The freeze devastated the Immokalee economy, which is almost exclusively dependent on agriculture.

SRI LANKA | FLOODING NIGHTMARE

Heavy downpours on the east coast of Sri Lanka in December and January caused widespread flooding, adversely affected more than 1 million people, and damaged more than 450,000 acres of agricultural land. Much of the land had only just begun to be cultivated again after a decades-long civil war. World Vision supplied food, water, medicines, and other relief items to more than 10,000 displaced people. ●



WORLD VISION STAFF



GREG SCHNEIDER/GENESIS PHOTOS

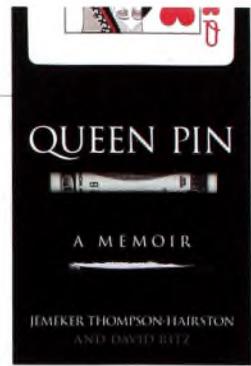
QUEEN PIN

A former drug dealer gets a second start.

Back in the 1980s, Jemeker Thompson-Hairston was one of Los Angeles' most successful illicit-drug dealers—an occupation that allowed her to purchase a home, buy luxury cars, and go on regular shopping sprees in Beverly Hills. She started in high school selling marijuana, expanded into cocaine and heroin, and developed her own network of dealers.

Eventually, with many of Jemeker's drug-dealer friends being either sent to jail or murdered, she decided to change direction. She used her drug money to develop a legitimate business selling Italian hair extensions.

It was too late. A former boyfriend gave her name to the FBI, and she spent the next 12 years behind bars. "Being in prison," she says, "I had nothing but time and was totally isolated from my family, my friends, my loved ones—my son, most of all."



In desperation, Jemeker turned to God. She began to study her Bible, pray, and fast. "I felt the love of God comforting me," she says. "Even though I was in prison, my heart was free, because I felt that God was with me."

But on her release from jail, despite being spiritually richer, she had nothing to call her own. Things changed when a friend introduced her to World Vision's Second Start program, which helps women who have hit rock bottom by providing clothes, shoes, toiletries, and assistance in finding a job.

A highlight for Jemeker was joining other women in the annual Second Start fashion show, where women show off their new wardrobes. "Being involved with World Vision and Second Start," says Jemeker, now 48, "left [such] an imprint on my heart that I wanted to give back to the community."

That desire prompted her to start Second Chance Evangelist Ministries (www.secondchance7.org). She writes letters to women in prison and then helps connect them with Second Start after they are released. "If God can change me and use me," she says, "he can do the same for someone else."

Jemeker has gone on to write a book, *Queen Pin*, about her journey from drug dealer to evangelist. She says about her new life: "I'm not so caught up in the materialistic things. I just take one day at a time, one step at a time. God has supplied all of my needs." ●

—Beth Douglass

LEARN MORE about World Vision's work in the U.S. at www.worldvisionusprograms.org.

CHANGE AGENT

NAME Pat Schlight **HOME** Sammamish, Wash.

OCCUPATION Director at Microsoft

PROGRAM Matching Gifts

THE BUZZ Having reached a point in life where he had some extra money, Pat Schlight, 47, felt a moral obligation to use some of his resources to help people who are desperately poor. That conviction only strengthened when he visited a World Vision water project in Zambia. The water project meant that women no longer had to lug water for half a mile and vastly increased the amount of land they could cultivate. Pat was even more inspired to donate by the fact that his company, Microsoft, matches employee donations dollar-for-dollar up to \$12,000. ●



ABBY PRETTY/WORLD VISION

“I have trust in World Vision to be able to pick the right projects, be able to efficiently spend the dollars for it, and to have it deliver sustainable results.” —PAT SCHLIGHT

COULD YOUR EMPLOYER MATCH YOUR DONATIONS? Visit www.worldvision.org/matchinggifts.



MARIO PEREZ/COURTESY OF FILM DISTRICT

SOUL SURFER

A major motion picture now in theaters, “Soul Surfer” tells the true story of champion surfer Bethany Hamilton, who lost her arm in a tiger shark attack. While still dealing with the emotional turmoil, Bethany traveled to Thailand with World Vision to meet child survivors of the Asian tsunami. She returned home and resumed competitive surfing with a new sense of purpose—to encourage others that they, too, can overcome overwhelming odds to reach their dreams. The film stars AnnaSophia Robb, Helen Hunt, and Dennis Quaid. ●

FOR MORE INFORMATION, visit www.soulsurferthemovie.com.

MONEY MATTERS

World Vision financial and ministry highlights for 2010



REVENUE SOURCES

51% private cash
24% gifts-in-kind
23% gov. grants
2% other



PRIVATE GIVING

A surge in new donors increased private giving by \$72 million.



CASH TO MINISTRY

More than 85 percent of money raised supported World Vision programs. Administration and fundraising expenses totaled less than 15 percent.



CHILD SPONSORSHIP

The number of World Vision child sponsors in the United States reached 719,573—an increase of more than 25,000. They sponsor 1 million children.

FOR MORE DETAILS, see World Vision's 2010 Annual Review at www.worldvision.org/AR.



“If we’re going to spend the money on this kind of stuff, we’re going to do something good with it in the end.”

—MARK HALL



COURTESY MARK HALL (2)

THE EMPIRE GIVES BACK

A musician’s “Star Wars” collection raises thousands for Rwanda.

It turns out that Mark Hall, lead singer of the multi-platinum Christian band Casting Crowns, is also a self-professed “Star Wars” nerd.

Not long ago, Mark and his 12-year-old son, John Michael, had an office filled with “Star Wars” statues, autographed helmets, storm trooper paintings, and even a replica of Emperor Palpatine’s throne.

But Mark always knew that they would not hang on to the collection forever.

“We decided from the start,” he says, “if we’re going to spend the money on this kind of stuff, we’re going to do

something good with it in the end.”

Mark sold most of his collection at a “Star Wars” fan convention in Orlando, Fla., last summer, and donated the \$11,000 in profits to World Vision development programs in Rwanda, a country he had visited in June 2010.

Later, Mark auctioned his custom-built Han Solo desk, which sold for \$10,500, bringing the total donation to more than \$21,000. The prize piece was created by New York-based props designer Tom Spina and features Han Solo frozen in “carbonite.”

But as the collection dwindled, John

Michael did start to wonder if they were doing the right thing. Mark says it was a teachable moment. “I just said, ‘Son, you know God doesn’t bless us so we can just *have*; he blesses us so we can *give*.’”

Another nice thing about the sale, Mark adds, is that it spreads the word about what World Vision is doing in Rwanda, a point underscored when one man bought a large Darth Vader helmet for \$900.

“You know you just bought almost two cows for families in Rwanda,” Mark told him. “And he said, ‘For real? You can do that?’” ●

—Beth Douglass

EMPOWERING WOMEN

In the mid-1980s, Rebecca Pearce of Harker Heights, Texas, served as a missionary in Ethiopia during that country's widespread famine. Her experience gave her a longing to make a greater impact on behalf of the world's poor. With only a part-time job, however, she found that her resources were strictly limited.

But then Rebecca learned about World Vision's website that helps raise funds and provide impoverished men and women with microloans to launch small businesses—www.worldvisionmicro.org.

Rebecca, 51, recruited a group of women who call themselves Hope Givers, and they use the website's group-giving option to coordinate donations. Each month, Rebecca selects women recipients of small loans, which typically range from \$150 to \$1,000, and invites group members to chip in.

