



Our Mission

We are committed to alleviate the suffering of the people of the Blue Nile and Nuba Mountain region of South Sudan. We are committed to empower the men, women and children to live healthy, self-sufficient and productive lives.

Hope Happens Update

Spring 2010

Judy and I are thankful for your prayers during the recent Hope Happens 2010 trip to Africa in February. We are excited about our ongoing work with the communities in Mvolo, Mundri and Kotobi, South Sudan, providing medicines and medical supplies, seeds and tools, mosquito nets, clean water through water purification, and clothing. We are also excited about continued progress in the construction of the Hope Medical Clinic. We are grateful for the many contributions our supporters have made to make Hope Happen.

Although we are pleased with the impact our work has had on the people in the region, South Sudan is once again entering an uncertain future. We are in the midst of a national presidential election (April 11th through the 15th), the first of its kind in 24 years. We are concerned about the outcome. Current President Omar El-Bashir is running again for re-election even though he is wanted by the international Criminal Court (ICC) for the atrocities he committed in Southern Sudan, Nuba Mountains and Darfur. Top contenders running against him, removed themselves alleging that voting is rigged and do not want to legitimize the election. For the past few months leading up to the election, violent raids have terrorized villages in Southern Sudan, in an attempt to put down any opposition. These raids made it unsafe for me to travel and visit some of those that have benefited from the work of our organization.

Also, In January 2011 there will be a referendum for independence of Southern Sudan. Already many people are leaving the region to neighboring countries because they know all too well the pain and suffering caused by religious and political persecution of 22 years of civil war. The Bashir regime has already denounced any movement for South Sudan to break away. The South has rich oil reserves and is valuable to the North.

On the reverse side of this page, there is information regarding the economic, health and educational challenges that lay ahead for the people of South Sudan. Your prayers and support are greatly appreciated. South Sudan Hope is committed to Alleviating Suffering one village and family at a time. We want to thank you for being part of the South Sudan Hope Journey. We are excited by the enthusiasm of many of you that have reached out to make Hope Happen to the people of South Sudan. We look forward to seeing many of our projects come to fruition in the months and years ahead.

Sincerely,
Kenneth C. Elisapana
Founder & Executive Director



For more information, to schedule a speaking engagement or to make a donation, contact Kenneth Elisapana (773-315-5495, Kenneth_Elisapana@yahoo.com) or Tony Asta (708-705-8669, tonyasta@ameritech.net). Visit us at southsudanhope.org

HOPE HAPPENS 2010



We began our trip in early February with ambitious plans, prayers, greetings, supplies, financial support and excitement. After a long plane ride, we arrived in Uganda to meet with staff and pickup supplies. Once we secured a driver and taxi, we set out for the long journey to Mvolo. It had been several months since my last visit, and we were excited to be home again. We were greeted by many friends, neighbors and colleagues. Over the next few days, we touched base with those that we have supported in the past to see how they were getting along and assess the situation for the people of the Blue Nile region and Nuba Mountain region.

Although it was great to see the people again, it was heart breaking to hear stories of fear, terrorism, lack of food and clean water, people leaving their homeland. Because of the political instability of the region, people are fearful for their lives and the lives of their children. After we consulted as a board and with the local municipal principals, we decided to focus our efforts towards addressing the more immediate needs of the people, rather than on future oriented projects (education, business development). We re-connected with old friend and made new ones. It was a successful trip. We made great progress and put many plans in motion. It was hard to leave, especially knowing what lies ahead for them in the near future.

.....addressing the basic needs of the men, women, and children

Our goal is to provide access to adequate clean water for the community and to provide for their basic needs

During Hope Happens 2010 we;

- distributed water purification tablets that would benefit hundreds of families over the next several months
- distributed clothes to dozens of local children



...attending to the health concerns in the community

Our goal is to provide basic medicines and medical supplies as well as access first respondent care in a region where nearly 90% of the fatalities are preventable

During Hope Happens 2010 we;

- Distributed medical supplies including malaria tablets to support hundreds of families this year
- Supplied over dozens of mosquito nets to needy widows and orphans
- Provided funds to get us closer to completing construction of the Hope Medical Clinic
- Began working with local agencies to provide medical staff



.....providing food security

Our goal is to develop and provide adequate and sustainable food sources that would address the rampant malnutrition in the region

During Hope Happens 2010 we

- Distributed hundreds of goats to poor families and widows
- distributed hundreds of seeds to support underprivileged families as they prepare for the growing season

Dear South Sudan Hope,
My name is Grace Nyikougo. I am the one of hundreds. I high appreciate those people whom have given me goats. I have 9 children with me. Really I got benefit from this goat.

Other efforts:

- Continued to work with local government to provide educational facilities and teachers. Targeting late 2010/early 2011 to begin classes in Jambo for grades 1 through 4
- Worked with local business leaders to identify areas for development

Aid agencies are warning of an impending food emergency in South Sudan, where "unexpected and alarming" malnutrition rates in one region, devastated by drought and tribal conflict, have prompted an appeal for urgent extra funding. Akobo, is now the "hungriest place on earth," according to aid officials, after a new survey showed that 46% of children under 5 are malnourished; 15% severely so. The United Nations' senior humanitarian official in South Sudan called the malnutrition figures "astonishing...and extraordinary."

