

OLALO of ...

February 2015

DARAJA of ...

BRIDGE of...

 $\mathcal{H}OPE$

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, such sacrifices are pleasing to God. Hebrews 13:16

Nang'o! Hello from Olalo of Hope – Kenya! (Bridge of Hope)

We are now into year three of Olalo of Hope-Kenya and we're growing thanks to God blessing our ministry efforts and all our fabulous supporters who have joined the Olalo family.

2014 was a year of educational opportunities, life saving medical events, medicine for the sick, and a sense of renewed hope through a relationship with Jesus Christ.

We have more than tripled the number of students now able to attend school, though we have several more waiting to see if they will be able to attend this year through Olalo's sponsors.

We continued to provide medical funds for many diagnosed with typhoid or malaria, respiratory illnesses, injuries and accidents, surgeries, specialists and hospital stays.

Missionaries Corinne and Sonko Omondi are spreading the Good News through personal relationships in Oyugis to family, old friends, neighbors, kids at the soccer academy and all the kids in the area who come over to their home to "check out" the neighborhood mzungu.

Olalo of Hope-Kenya is offering hope to the community through it's programs, but it is YOU who are impacting the lives of the poor in Oyugis Kenya because of Your support to Olalo!

We are excited to see what God has planned for 2015 and Olalo of Hope.

Please join us in prayer as we seek His will and direction for the future.

Nyasaye Ogwedhi! (God Bless) Merry & Pete





Settling in...

Corinne and Sonko are back in Kenya and already impacting the lives of the people in Oyugis. Corinne writes, "We knew when we were coming that we would have lots of tough things to deal with, and we were right, there is so much need it's hard to know where to start."

Sonko spends most days at the Soccer Academy training and mentoring the boys. He is also helping breathe life into the barbershop Olalo sponsored...it needed some T.L.C.

Corinne is busy with tons of neighborhood kids, nieces and nephews. They usually have 5 to 10 kids a day that come and hang out at their house...a few times there have been 20! They are praying for direction on how to best minister to them.

Corinne and Sonko are leading weekly Bible Studies in their home with 5 to 10 academy boys. The plan is to build a strong base and then grow the studies with more kids as the Lord leads. They also plan to open their home for discipleship groups and other Christ-centered activities.

Having them on the ground in Oyugis has enabled Olalo to provide emergency medical funds immediately for several accidents and serious illnesses just within the past month. They have also helped to offer relief to our faithful volunteer, Kennedy Nyando, by driving from school to school to pay all the school tuitions/fees as the new school year started in January.

Please continue to keep Corinne and Sonko and their ministry in your prayers as they continue to minister to and share the Gospel with the people of Oyugis.

We Are Heading To Africa!

The time has come to put all those letters aside and go meet in person all those kids, students and families we have had the privilege of serving and supporting over the past two years. We are excited to finally get the opportunity to travel to Kenya for a few weeks to see firsthand everything Olalo has participated in and to seek new opportunities to serve the orphans, widows and poor of Oyugis.

AND, of course, we are also excited to see Corinne and Sonko, to check out their place and meet the Kenya "Olalo Team" that has so faithfully volunteered and supported our work over the years.

Both Pete and I have a strong desire and prompting to travel to Oyugis to seek out opportunities to support the young people with an alternative education choice for those who are not able to continue their education because of poor outcomes on government tests which won't place them into Secondary Schools. Our prayer is to be able to work with the community to provide an occupational training program that fills a community need, and not what we think would be a good educational choice based on American values.

We certainly covet your prayers for us and Olalo supporter Teresa Swanson, who is traveling with us to meet her sponsored students. We realize through our work what the conditions will be when we arrive, however, realistically we know it is going to be so much more than what we think we know.

Please pray for our traveling safety and protection, good health, wonderful connections with the people, new relationships, wisdom and discernment as we look for future endeavors, and most importantly, to see Oyugis Kenya through the eyes of Jesus and keeping our focus on Him. We are so humbled and blessed to be able to be part of His plan and for this upcoming trip.

Thank you and with much appreciation for all your support!

Merry

SPONSORS....Write your letters and we'll deliver them <u>In Person</u> to your student! (YAY!!!) Get them to us by mid March!

Remember to designate which program you want to direct your donations to. Without a specific program designation, funds are put into the General Fund and used as needs arise for



Waiting for Sponsors...



education, medical, missionary support or community support.

Olalo of Hope-Kenya has no paid staff and
is an all volunteer organization.

Several more students are also waiting... but we're waiting for pictures!

How to find us....

On the Web: www.olalo.org

FaceBook: https://www.facebook.com/

pages/Olalo-of-Hope-Kenya

Email: Olalo.of.hope@gmail.com

Mail: Olalo of Hope-Kenya PO Box 1476

Clackamas, OR 97015

A 501(c)3 Non-Profit

If you do not wish to receive our newsletter, please ask to have your name removed from our mailing list.

Olalo of Hope-Kenya is a faith-based nonprofit working in the east African country of Kenya.

Our Mission is to help break the cycle of poverty by building strong communities by working with various partners and communities to empower individuals and families with opportunities for the furtherance of education, healthcare and skills needed to affect life change within their communities.

Olalo Programs include:
School Tuition, Uniforms, School Supplies
Change for Change Medical Fund
Community Support
Orphan Care
Missionary Team Support.