Hope Givers—which has grown to 25 members—has chosen to support female entrepreneurs, especially widows, because they are often the worst off.

Among Rebecca's favorite stories is a woman in the Philippines with special needs who could not leave her house. Hope Givers enabled her to start a manicure business that she could run from her home.

Despite their hardships, all but one of the entrepreneurs have repaid their loans and established viable businesses. The loan money is then made available to other entrepreneurs.

Rebecca appreciates receiving regular reports on how the entrepreneurs are progressing. "This is not some nameless, faceless person on the other side of the world," she says. "This is a real woman trying to better her life. It's not only a financial investment but a prayer investment and an emotional investment." ●



ESTHER HAYENS/GENESIS PHOTOS

TO SUPPORT entrepreneurs with small loans, visit www.worldvisionmicro.org.



SIGN ME UP!

Four ways to take action with World Vision.



TEAM WORLD VISION

Taking part in a marathon, bike ride, or other athletic event? Discover how you can also help the poor. www.worldvision.org/teamworldvision



CAREGIVER KITS

Get your church or community group to assemble medical kits to equip volunteer caregivers assisting those suffering from AIDS. www.worldvision.org/carekits



CHILD AMBASSADOR

Inspire others in your community to sponsor a child. www.worldvision.org/childambassador



VOLUNTEER

Share your time and talents by volunteering at a World Vision office near you. www.worldvision.org/volunteer

WHY I LOVE BEING A CHILD SPONSOR



JIM HENDERHALL/GENESIS PHOTOS

DIANE TRUSCOTT, JOHNSTOWN, PA.

My sponsorship started in 1988 after watching a World Vision television special. I was divorced and raising my son on my own, which was tough financially, but my heart was touched. I have been a sponsor ever since. I remarried in 1992, and my husband and I currently have two sponsored children. When I return home from work and see a letter in the mailbox from one of them, everything else stops until I sit down and read it. Hearing from your sponsored child is like a ray of sunlight in your day. These children are not just a sponsor number. No, they truly become part of your life, your heart, and your family. ●

TELL US YOUR STORY Why do you love being a child sponsor? Write the editors at wvmagazine@worldvision.org.

journey TO JAMAA

Guide your church on an unforgettable journey from poverty to hope through an interactive worship service. Features the award-winning film "Jamaa"—the dramatized story of two Ugandan orphans—directed by Michael Landon Jr. ●

FOR MORE INFORMATION and a free planning and event kit, visit www.worldvision.org/jamaa.



LONG ROAD AHEAD



MORE THAN A YEAR AFTER ITS DEADLY EARTHQUAKE, HAITI
FACES MULTIPLE CHALLENGES TO BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE.

BY JAMES ADDIS, PHOTOS BY JON WARREN



World Vision erects hundreds of transitional shelters at Corail displacement camp outside Port-au-Prince. Those who move into them are overjoyed, but one year after the quake, tens of thousands still live in tents and makeshift shelters.



MORE THAN A YEAR AFTER THE magnitude 7 earthquake that struck Haiti on Jan. 12, 2010, the country's capital of Port-au-Prince still looks deeply troubled. Most formerly unused ground is crowded with tents and makeshift shelters—dotted with children, pit latrines, and water bladders, and housing about 800,000 people. Some of the bigger camps stretch for miles. All of them are exposed to hurricanes and vulnerable to cholera—a fatal disease that can spread like wildfire in poor sanitary conditions.

In such circumstances, it's not difficult to find deep levels of despair. Tearful mother Valdort Nadia, 24, brings her young daughter to a World Vision health clinic. The clinic is an integral part of one camp in the outlying neighborhood of Petionville.

Little Ginette, who is 14 months old but looks more like a newborn, stares without comprehension. Valdort explains that she lost her husband and home in the quake. "I have no husband, I have no work, I have nobody to support me," she says. "Sometimes I don't have money to buy food."

Valdort's plight—and that of thousands around her—raises an obvious question: Why, after more than 12 months, is there not greater progress in Haiti? To understand, it's necessary to appreciate the enormity of the challenge—a challenge that has compelled World Vision to commit to relief and recovery efforts in Haiti for several years.

A COLOSSAL CRISIS

IN GLOBAL TERMS, the Haiti quake was the fifth-deadliest in recorded history. In addition to killing more than 222,000 people, it injured around 300,000 and rendered more than 1 million homeless. The quake and its aftershocks also destroyed almost 1,400 schools, wrecked more than 50 hospitals and health clinics, and left behind 20 million cubic feet of rubble. Altogether, the quake directly affected just under a third of Haiti's entire population.

The quake struck a country that was already the poorest in the Western Hemisphere. Even before the quake, more than 70 percent of the population lived on less than \$2 a day, about 80 percent had no formal jobs, and 86 percent lived in slums.

Furthermore, the quake hurt those who could help. More than 20 percent of Haiti's civil servants died in the disaster—further incapacitating an already unstable and corrupt government.

World Vision's head office in Port-au-Prince was badly damaged and rendered unsafe, and staff members were personally affected. Relief manager Elvire Douglas commenced emergency operations even while unaware of the fate of her adopted daughter, who was later discovered dead in a collapsed school building. Other staff members spent their days delivering aid to the wounded and homeless and then returned "home" at night to tend to the needs of their own families, camped out in the streets.

New employees who joined the organization as its quake response grew also wrestled with their own psychological scars. Faradhia Moise, a World Vision child advocate, was trapped under rubble for more than 50 hours and thought she was going to die. "When my friends see me [today] they see a smile on my face," she says, "but when I find myself alone, I cry."

RESPONSE CHALLENGES

EVEN SO, nobody could accuse the world of standing idly by while Haiti suffered. The relentless images of destruction pumped out by TV news channels and online media helped raise much-needed cash but at times created problems of its own.

Casey Calamusa, a World Vision media specialist, laments that many of the messages conveyed via blogs, Facebook, and Twitter feeds conveyed a "micro" look at a situation that could unbalance priorities.

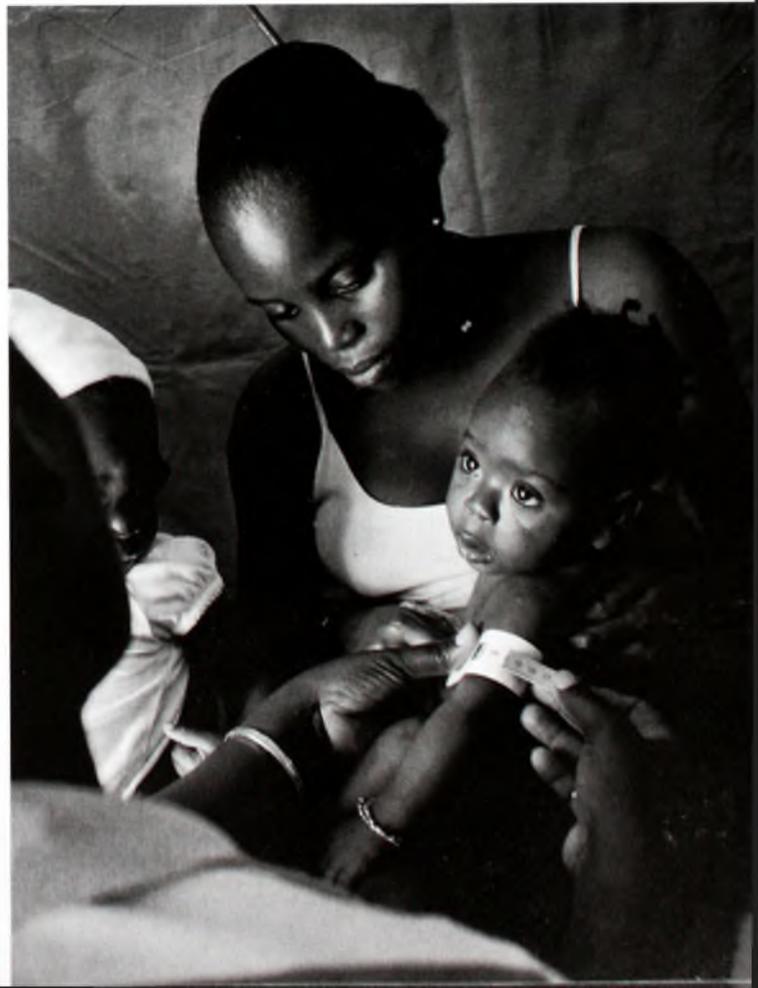
A single tweet, for example, might draw the attention of news media and aid organizations to a particular need. But the rush of aid could distract from other, possibly more pressing, concerns.

