

CURRENT & IMMEDIATE NEEDS LIST

MAY 15, 2007

Frequently we are asked about our current or most pressing needs at the Kamashi Orphanage & School. As you read through this list, please agree with us in prayer that God will provide for our needs. And if God has a role for you to play, perhaps He will impress it upon your heart. The list isn't necessarily in order of importance, but as you read, I trust that God will quicken your heart for any area that He might want to use you in what ever capacity.

1. Teams & Volunteers

Nothing can communicate the vision like seeing it in person, like when someone comes and sees with their own eyes, what God is doing. Volunteers and teams bring a level of excellence and standards that are critical to achieving excellence in the Kamashi Orphanage & School.

Team members contribute greatly in so many ways;

- Interaction with the kids (games, VBS, teaching English, marching, hygiene, giving clothes, and just love them).
- Working on projects (painting, organizing, cleaning, repairing, construction, and maintenance).
- Minister in the community (visit poor neighboring families, bringing food, clothing or gifts).
- Teach, train and minister to the staff (teaching English, leadership, child rearing, etc.).

As team members come, they are able to carry what they experienced back to their family, friends and church. God can work through these who have personally witness the work of the ministry to touch others.

2. Housing Construction

Cost \$14,000

Because the orphanage is in such a remote area of Ethiopia, we struggle to find teachers willing to come teach in our school. The best teachers live in larger cities with all the comforts. The only available housing in Kamashi is mud huts with dirt floors. By constructing low-cost housing with block and cement, we are building the best housing in Kamashi.

God provided for the first two houses to be built at a cost of \$4,700 per house. We have been researching some ideas to incorporate more local materials into the construction. With locally grown bamboo and cement plaster, we expect to be able to finish houses for \$3,500 per family dwelling. We continue to work on building additional units/houses as people give to make it possible. We need four more units to accommodate our current number of teachers.

3. Electricity

Cost \$5,400

Great news here! The 150K watt generator sent in the first container is now up and running! How exciting to have full power electricity for the first time ever in the orphanage. The government is in the process of bringing hydro-power to Kamashi yet this year. When they do, we need to purchase our own transformer to have sufficient power at the orphanage, because we are located about four miles out of town.

Once hydro power is brought in, we need to organize a team or hire electricians from Addis Ababa to come and finish the electrical work in the compound. From use of poor power, many of the ballasts and lights need to be replaced. Other wiring also needs to be straightened out over the entire compound, more than 120 rooms. We need God to send us people who understand wiring, can trouble shoot and correct the issues. About 40% of the compound has issues with the wiring that had never been tested since there was not power at the time of construction.

4. Computer Lab Setup and Network Installation

Need: Teams & Missionaries

We have a dozen computers (also delivered in the last container) just sitting in the library waiting for someone who knows enough to check them out, load software and get a network up and running. This was not pressing before we had proper electrical power, but we have now. Any computer techs out there?

5. Nursery & Toddlers Dormitory

Cost: \$3,800

In order to start accepting babies and toddlers, we need to convert empty rooms into a nursery and a toddler's dormitory. These renovations will add a large nursery, two bathrooms, washer and dryer hookups and space for 10 babies and 10 toddlers. Donated washers and dryers are in route from California, with the new cribs and playpens that were donated having already arrived in the orphanage May 1st, 2007.

6. School Uniforms & Clothes

Cost: \$286 to \$5,894

We really need additional clothing for the 150 children in the orphanage. Last year, each child received one school uniform, and they are getting quite worn. During our May 2007 visit to Ethiopia, we visited a clothing factory that makes quality clothes for export to first-world countries. We found quality clothing far superior to the clothes being sold in most of the stores in Ethiopia, and by buying from the factory they were actually less expensive than in the stores.

ITEM	COST EACH	1/CHILD
School Uniform Shirt – Navy Blue Polo Shirts	25 birr or \$2.80 each.....	\$420
T-Shirts – in school colors for the hot summer days	17 birr or \$1.91 each.....	\$286
Quality Blue Jeans – heavy cloth & double stitched	47 birr or \$5.28 each.....	\$792
School Shoes – black high quality leather	58 birr or \$6.52 each.....	\$978
Sport Shoes – for general wear, soccer & gym class	42 birr or \$4.72 each.....	\$708

As little as \$286 will provide every children a new t-shirt. A complete outfit of three pair of pants, two t-shirts, three polo shirts, and two pair of shoes would cost \$39.29 each or \$5,894 for all 150 children.

