

2017 END OF YEAR REPORT

My Vision For Refugees

*For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD,
thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a
hope.*

Jeremiah 29:11

2017 was a great year for My Vision for Refugees. We raised more money and addressed more projects than in any year since our beginning. We were blessed by a major donation from two generous donors in Florida which will have a lasting effect on the children at Home of Hope. We also established contacts with several philanthropic organizations which will enhance our ability to address our fundraising efforts in a more professional and organized manner.

The great American poet Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr. once wrote, "I find the great thing in this world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving." My Vision for Refugees is excited to report that we are, without question, moving in the right direction. We are making great progress and with your help, can continue to move in the right direction.

The progress we are making is made even more meaningful by the personal stories of the children at Home of Hope.



"Mama" (second from the lower right) and some of the kids at Home of Hope (From the top left: Sylvie, Rochelle, Christian, Martine, Emil, Yamon, Prosper, Mama & Christine.

Picture taken in Nov 2015.

care, very little food, facing malnutrition and having no hope of education. She was very withdrawn, speaking very few words, or none at all, and finding it difficult to smile.

The stories of the other children at Home of Hope were no different. Their daily activities in the villages involved running around in the streets, playing or fishing. They had never seen the inside of a classroom, spoke 'broken French' and knew no English. Most of them had different signs of malnutrition but still ate what they could get from neighbors who took care of them for a while and passed them on to the next neighbor who volunteered. A visit to the doctor was a mirage, going to school was far-fetched, since there were no hospitals nor schools in the villages.

"Mama", A four-year old at Home of Hope laughed heartily as her house-mother cracked a joke that had everyone giggling. It is a miracle, the change we see in her. She is now smiling more and more and laughing when something is really funny. What a joy! Mama joined the other children as they lined up in-front of Sam to receive their new school bags. They each held up the bags with excitement, admiring them. "I am going to be a doctor!" Suzanne exclaimed. "I want to be a lawyer!" Emil chimed in; all of them in high spirits about getting the chance to go to school.

Like all the Home of Hope kids, Mama was an orphan that My Vision for Refugees brought in from the refugee camp villages. Mama, like most of the other children at Home of Hope, had painful stories that had marred their childhood. With no parents, she had been passed from one household to the other in the village; getting no medical



Sam holding "Mama", with Monique, Martina, Suzanne and the house-sister. (Picture taken in Nov 2015)

Because of the love and generosity shown by the kindhearted donors and supporters of My Vision for Refugees, these children now have a stable home environment at Home of Hope, go to school, get medical care and good nutrition, as well as clothes and shoes; basic necessities which they did not have much access to before. The children are also taught both French, the official language of Guinea, and English which gives them an extra advantage. Additional opportunities to learn a trade are provided during school vacation times.

A clear difference can be seen in all the 20 children at Home of Hope now, compared to the time they were initially brought in. They are happier, healthier and more confident about themselves. They are so eager to learn and have picked up impressively well on their English lessons. Their occasional Skype sessions with the lower school students at Holy Innocents' Episcopal School (Atlanta, Georgia) are always so interesting, with both sides learning a lot from each other. Mama has come out of her shell and interacts very well with the other children, an impressive feat! We are filled with so much joy about the change and impact we have brought in these children's lives. We are very thankful to all those who give to ensure that these children are provided with all the opportunities to give them a meaningful, healthy and happy life to help them realize their God-given potential.

The Sponsor a Child Program we have set up is a great way to see directly how your gift is impacting a child at Home of Hope and proudly monitor their growth and development. (Visit: <http://www.myvision4refugees.org/sponsor-a-child/page/2/>)



"Mama" now! (Picture taken in May 2017)



"Mama" with Laticia (May 2017)





Lessons with Jasmine! (Antoine, pictured)



Antoine going over his lessons at the Home of Hope Study

This year (2017), My Vision for Refugees continued its philanthropic work in the former refugee camps in Guinea to support the refugees still living there. The My Vision for Refugees Team in Guinea led by Founder and President, Sam Johnson visited Refugee Camp Kouankan 1 & 2, transported by UNCHR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) trucks, to give food items and medical supplies to the refugees there. This collaboration between My Vision for Refugees and the UNCHR-Guinea office, was a big step in building relationships with other NGOs allowing us to work together to support refugees living in Guinea.



The larger N'zerekore (Guinea) community were also beneficiaries of the philanthropic work of My Vision for Refugees. Our community outreach programs are designed to support the poor, needy, and oppressed in the N'zerekore community. The team visited hospitals, prisons, lepers, and widows, donating food, medical items, clothing and books. The children of widows and lepers were given educational materials to help support their education.



My Vision for Refugees Board of Advisers
(From left to right)

Dr. Teresa Cook
Mrs. Clare O'Shaughnessey
Mrs. Mary Johnson
Dr. John Dunaway
Mrs. Trish Dunaway
Mrs. Carol Hahn
Mr. Sam Johnson (not pictured)
Ms. Madelaine McCrorie (not pictured)



Who We Are

My Vision for Refugees Inc. is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization.

Mission Statement: Believing in the inherent dignity and enormous potential of every human being, My Vision for Refugees strives to provide former refugees and orphans with opportunities for healing, growth and full participation in society. We do this through the provision of basic human needs, trauma informed care and opportunities for a quality education.

MY VISION FOR REFUGEES INC.

217 ROSEMAN WAY

WOODSTOCK, GA 30188

478-747-0229

www.myvision4refugees.org

myvisionforrefugees@gmail.com

STAY CONNECTED



www.facebook.com/myvisionforrefugees/



@Homeof_Hope