The coverage also drew hundreds of well-meaning groups and individuals from the United States to Haiti to lend a hand—helped by the close proximity of the two countries and the fact that there are no visa requirements for U.S. citizens.

—continued on page 17

FACING PAGE: Mothers bring their babies to a World Vision health clinic at a displacement camp in Petionville. Children are weighed and measured, and their upper-arm circumference is checked for signs of malnutrition.

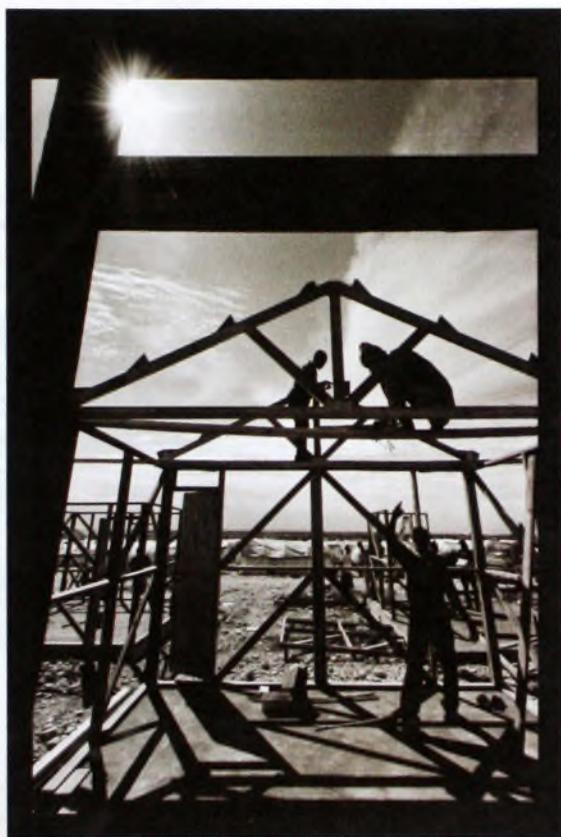
Why, after more than 12 months, is there not greater progress in Haiti? To understand, it's necessary to appreciate the enormity of the challenge.





Laura Blank, a manager with World Vision's news bureau, says volunteers skilled in emergency rescue, healthcare, or construction were a blessing, but a flood of unskilled helpers could be problematic. Early in the crisis, she met two newly arrived, well-intentioned volunteers at the Port-au-Prince airport who had no idea where to go and were pressing others for assistance, adding to an already chaotic situation.

World Vision



ION WARREN/WORLD VISION

HELP HAITI REBUILD

PHOTO: JON WARREN

HEALING THROUGH HELPING



Jony Saint Louis' compassion for quake survivors is motivated by personal loss.

Physical therapist

Jony Saint Louis gently massages the short stump—all that remains of Demosi Louphine's right arm. He is trying to evaluate whether it is strong enough for a prosthetic limb.

But World Vision's program of disability programs offers more than practical help. Among his favorite sayings Jony shares with patients is a Haitian proverb. It roughly translates: "Better to come stronger than be scouraged."

For Jony, these are not idle words. He has had to learn their value through personal experience. He lost his wife, Annia, when their home collapsed on top of her in the quake.

When Annia was freed, she was alive but seriously injured and in terrible pain. She died four days later.

Even today, Jony sleeps in a tent rather than in a house, fearing

he might one day be similarly trapped.

After the quake, the humanitarian organization Jony worked for ceased to function. Even so, when World Vision invited him for a job interview, he was reluctant to go. He had spent a month sleeping outside, and his clothes were filthy.

But he sensed his wife whispering, *I will be with you, honey, go*. So Jony turned up for the interview. "They didn't see how dirty I was," he says. "They saw what I could offer."

The work has become an integral part of Jony's healing. "I pray every day and ask the Lord to give me an opportunity to put a smile on the face of somebody else," he says.

He senses it is what his wife would have wanted. "When she was living, she took part in all my work for the disabled," he says. "Through my work, she continues to live in me." ●



GIVE ONLINE!

www.worldvision.org/ReadandRespond



PLEASE REMOVE BEFORE MAILING

YES! MULTIPLY MY GIFT 5 TIMES TO
HELP HAITI RECOVER!

I'M GIVING:

- \$50 TO PROVIDE \$250 FOR RELIEF & LONG-TERM SUPPORT.
- \$75 TO PROVIDE \$375 FOR RELIEF & LONG-TERM SUPPORT.
- \$100 TO PROVIDE \$500 FOR RELIEF & LONG-TERM SUPPORT.
- OTHER AMOUNT: \$ _____

I WANT TO SPONSOR A CHILD FOR \$35 A MONTH.

- GENDER: BOY GIRL
 LIVING IN: AFRICA LATIN AMERICA
 ASIA MIDDLE EAST/EASTERN EUROPE
- I WANT MY ONE-TIME DONATION TO GO WHERE IT'S NEEDED MOST.
 AMOUNT: \$ _____

- Check payable to World Vision | Charge my gift to my debit card/credit card
- VISA MASTERCARD AMERICAN EXPRESS DISCOVER
- USE MY CARD NUMBER ON FILE

CARD NUMBER

CARD EXPIRES

NAME ON CARD

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Laura Blank, a manager with World Vision's news bureau, says volunteers skilled in emergency rescue, healthcare, or construction were a blessing, but a flood of unskilled helpers could be problematic. Early in the crisis, she met two newly arrived, well-intentioned volunteers at the Port-au-Prince airport who had no idea where to go and were pressing others for assistance, adding to an already chaotic situation.

HEALING THROUGH HELPING



Jony Saint Louis' compassion for quake survivors is motivated by personal loss.



JON WAKEN/WORLD VISION (2)

More than 200,000 Haitians were killed and up to 3 million were affected by the massive earthquake that struck on Jan. 12, 2010. World Vision responded immediately—drawing on its 30-year commitment to this country and its more than 800 staff members on the ground.

We will stay until the reconstruction work is complete—rebuilding lives and communities—but we need your help to provide shelter, healthcare, food, and clean water.

Thanks to grant funds, your gift will multiply five times to provide help and hope. Please donate today.

Physical therapist

Jony Saint Louis gently massages the short stump—all that remains of Demosi Louphine's right arm. He is trying to evaluate whether it is strong enough for a prosthetic limb.

