



Sakila Sponsorship Program

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Dear Sponsors and Supporters,

October 2009

"It's July, 2006. Mama Moses (not her real name) stands holding her baby daughter while her son plays quietly at her side. She's watching a group of people circled around her dying husband. He's been lying outside on a thin piece of foam and cardboard for two months. No one knows what he is dying from. The look on her face shows both exhaustion and fear. Two in the group are familiar to her. One is the pastor who has been ministering to the family. He recently led the dying man to accept Jesus as his personal Savior. The other is a lady who had visited her once before. This time she has brought food, clothing and medicine. This young mother stands back while these people pray for her young husband but she really has no idea what is going on. During the night he dies. Now, she has no idea what will happen to her and her children. She lives in a very small two-room mud hut with dirt floors, no electricity or running water. A twin bed just barely fits into one room and a stool in the other room. Before her husband's illness, the whole family had slept in this small bed with no sheets or blankets. Her house has a window with no glass and only an opening for a door. The meager kitchen is outdoors on the ground and consists of a few dirty dishes, a small fire pit and a cooking pot. The family dog has ribs showing and the goat isn't much better. Before her husband died, he had a job to provide the family with the barest of essentials to survive. Now she has no income, no hope and despair sets in. How will she survive and how will her children get an education?"

"The story you just read is true and I (Jan George) was that lady. Mama Moses lives in a village down the mountain from Sakila. In July of 2009 I saw her again and she is doing well. She accepted Jesus as her personal Savior and attends a local church. Again I had the privilege of giving her much needed food. She now has a small business that provides for her and her children. Hopefully her little ones will get to go to school when they are old enough.

"During this same visit I was also able to observe and participate in the selection process for the new kindergarten class of 2010 at Sluys-Anderson Primary School. 217 children applied with their parents, grandparents and guardians with space for only 70 of them. I watched the school staff labor over and pray for wisdom during the selection while the parents waited outside for the results. Many of these families were in the same situation as Mama Moses or at least a similar situation. Some of the children are orphans living with grandparents or other relatives, some have been born out of wedlock and live in single parent homes and others are from complete families with many children. Many of these families cannot afford to send their child to school because they are unable to buy the uniform, shoes and school supplies required. All were hoping their child would be picked this year.



"The selected children's names were called out ten at a time. This gave continued hope to the remaining children that they may yet be picked. Those chosen were given a number, photographed and a short biography taken about their living conditions and family. As names were picked out you could see both joy and sadness in the waiting group. At the end of the selection process there was begging and bargaining by the parents of those children who were not selected. The school staff finally had to leave. It was too painful for them to listen to the desperate parents. Many of the same children will try again next year for a place in school. Can you imagine the

look of joy on the face of Mama Moses if she lived close enough to the school and her son was one of the children picked? I can!

“For those who are chosen, it means a wonderful Christian education with state-qualified teachers and excellent teaching material. Each student will have a sponsor providing monthly support so the child will get a free education with two meals a day, uniform, shoes, boots, backpack and school supplies. It also means the child will have friends and lots of care and love. The hope for these children is that they will complete their education and be able to provide for their families and become leaders in their communities. It is sad for those children who do not get an education but we must rejoice in those children who do. This requires dedication, hours of work, finances, qualified staff, love, caring and prayer. If you are already a sponsor then I commend you. If you are not then there is a waiting child who wants to be a part of your life. Won't you sign up today and provide \$30 a month so this child can get an education? It's a decision you won't regret and one that will bless you in more ways than you can imagine. God Bless You.”
~ Jan George ~ IEO Secretary / NHIH Secretary

Mama Jan's story needed no introduction from us. She has been to Sakila many times and seen first hand the wonderful work God is doing. She has seen the school grow from a one-room chicken coup to a sprawling campus with 600 children and a staff of 34 teachers and workers in less than seven years. Being a nurse she has ministered to the needs of many folks, both medically and in the practical areas of food and clothing. If you look at the photos on our web page you will see her face in the several of the 2008 Primary School Photos by clicking on the “Gallery” button. She was there when Praygod was brought in with horrific burns over his whole tummy. (story in Dec 2006 newsletter) In fact, in that group of photos, you will see how well Praygod's tummy healed with lots of prayer and good care. We have several new children needing sponsors and some older ones whose sponsors have had to drop out, mostly due to the bad economy. If you know anyone...well, you know what to do. Thank you so much for the part you are playing in blessing the families of Sakila.

May God bless you and meet all your needs as you look to Him,

Gene & Forraine Anderson

The Sakila Sponsorship Program is a certified 501(c)(3) Charity. All donations are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to the Sakila Sponsorship Program (S.S.P.) or pay securely using your credit or debit card by going to www.sakilasponsorship.org and clicking on the 'CONTACT INFO & DONATIONS' button.