

Responding to the Famine in Kenya

Reports indicate that as many as 30,000 children under the age of five have already died due to the famine in east central Africa. Caring for Kenya is partnering with Healing Hands International, Nairobi Great Commission School, and the Christian Relief Fund to provide aid to those in need. The Christian Relief Fund workers are on the ground at the Kenya-Somali border. CfK and HHI are working through Nairobi Great Commission School students and graduates to reach throughout Kenya. CfK has sent the second wire of famine relief funds. Donations have come from Philo Road, Kemp, Bismark, Springfield, Indianapolis, and Nashville. We are working with Erastus to do major food distributions in our area (the Kitui District). Erastus and Justus report that maize and beans have doubled in price over the last three months. One kg of sugar has increased from 95 schillings to 260 schillings. The shortage of food and water coupled with the high food prices make life a struggle for our brothers and sisters in Kenya. Since the rainy season harvest will not occur until January, we are working to plan assistance over the next four months.



Food for Work projects are being planned that would pay men and women to make bricks, dig wells, dig terraces, etc. With the money they earn they are able to buy food for their family. Food for Work funds will pay workers to finish the access road to the drilling site for another deep well with drilling beginning later this month. HHI has provided \$5,000 for Justus Mutua to use in the community development program. Through individual and cooperative projects, income will increase resulting in more money available to buy

food. Also this week Caring for Kenya along with Healing Hands International submitted a \$125,000 "Famine Prevention" grant proposal to the Monsanto Fund. If the grant is funded the development of a water distribution system and a demonstration farm would proceed followed by food production and food preservation workshops at Tulia. The grant would provide tools and supplies to expand instruction with workshops at other locations such as Nairobi, Masaani, Nzawa, Kithumula, and Zombe.

Last week Caring for Kenya had a display in Iowa where 15,000 volunteers packaged 4 million meals to go to needy people in the U.S. and around the world. Our display generated lots of interest. Eight to ten volunteers work at a table in two hour shifts. They add rice, soy protein, vitamin powder, and dehydrated vegetables (carrots, onions, celery, cabbage, and bell pepper) to a plastic bag, seal the bag, and fill and tape boxes. Each box contains 216 meals. Each bag contains six meals. To cook the bag of dry ingredients is added to boiling water and cooked for 20 minutes. The faith-based "Meals from the Heartland" organization has packaged 20 million meals over the last five years. One container (285,000 meals) is committed for the famine stricken people of Kenya. We are asking for a second container be shipped to Kenya.



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During September, Caring for Kenya presentations in Illinois will be at Kemp near Arcola, Northside at Bismark, and East Park at Danville. In October Caring for Kenya partners at Upper Valley in Quechee, Vermont, Eagle Valley in Indianapolis, Indiana, and Holmes Road in East Lansing, Michigan will hear about God's Work in Kenya.

Keep our friends in Kenya in your prayers. We welcome additional donations to help them make it through the next 4 months when the rainy season harvest will begin.

Let the whole earth be filled with His glory



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