But World Vision's manager of disability programs offers more than practical help. Among his favorite sayings Jony shares with patients is a Haitian proverb. It roughly translates: "Better to become stronger than be scouraged."

For Jony, these are not idle words. He has had to earn their value through personal experience. He lost his wife, Annia, when their home collapsed on top of her in the quake.

When Annia was killed, she was alive but seriously injured and in terrible pain. She died four days later.

Even today, Jony sleeps in a tent rather than a house, fearing

he might one day be similarly trapped.

After the quake, the humanitarian organization Jony worked for ceased to function. Even so, when World Vision invited him for a job interview, he was reluctant to go. He had spent a month sleeping outside, and his clothes were filthy.

But he sensed his wife whispering, *I will be with you, honey, go*. So Jony turned up for the interview. "They didn't see how dirty I was," he says. "They saw what I could offer."

The work has become an integral part of Jony's healing. "I pray every day and ask the Lord to give me an opportunity to put a smile on the face of somebody else," he says.

He senses it is what his wife would have wanted. "When she was living, she took part in all my work for the disabled," he says. "Through my work, she continues to live in me." ●

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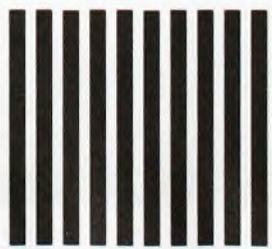
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Laura Blank, a manager with World Vision's news bureau, says volunteers skilled in emergency rescue, healthcare, or construction were a blessing, but a flood of unskilled helpers could be problematic. Early in the crisis, she met two newly arrived, well-intentioned volunteers at the Port-au-Prince airport who had no idea where to go and were pressing others for assistance, adding to an already chaotic situation.

"They did not have a driver. They did not have a translator. They did not know what they were doing," Laura says.

Even when volunteers were better prepared, confusion reigned if they were poorly coordinated, leading to a surplus of aid in some areas and none at all in others.

Jeff Wright, a World Vision emergency operations director, recalls accompanying a convoy of World Vision aid trucks to an impromptu camp that United Nations reports had indicated was in dire need of food. After spending three hours en route, negotiating mounds of debris, they were flummoxed to find another group—who had not checked in with the U.N. coordination office—already distributing aid.

"The volume of need for food distribution was so great . . . we [did] not want to be double-serving anyone," Jeff later told the *Christian Science Monitor*. (See "Myths of Aid," page 18.)

LAND NIGHTMARES

AS THE WEEKS TURNED into months, the world's attention focused on housing, or the lack of it, for earthquake survivors. But the real issue was finding suitable land for the housing. Even before the quake, Port-au-Prince was infamous for its crowded, single-room hovels situated on land vulnerable to flooding or mudslides, or in danger of collapsing down near-vertical hillsides. According to Dominic Keyzer, the World Vision response advocacy coordinator, no humanitarian organization wants to rebuild in such places.

Not only is suitable land hard to find, but it's also difficult to establish who owns it. "We don't want to be putting a beneficiary in a shelter where the land tenure is insecure," Dominic explains, "then a year from now find they are not able to access the housing."

Even when land is found, erecting new homes or shelters is only one issue. The other problem is the delivery of power, sanitation, drainage, and water supplies that are essential for a thriving community.

Add to these troubles the fact that one year after the quake a mere 5 percent of the rubble had been cleared away, and it's not surprising so many are still living in makeshift camps. For this reason, providing essential services to the displaced and vulnerable remains a mammoth operation. World Vision delivers 291,000 gallons of water to 36 camps

FACING PAGE, TOP: Cooks prepare meals for more than 1,500 school-age children—part of a World Vision feeding program at Corail displacement camp. **BELOW:** World Vision organizes delivery of 291,000 gallons of water to displaced camps every day.

HEALING THROUGH HELPING



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MYTHS OF AID



Debunking common misperceptions of disaster relief.

1. Relief efforts are chaotic and haphazard.

Following a disaster, reports occasionally surface about too much aid reaching one location and not enough reaching another. This does happen, but in recent decades, relief agencies, local governments, and community leaders have more intentionally coordinated their efforts to ensure that necessary items reach disaster survivors as quickly as possible, without duplication of effort.

2. Good intentions are enough.

Days and weeks after a major natural disaster, people from all walks of life desire to do more than donate funds. They tackle everything from organizing a food or clothing drive to traveling to the disaster site in hopes of lending a hand. Aid agencies have learned, however, that haphazard donations can interfere with the

flow of more urgently requested goods. And the best people on the ground are those with appropriate skills and training, as well as those who understand the language and context.

3. Aid agencies should spend donations as quickly as possible.

Recovery and rescue efforts—as well as the distribution of emergency food, water, shelter, and medical care—must be accomplished as quickly as possible. But experienced aid agencies know that they must plan to meet both the present and future needs of a community recovering from a disaster. Although speed is important, efficiency and coordination will ultimately help the most people and ensure that assistance is effective. ●

» Explore more myths about aid work at www.worldvisionmagazine.org.

every day, maintains hundreds of latrines, provides food aid to more than 100,000 children, and operates nine health clinics and one cholera-treatment unit.

World Vision has also met social needs of the displaced through the provision of mothers' clubs, youth clubs, and Child-Friendly Spaces—areas where children can enjoy recreational activities and recover from emotional scars. As time has passed, Child-Friendly Spaces have been bolstered by Early Childhood Development Spaces, which offer more structured learning.

Valerie Noisette, World Vision's education manager, says about 45 percent of children in camps no longer attend school, either because their school is destroyed or because their parents cannot afford fees. To Valerie, it's a major concern, especially for the youngest children whose mental development might be permanently hampered without something constructive to stimulate their minds.

While World Vision's medical and educational support has been critical, the camps' continued existence has become a source of friction with landowners, who wonder if the displaced will ever move off their land. In one case, authorities at a church school locked the latrines so they could not be used by those living on the grounds—forcing people to defecate in plastic bags. The displaced threatened to retaliate by burning the school down.

In this instance, and in several others, World Vision negotiated for extra time for the displaced to leave, provided materials and tools so they could return to homes that could be repaired, and offered transitional shelters to others who could access suitable land.