7. English Teachers

\$200/month Raised

Cost: \$400/month
~~**Cost: \$600/month**~~

We're the only school in the region given special permission to teach all subjects in English from kindergarten. Children entering the orphanage come from different people groups/tribes, and speak different languages. With six primary languages, the children have to be taught a common language just to be in the home. By using English, it opens up a whole world of curriculum and literature that is just not available in any other language in Ethiopia. With this great opportunity comes the challenge of getting good teachers who speak excellent English themselves. Can the children survive in Ethiopia without English? Sure, but we are not interested in them just surviving... we want to create winners! We don't want our kids to *just* make it though life. We want them to take life by storm, contributing to society AND to the Kingdom. We need to give them the tools they need to achieve all God has in store for them in life, and English is that important in Ethiopia.

Hiring quality English-speaking teachers means we have to pay a premium from what an average teacher makes. For about a hundred dollars more per teacher, per month, we can have some of the nation's best teachers. Needing six teachers right now, that means we need \$600 per month more than our budget.

8. Vision & Dental

Need: Teams & Missionaries

Our children have never been to a dentist or had a teeth cleaning. They all have toothbrushes for the first time in their lives, and are taught to brush their teeth morning and night. In a culture where there is almost no sugar or candy, cavities are not as significant a problem as here in America. None the less, many of our kids do have issues as we found out during their physicals exams given by a couple of nurses on teams. Also needed are eye exams, glasses for those who need it and continued care of some skin rashes. Thanks

to one supporter, our two children with severe problems with their legs have been treated and are running around like nothing was ever wrong. Praise God! Calling all nurses, doctors, dentists and dental hygienists.

9. Agriculture

Need: Equipment & Workers

Through God's provision, we have been receiving enough funding to feed the kids a typical diet. They are happy to get three nutritious meals a day and plenty to eat. But the typical diet is not very diverse, consisting primarily of Injera made from the locally grown grain "teff". Though it is one of the most nutritious grains, the children need a variety of fruits and vegetables for a well balanced diet, getting all of the vitamins and minerals their growing bodies need, but have been starved of prior to entering the home. A daily multiple vitamin would also help this, but they are expensive and not even available to purchase in Ethiopia. We are giving vitamins three days a week currently based on our current supply.

We need to start farming on a large scale, teaching the children about all the modern farming techniques as vocational training with crops, animals, crop rotation, irrigation, composting, pest control, and fertilization. It will be a learning center for the children while providing nutritious food for their health. The child care workers and some of the kids have been planting vegetables around the compound where space is available, but we have 100 acres of land out behind the compound where we can build an entire farm with crops, orchards, and animals. We need to pray God will give us a person with a vision as to what our farm should look like, and that they would come and bring it into fruition (barns, sheds, fences, fields, tractors, implements, and so forth).

Summary

In the summer of 2005, I wrestled with starting the Kamashi Orphanage & School. I remember those fateful words of my pastor's wife, Darlene Englehart, when I shared how it was just too big and I cannot do it. She said, "Keith, you are not being asked to do it. You just have to have the faith to move forward in faith and God will do it. If you don't accept what God is calling YOU to do, then you are robbing all the other people God would call into ministry with you though it." There was both a "wow" and an "ouch" in that lesson. In one of the hardest moments in my life, I found in those words, the courage to step forward in faith began planning and sharing. It was real and going to happen.

Holding true to what my pastor's wife had said that day, God has raised up many people with many giftings, working together to make the Kamashi Orphanage & School a success, and I appreciate each one.

Seeing the need is important, but it is only the beginning. It is those who see the need, but then take action that make the difference. If you see the need, please consider taking action; whether by mobilizing people around you, going to Ethiopia and digging in with your own hands, by giving to the work.

I thank you from the depths of my heart. You are an inspiration to me and the encouragement that keeps me going. You are the ones making this ministry happen and we really could not do it without you! That is the power of the Kingdom, each one acting in faith to do what God has called them to do. Though we may not fully see the impact or our part, collectively God is performing a great work in His Kingdom through us. Thank you!

"Lord, we open ourselves and all we have to You and Your will. May You be glorified by what You accomplish in your humble servants, and may many lives be touched and changed through our obedience to You and Your Word! We surrender all to You. Amen."