



CHILDREN FROM NGCINA PRIMARY SCHOOL

His Hands for Swaziland

July 2018 Trip

Visiting Swaziland

by Jamie Dennett, Child Sponsor Program Coordinator

Our team visited Swaziland July 7 - 13. We flew into Johannesburg, South Africa and were met there by our partner, Thabsile Thwala from The Fortress near Manzini. We then made the six-hour trip to Ebenezer Bible College, where we stayed for the next six days.

We were grateful to be able to attend church on Sunday with Thabsile in Ngcina. It was a special experience to worship with them. The singing is indescribable – so beautiful and heart-felt. We returned to the community on Monday to see the children from the feeding station and Ngcina Primary School that we added to the program last year. In addition to them, we saw thirty-two more children bringing our total enrollment in Ngcina to fifty-five children.

Later in the week, we went to see the children who attend the Ebenezer Feeding Station and Ebenezer Primary School. We currently have thirty-five children enrolled from that area.

The children from Ngcina and Ebenezer are from rural, extremely poverty-stricken areas. Many children live with grandmothers as parents have died or they have abandoned their children due to illness or other issues. Sadly, many of these children's lives have been affected in some way by the AIDS virus.

We also visited the Children's Home at The Fortress to update those eleven students as well as the few students who live nearby that are part of the sponsorship program. They are all doing well.



Our team

We had a team of three this year. (Right to left: Jamie, Wanda, and Donald) This was Wanda and Donald's first trip to Swaziland.



Aloe was in bloom

A glimpse into our week



Interviewing children with Rejoice, the Director of the Ngcina Feeding Station



Visiting the Children's Home students and Auntie, who cares for them.



Jamie and children having fun after work at the Ebenezer Feeding Station was done for the day.



Donald photographed the children



Wanda entertained some students while they waited

“Thabsile, and the people she works with at the office of The Fortress, at the children’s home, and at the two feeding programs are doing an awesome work ministering to the needs of the Swaziland people. We saw children, and the seniors who volunteer at a feeding station, eating a healthy nourishing meal. That might have been the only meal they had that day. They were very thankful for the food.” - Wanda



Thabsile and the assistant pastor at Ngcina Wesleyan Church



Wanda measured and weighed each child

Thabsile expressed her gratitude that His Hands Support Ministries has partnered with The Fortress to find a way to help provide regular financial support for the Children’s Home. At one point they were afraid the home would have to close. Now they know they will receive funds monthly. We are thankful for our faithful sponsors who have supported the children at The Fortress’ children’s home so that their daily and educational needs are met.



Food delivery for a feeding station



Wanda experienced putting her feet on new soil – the fertile, red soil of Swaziland!

Why is sponsorship so important?

Each student in the Children’s Home needs two sponsors. One covers their daily home needs – food, shelter, and personal needs and the other covers their school needs – fees, school books, and uniforms. Each of these sponsorships is \$35 per month.

For the children who attend preschool at the Feeding Stations, sponsorships will help provide food. The centers are dependent upon donations. The sponsorship donation for these children is \$20 per month.

Sponsorships for school-aged students, also \$20 per month, help them pay for school fees, supplies, exam fees, and school uniforms, and shoes. Many of the uniforms we saw needed repair, needed to be replaced, or were too small for the child. Shoes are often too small as well. We saw one boy whose shoes were split along the top and around the toes.



The needs are real.

What is Next?

Because most of the students at the Children’s Home are sponsored, we need to focus on the children from the Feeding Stations and those attending associated schools. In the past year only three of these students were sponsored. We hope to see many more sponsored this year. We also hope to bring more awareness to the Feeding Stations in order to provide them with consistent funding for food. They serve preschool children five days a week. This meal may be the only one some of the children receive.



Donald and a new friend enjoyed talking together after church



Sipiwe, the Director of the Ebenezer Feeding Station, and a few children waving good-bye to us.

Thank you for reading this update. We hope you will share information about His Hands for Swaziland with your friends and families to help us find sponsors for the children in our programs. We depend on our sponsors to help increase our sphere of influence.

In addition to sponsorships being available, we do accept donations for the feeding programs as well.

Please check our website for more information about how you can make a difference in the life of one of these precious children.

You may also connect with us on Facebook at His Hands Support Ministries or send an email to the address below.

Serving joyfully,
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