MOVING FORWARD

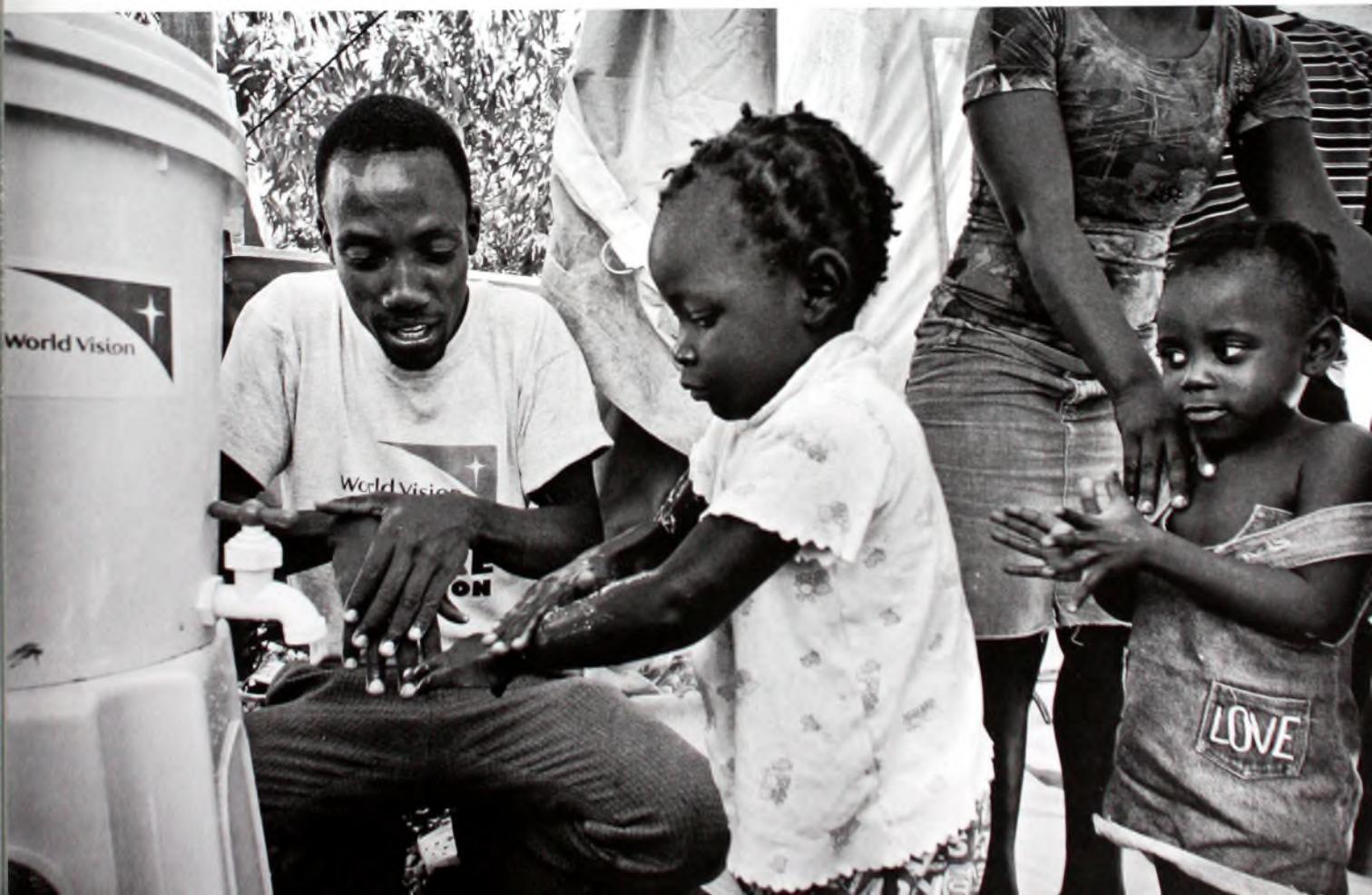
NATURALLY, restoring people's capacity to earn money is critical to ending their reliance on aid. World Vision pays some of the displaced to maintain latrines, clean camps, and prepare meals at school feeding programs. Those with teaching and child care skills are vetted to work in both Child-Friendly Spaces and Early Childhood Development Spaces.

A father of five, Gerard Celestin was among the first to benefit from a World Vision small-business program. He attended four weeks of training and received a grant to establish a retail stall. "It was great," Gerard says. "They taught me sales techniques as well as how to manage a business and how to make a profit."

Among those facing the toughest challenge in resuming work are the thousands who lost limbs. Sometimes their biggest difficulty is psychological rather than physical, notes World Vision disability program manager Jony Saint Louis.

—continued on page 21

FACING PAGE, TOP: Fun and games at a World Vision Child-Friendly Space. BELOW: Teaching children to wash their hands thoroughly at a World Vision Early Childhood Development Space—an important lesson in a cholera-prone environment.





(See “Healing Through Helping,” page 17.)

To counter this, Jony gathers together amputees for motivation seminars using lessons from the Bible and from individuals like Joni Eareckson Tada—an inspirational writer left paralyzed by a diving accident. “I love talking to them about Joni,” he says, “how she has worked through her difficulties and gone on to help other disabled [people].”

Once clients regain confidence, Jony invites them to apply for a small grant to develop their own businesses. Among his most promising clients is Fabiola Tattégais, who was forced to cut off part of her foot with a knife to free herself from a collapsed building. Unfortunately, the wound became infected and doctors had to amputate much of her right leg below the knee. Jony was impressed that, despite this cruel blow, Fabiola had managed to identify which product lines were lacking in her neighborhood and tailored her plans for a grocery business accordingly.

“She has shown me she can do it, and she will,” he says.

SECURING A FUTURE

IN MOST CASES, the goal of disaster response is to return a community to its prior strengths. Given the perilous state of Haiti before the quake, however, nobody would want to go back to the status quo of Jan. 11, 2010. The massive death toll only revealed all of the country’s existing vulnerabilities.

Stringent building codes, better urban planning, better infrastructure, and more effective disaster preparedness could have drastically reduced the number who died. (See “Disaster Disadvantage,” page 22.)

So in addition to meeting immediate urgent needs in Haiti, World Vision is dedicated to projects that are sustainable and can withstand violent shocks—such as those caused by hurricanes and earthquakes. The current quake response will last for at least five years and will include rebuilding schools, installing sustainable water and sanitation facilities, increasing the emphasis on restoring livelihoods, and training people in disaster preparedness.

Outside Port-au-Prince, World Vision has already been engaged in these kinds of activities for more than 30 years—largely through community-development programs funded by child sponsors. Donors worldwide sponsor about 57,000 children in Haiti in 19 regions.

Thanks to the generosity of child sponsors, World Vision-supported communities were in a better position to withstand the trauma caused by the quake—notably in their capacity to deal with the influx of thousands of people displaced from the capital. Moreover, World Vision could quickly distribute emergency supplies and support to host families.

Meanwhile, in Port-au-Prince, two individuals who have caught a glimpse of a more promising future are single mom Maraseille Saintluis and her 11-year-old son, Etienne—among the first to move into World Vision shelters being built on government-acquired land, 10 miles north of Port-au-Prince.

The shelters are anchored to cement bases and designed to withstand wind speeds in excess of 100 mph—important in a hurricane-prone country. Although consisting of just a single room of 18 square meters, Maraseille’s shelter is about a third larger than the ramshackle hut she previously rented, which collapsed in the quake. Perhaps most exciting of all, the shelter belongs to Maraseille—the first piece of property she has ever owned.

As Maraseille pushes open the door to her new home, she heads to the middle of the room, throws her hands in the air, and exclaims, “Thank you, Jesus! I am safe! Oh, God cares for me. I’m proud to serve my God! God is not dead. No, he is alive! Jesus has delivered me. To Jesus be all the glory. Hallelujah!”

She continues this way for more than 15 minutes. Her eyes are moist with tears, but her face could not be more radiant.

It’s been a long road for Maraseille to reach this point. She knows what it is like to have slept out on the street in flimsy shared shelters with no privacy. She knows about living for months in tents that grow excruciatingly hot during the day and leak in the rain. She has lived in fear of hurricanes and cholera, with little protection from either. Like Haiti itself, she has faced challenge after challenge after challenge.

