

This is Alpha. Sadly, he came to the Kamakwie Wesleyan Hospital too late and he died from acute malnutrition.

## **HELPING SICK KIDS TO THRIVE**

Every day we spend valuable time waiting – waiting in a line at the grocery store, the airport, in traffic and long waits in doctor's offices and hospital ER.

In a small region of Sierra Leone they wait too; they wait to see if their children will live or die. Parents bring their sick kids to the Kamakwie Weslevan Hospital where World Hope Canada runs a free clinic called The Alpha **Program.** This clinic began in March 2006 in memory of little four-year-old Alpha who died of malnutrition while a team of Canadian medical volunteers was visiting the hospital.

Sick kids arrive at the hospital where medical staff check the children's weight, height and MUAC (middle upper arm circumference) and then they make a diagnosis. If the children are simply malnourished, they are treated as outpatients but if they are dealing with secondary illnesses as a result of being malnourished, then they are admitted to the Alpha

Ward. Either way, while they receive care, their parents receive basic training in childcare, healthcare and sanitation and hygiene to lessen the chance of the same situation arising with other children in the family!

World Hope Canada is having a positive impact in the Kamakwie region but there are many more kids that need help. We are determined to stop the needless loss of life of so many young children. Did you know that one in three children die before their fifth birthday and the majority of those deaths are associated with or caused by malnutrition?

World Hope Canada is planning to renovate a building located on the hospital grounds. This will provide more effective service delivery to a greater number of families in need by creating a larger hospital ward, a classroom to train parents and a clinic for kids who are receiving ongoing healthcare. In order to help sick kids thrive, we need partners with the heart and vision to become Alpha Program supporters!

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The cost of this renovation is just \$35,000 USD. Is your church looking for a project and a way to make a difference in the world? We could begin immediately if just six churches were to commit \$3,000 a year for a two years. Can we count on your church to help the Alpha Program continue saving the lives of some of the world's most vulnerable children. Say YES now, I want to help. Additionally, there are opportunities for teams to travel abroad and help with the actual work!

It would be a blessing for World Hope Canada to partner with you to bring hope and healing to a hurting world! We need your prayers and financial support. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds ….let us encourage one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching." Hebrews 10:24-25