There’s still a long road ahead, but the good news is that World Vision, its donors, and its prayerful supporters are helping Haitians like Maraseille every day, in the confident conviction that there *will* be a better day. ●

WORLD VISION'S RESPONSE

Household supplies (bedding, soap, etc.)	350,000 people
General food aid	220,000 households
Child food programs	120,000 children
Drinking water supplies	132,000 people
Child-Friendly Spaces & learning programs	6,500 children
Cash-for-work programs	14,500 people
Cash-for-training (carpentry, gardening, masonry, etc.)	1,500 people
Transitional shelters	620 families

» For more information on World Vision’s quake response, see the report “Haiti Earthquake Response: One Year Later.” Visit www.worldvision.org/haitioneyear.



SCAN THIS CODE with your smartphone to watch a video about the transitional shelters World Vision is building for displaced families in Haiti.

FACING PAGE, TOP LEFT: Hallelujah! Maraseille enters her new home—the first she has ever owned. TOP RIGHT & BELOW: World Vision pushes ahead with the construction of transitional shelters.

DISASTER DISADVANTAGE

Natural disasters can strike anywhere, causing great damage and loss. But Haiti's quake was all the more devastating because of its impact on a desperately poor population.



HAITI

When Jan. 12, 2010

Immediate impact

Magnitude 7.0 earthquake

Depth¹ 6 miles

Epicenter 16 miles west of Port-au-Prince (pop.: 3 million)

Strikes capital city

National government's capacity to respond devastated

Preparedness

Haiti suffers from a lack of building codes, and poverty forces many to build homes on unstable land with inadequate resources. Major structures are built with insufficient steel and unsatisfactory foundations. The population has no experience or training in responding to earthquakes. Haiti has not suffered a major earthquake in 250 years.

Economic realities

Gross income / capita \$949

HDI rating² 145 (low)

Deaths 220,000+



NEW ZEALAND

When Feb. 22, 2011

Immediate impact

Magnitude 6.3 earthquake

Depth 3 miles

Epicenter 25 miles west of Christchurch (pop.: 400,000)

Strikes second-largest city

National government's capacity to respond unaffected

Preparedness

Christchurch's City Council began upgrading earthquake-prone buildings in the 1970s. New Zealand's timber-framed homes tend to flex and absorb earthquake energy. The country has learned from major historic quakes, such as one that hit Napier in 1931.

Economic realities

Gross income / capita \$25,438

HDI rating 3 (very high)

Deaths 160+



JAPAN

When March 11, 2011

Immediate impact

Magnitude 9.0 quake + tsunami

Depth 20 miles

Epicenter 81 miles east of Sendai (pop.: 1 million)

Strikes major and minor centers along the east coast of the main island of Honshu

National government's capacity to respond unaffected

Preparedness

Following the 1995 Kobe earthquake, Japan poured enormous resources into improving building standards, reinforcing existing structures, and creating early-warning systems for earthquakes and tsunamis. Schools conduct regular earthquake drills, and the coast is dotted with towering seawalls and marked evacuation routes.

Economic realities

Gross income / capita \$34,692

HDI rating 11 (very high)

Deaths³ 11,000+

¹The depth of an earthquake has a significant impact on disturbances on the earth's surface. Shallower earthquakes cause greater damage.

²The Human Development Index (HDI), created by the UN Development Programme, ranks 169 countries according to their level of social and economic development. The ranking runs from most developed (1) to least developed (169). Where there is insufficient data on a country, it is excluded from the rankings.

³Data as of March 31, with inconclusive evidence regarding long-term effects of compromised nuclear-power plants.

SOURCES: UNITED NATIONS, U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD, CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, TRIPLE HELIX ONLINE, THE NEW YORK TIMES, GUARDIAN, CNN, TIME.

TALKING WITH YOUR CHILDREN

Tips from World Vision for discussing news about tragedies with young ones.

Every day, somewhere in the world, tragedy unfolds. And our youth's increasingly digital generation is exposed to more and more disturbing images and information. So they are full of questions: "Could this happen to me? What's going to happen to the children? Can I do anything to help?" Consider these suggestions for talking with your own children about what they are seeing and hearing.



J. PAGET BY PHOTOS

1 Start by listening.

Find out what your child already knows. You can then respond in an age-appropriate way. The aim is not to worry children with devastating details but to protect them from disturbing images as well as misinformation.

2 Provide clear, simple answers.

Limit your answers to the questions asked and use simple language. If you are asked questions you can't answer, admit it, and then do some research. If you are part of a faith community, the reassurance offered there can be invaluable in helping your child sort through the truth that awful things do happen, even if we don't know why.

3 Follow media reports or online updates privately.

Young children are easily traumatized, and seeing or

hearing horrifying details about a crisis may be more than they can handle.

4 Concentrate on making them feel safe.

When tragedies occur, children wonder if the same event could happen in their hometown. If it was an act of nature that could not be repeated in your area, reassure them. Placing themselves in the situations of victims is a sign of empathy, an essential life skill. But watch for signs of excessive worrying.

5 Give children creative outlets.

Some children may not be prepared to speak about what they have heard but may find drawing or other creative activities helpful to deal with their emotions and stress. Their drawings can be starting points for conversation.

6 Model compassion, and give your child a chance to be involved.

As a family, plan together to help the people involved in a tragedy by giving a donation to a charity you trust. Invite your child to contribute from his or her piggy bank too. Being involved in the solution will help relieve some anxiety.

7 Pray together.

Tailor your prayers to what your children already know; don't frighten them with all the news that you are aware of as an adult. During crises, prayers are always needed for physical safety, for food and water, and for the reuniting of parents with children. But ask your children first, "What should we pray for?" to help uncover their concerns, and then pray, too, for God to remove their fear. ●

YESTERDAY'S INTERNATIONAL CRISES MIGHT FALL OFF OUR RADAR, BUT WHAT ABOUT THOSE STILL LIVING IN THE AFTERMATH?

STILL SUFFERING

BY JULIAN LUKINS

DO MASSIVE CATASTROPHES
REALLY DISAPPEAR?

OR DO THEY CONTINUE BEYOND OUR FILTERED NEWSFEED?

CONSIDER THREE CRISES
THREATENING MILLIONS OF CHILDREN TODAY

EVEN THOUGH THEY NO LONGER HIT THE TOP HEADLINES.



Haidar Ahmed,
4, Darfur

DARFUR'S FORGOTTEN CHILDREN



A few years ago, graphic reports of ethnic cleansing and atrocities stunned the world, prompting the United Nations to declare Darfur “the world’s worst humanitarian crisis.” Eight years later, the Darfur region of Sudan has faded from the media spotlight. Is the conflict over? Far from it.

FAST FACTS

- » 200,000-300,000 people dead
- » 1 million people still displaced
- » 250,000 refugees in neighboring Chad

CHILDREN OF CONFLICT

When Haidar Ahmed (facing page) was 4 years old, his family fled after their village came under attack. They took refuge at a displacement camp in Otash—a sea of tents occupied by 150,000 people.

That was five years ago. Now Haidar is in third grade at one of the camp’s temporary schools. He loves to play soccer, but eating only one meal a day saps his energy.

His parents work menial jobs in a nearby town to provide food for their 12 children. Sometimes, though, work is not available and they have to beg for food. “During meals, our food always runs out in less than two minutes,” explains Haidar’s 8-year-old sister. “We share the food that our parents provide, but I wish we could get three meals every day.”

In Otash camp, World Vision operates several informal schools, including the one Haidar and his siblings attend, and runs a medical clinic—the only health service in the camp.

—reporting by Dan Teng'o

THE LOW-DOWN

THE CRISIS IN DARFUR—meaning “land of the Fur people”—is often portrayed as a clash between Arabs loyal to the Sudanese government and black Africans fighting for equal rights. It actually goes deeper. Historic tensions between tribal groups were the lightning rod for the horrific violence that erupted in 2003, but that violence was then fanned by disputes over farming and grazing rights and allegations of neglect and manipulation.

Running amok, militias massacred tens of thousands of adults and children. Attacking on horseback and camels, they drove more than 2 million people from their mud-and-thatch homes and villages. With their homes destroyed, traumatized families sought protection in dust-swept camps ill-equipped to cope with the influx of refugees and internally displaced people.

CRISIS NOW

MOST FAMILIES reach displacement camps with only the clothes on their backs. Upon arrival, they are given a small plot of land, but they must find and construct shelter from whatever supplies they can gather. The camps are crowded—some are home to more than 100,000 people—so it is difficult to find work, food, water, and medical care.

Some families have returned to their villages, where they have a better opportunity to grow crops and provide for themselves, but many are too fearful of further attacks to do so.

WORLD VISION RESPONDS



300,000 displaced children and families received food



10,000 families provided with seeds and farming tools



Clean water and urgent healthcare provided

CONGO'S HIDDEN HEARTACHE



The horrendous civil war in the Democratic Republic of the Congo is the world's deadliest conflict since World War II, reportedly causing 5 million deaths.

FAST FACTS

- » 5 million dead
- » 200,000 women raped
- » 2 million people displaced

MARGUERITE AND AARON NGANDWE



THE LOW-DOWN

IN CONFLICT-TORN eastern DRC, sexual violence is a weapon. UNICEF says hundreds of thousands of women and children have been raped since the turmoil began in 1998.

Meanwhile, hunger is rampant. Around 35 percent of children are malnourished, increasing their vulnerability to disease. One in five children dies before age 5.

CRISIS NOW

HIDDEN FROM the world's eyes, 2 million Congolese—three times Baltimore's population—are uprooted by terror, living hand-to-mouth, and traumatized by the atrocities that go under-reported by the media.

About 50,000 children live in informal camps, overcrowded and chaotic environments with no basic social services, where they are at risk of sexual violence, kidnapping, and exploitation.

Is it any wonder that the nation's children feel alone? "They feel abandoned by the rest of the world," says World Vision DRC staff member Alain Mwaku. "They cannot stop begging for their life to change one day."

CHILDREN OF CONFLICT

In a dusty gravel pit in Kipushi, 9-year-old Marguerite Ngandwe and her sister, Aaron, 11, sift stones to find the best rocks to sell. Their mother, Sylvie, a 38-year-old widow, also brings their 3-year-old sister to the quarry because there's no one at home to look after her. The gravel pit is a dangerous place. Women and children are sometimes buried under rockslides. "I have scars on my body," Aaron points out.

Marguerite and Aaron are registered at the Mwanga primary school, but their mother can't afford the tuition fees. It's difficult enough for her to muster the family's single meal for the day, after they've returned from their dust-choking labor. "We suffer coughs and rheumatism because of [the] dust," says Sylvie, who dreams of starting her own fish stall so her daughters can be free of the gravel pit.

Even in the dust, Marguerite has a dream too. "I will be a dressmaker," she says, a flicker of hope lighting up her eyes.

In Kipushi, World Vision supports 4,000 vulnerable children, promoting farming as an alternative to child labor in the hazardous quarries, providing children a safe environment in which to pursue their dreams.

—reporting by Alain Masela Mwaku

WORLD VISION RESPONDS



1.6 million people assisted



74,000 children sponsored



Food, clean water, urgent health-care, trauma counseling provided

COLOMBIA'S INVISIBLE CRISIS

FAST FACTS

- » 3.4 million people displaced within Colombia
- » 389,000 refugees in other countries
- » 2 million women and children uprooted

The more than 40-year conflict between government forces and insurgents continues. In its path, the violence has left thousands dead and 3.4 million people displaced (internally and externally), making Colombia the country with the largest displaced population in the world.

CHILDREN OF CONFLICT

Abel Puentes recalls the terror when rebel forces invaded his small farming community.

First, the Puentes family was forced to give part of their harvest and livestock to feed the soldiers. Then soldiers threatened Abel's wife, Andrea, and began recruiting children. "Every family had to give one of their children as soon as they were able to carry a gun," Abel explains.

Looking at his oldest son, 9-year-old Myller, Abel says, "I wasn't going to permit that."

With only the clothes they were wearing, 30-year-old Abel, Andrea, and their four children—including a newborn—fled to the city. They spent a month and a half living on the streets, begging. Eventually, Abel found a job that paid a pittance, and the family rented a room in the slums. "The water came in when it rained," Andrea says, "and because we had the mattresses on the ground, they got wet."

"One day, [Myller] told me, 'Mom, why don't we throw ourselves in front of the truck and die, because that would be better [than this]?'"

In despair, Andrea turned to God: *Please put someone in my path that could help us.* That day, she met a World Vision worker, who told her, "Don't worry, we are going to help you."

Claudia Sanchez was shocked at the family's condition and their only food rations: a bag of lentils. Right away, Claudia enrolled the children in a community kitchen that provides a hearty meal every day. She also enrolled them in school.

"I am so thankful for World Vision," says Andrea, smiling. "It has been a great blessing for us."

—reporting by Heidi Isaza

THE PUNTES FAMILY



THE LOW-DOWN

FAMILIES, ESPECIALLY those from indigenous groups and rural areas, are physically forced from their land or flee out of fear—fear that their boys will be forcefully recruited or their wives and daughters will face sexual violence. This invisible crisis has caused massive internal migration. Millions have fled to severely overpopulated urban centers to find safety.

CRISIS NOW

AS IS THE CASE in most every crisis, it is the children who suffer most. Far too many live for a time on the streets before ending up in slums, often in houses made of recycled wooden crates, plastic, cardboard, and corrugated metal. In the chaos and confusion, many children do not show up at school. Often it's because their parents are not familiar with the urban educational systems or cannot afford the needed school supplies. ●

WORLD VISION RESPONDS



78,000 children sponsored



25,000 children receive school supplies



400,000 people benefit from World Vision programs

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



WEZZIE BANDA/WORLD VISION

RADIO STAR

A FORMER SPONSORED CHILD BECOMES A TOP BROADCAST JOURNALIST.

BY JAMES ADDIS AND WEZZIE BANDA

Turn on the radio in the city of Blantyre—the major commercial center of the southern African country of Malawi—and you may hear the melodious voice of Lloyd Phiri reading the news. But Lloyd is not merely an announcer for MIJ Radio; he is the controller of news and current affairs. In addition to reading the bulletin, he will have assigned journalists to gather the stories, edited their reports, picked the lead story, and determined which stories should be spiked and which should be followed up.

MIJ stands for the Malawi Institute of Journalism, and MIJ Radio is a nongovernment station that hones the skills of the country's best up-and-coming journalists.

Lloyd joined MIJ Radio after serving as head of news and current affairs at Capital FM—one of Malawi's top music stations.

It's an impressive resumé for a man who has yet to turn 30.

Lloyd's rise is even more stunning, considering the humble circumstances in which he grew up. He was born to a single mother in Senzani, an impoverished village in central Malawi. His mother supported Lloyd and his younger brother, Dalitso, through small-scale farming. But times were tough. Lloyd remembers growing up in a tiny hut thatched with grass that would leak during the rainy season.

The trio chiefly survived by eating *nsima*—a paste-like porridge made from maize flour. The family could seldom afford the traditional meat or fish accompaniment for the meal. "Hard memories that stand out include sleeping on an empty stomach because of lack of food," Lloyd says. "I was determined to work extra hard so that I attained a good life in the future."

There wasn't a great deal of entertainment in Senzani, but

“WITHOUT SPONSORSHIP I COULD NOT HAVE GONE TO SECONDARY SCHOOL, AND THIS ENABLED ME TO PURSUE A DEGREE IN JOURNALISM.”

Lloyd loved listening to the radio. He hoped one day to emulate some of his favorite Malawian presenters, and later he acquired a taste for news and current affairs after long hours of listening to the BBC World Service.

Lloyd's ambitions were helped enormously after World Vision built several schools in the Senzani area and he became a sponsored child. Even so, Lloyd still had to walk more than four miles to get to primary school. He refused to let this hold him back, especially as World Vision was giving further support through the provision of school supplies and a school uniform.

He says he was also sustained by his Christian faith. “Being raised in a Christian family helped me to attain faith in Christ. It is God's grace that has enabled me to pass through all the challenges,” he says.

Lloyd took full advantage of the opportunities he got, worked hard, and excelled in geography, agriculture, and English. “I always remember the time I passed my primary school final exams,” he says. “This is one of my joyful moments.”

In addition to making schooling possible, child-sponsor-funded programs assisted his community in many other ways, such as building bridges and drilling

boreholes, so villagers could access clean water. Lloyd says the boreholes helped reduce the incidence of water-borne diseases in his community. But it's the support for his education for which he is most thankful. World Vision helped pay school fees during his four years of secondary education at boarding school.

After finishing high school, Lloyd was accepted into Malawi Polytechnic—one of the best colleges in the country. He eventually graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree, majoring in journalism.

Although Lloyd does not remember getting letters from his sponsor, he remains deeply grateful for the financial support. “Without sponsorship I could not have gone to secondary school,” he says, “and this enabled me to pursue a degree in journalism. It is because of this degree that I am able to acquire employment.”

It's led to more than just a promising career. About two years ago, Lloyd worked briefly at a Seventh Day Adventist radio station where he met and fell in love with announcer Grace Phiri. The couple plan to marry in October. Lloyd says anybody connected with World Vision—staff and donors—is welcome to the ceremony.

“I would like to extend the wedding invitation to the whole World Vision family. Your presence on my wedding day will be a blessing,” he says. ●



WEZZIE BANDA/WORLD VISION

ABOUT WORLD VISION

WHO WE ARE | World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to helping children, families, and their communities worldwide reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice.

WHOM WE SERVE | Motivated by our faith in Jesus Christ, we serve alongside the poor and oppressed—regardless of a person's religion, race, ethnicity, or gender—as a demonstration of God's unconditional love for all people.

WHY WE SERVE | Our passion is for the world's poorest children whose suffering breaks the heart of God. To help secure a better future for each child, we focus on lasting, community-based transformation. We partner with individuals and communities, empowering them to develop sustainable access to clean water, food supplies, health care, education, and economic opportunities.

HOW WE SERVE | Since 1950, World Vision has helped millions of children and families by providing emergency assistance to those affected by natural disasters and civil conflict, developing long-term solutions within communities to alleviate poverty, and advocating for justice on behalf of the poor.

YOU CAN HELP | Partnering with World Vision provides tangible ways to honor God and put faith into action. By working together, we can make a lasting difference in the lives of children and families who are struggling to overcome poverty. To find out how you can help, visit worldvision.org. ●

TO SPONSOR A CHILD see the envelope between pages 16 and 17 or go to www.worldvision.org/ReadandRespond.

Unwavering Witness

BY JANE SUTTON-REDNER

There is a special place in history for “keepers of the flame.” Lorraine Pierce, who passed away in April at age 94, was one of these unassuming heroes. Through six decades, the wife of World Vision founder Bob Pierce was a stalwart witness to God’s sovereignty over this ministry.

“Lorraine was truly the first lady of World Vision and understood our calling by frequently telling me, ‘Bill, please help to keep Christ at the center of all [that] World Vision does,’” said Bill Kliewer, World Vision International senior director, who was hired by Bob in 1966. Lorraine delivered that message to generations of World Vision executives and at many organizational gatherings over the years.

Lorraine was also a link to the human side of charismatic Bob Pierce. From her we have the mental image of Bob poring over filmstrips at his kitchen table as he spliced together “China Challenge,” his first film. She shared how he loved to bowl and once bought the whole family bowling balls and shoes for Christmas; how he filled the car with his daughters and their friends for Disneyland outings.

She confided that when he played Scrabble®, he tended to cheat, passing off unfamiliar words as translations of Chinese terms. “Oh, Daddy,” his children groaned, but no one could argue with the world traveler.

Perhaps the most enduring image of Lorraine herself was what she would do when Bob was away in Asia and she especially missed him: “I would take the children to the shore, and I would sit close to the water and put my toes in to touch the Pacific Ocean and imagine that right across the sea, someone was there who loved me ... that was as close as I could get.”

But it’s not accurate to label Lorraine as merely a forlorn figure, the long-suffering wife. During Bob’s time at World Vision, she made behind-the-scenes contributions to the ministry. Inspired by Bob’s stories about Korean widows who needed a way to support themselves, she spoke in several churches to raise funds for 10 sewing machines for the Tabitha Widows

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

— JEREMIAH 29:11

Home. She established the World Vision Women’s Auxiliary, a group of wives who gathered to pray and take on service projects, including knitting sweaters and blankets and decorating 400 jeweled pillboxes for lepers in Asia.

Lorraine designed and promoted the Viet Kits program in which thousands of hygiene, sewing, and children’s kits were assembled by volunteers and sent to war-affected families in Vietnam. She also championed her husband’s dream of a children’s hospital in Korea, raising \$50,000.

After Bob’s death in 1978, Lorraine established through World Vision the Robert W. Pierce Award for Christian Service, which annually disburses monetary awards to men and women serving the Lord around the world—honoring them as Bob did in his lifetime. And in occasional visits to World Vision, she charmed everyone with her dry wit and her unabashed affection for those who continued her husband’s work.

Born in 1917 in Chicago, Lorraine came from strong Christian stock—her father, Floyd B. Johnson, was a radio evangelist and pastor; her mother, Ethel Niemeyer, ministered to the poor on Chicago’s Skid Row. Memorizing Scripture was ingrained in her, and she has ingrained it in her children and grandchildren, explaining, “I feel, when all is said and done, you find yourself in a corner where only what God says counts.”

Faith pulled her through hardship and tragedy, including the death of her eldest daughter, Sharon, in 1968. (Lorraine died on what would have been Sharon’s 70th birthday.)

“If you can always hold to the knowledge that God’s love is unwavering, there is a security in that, even when everybody seems to be falling apart,” said Marilee Dunker, Lorraine’s middle daughter, now a World Vision speaker and child advocate. “That’s a lesson that you don’t learn by being taught—you learn it by seeing it lived out. And my mother lived that out.”

Throughout her life, even in the tough times, Lorraine steadfastly looked for the fruit of God’s faithfulness—and found it. “I am so glad [Bob] went on and did what he did,” she said, “as hard as it was for me—and it was hard. But I was also blessed in my kind of way. God didn’t fail me at all.” ●

GREG SCHNEIDER FOR WORLD VISION



LORRAINE PIERCE

1917-2011

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