



Our Mission

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

Hope Happens Update

Spring 2011

Greetings,

After 55 years of civil, political, economic, religious and cultural conflict in Sudan, the people of South Sudan were able to determine their future in the January referendum. In mid-February, the long awaited referendum results were announced. The people of South Sudan voted overwhelmingly to cede from Sudan and form their own sovereign country.

98.83 % of the voters had voted for independence. Many countries of Europe, the United States, and a host of other nations around the world had quickly acknowledged the validity of the vote and pledged their support for this new nation. On July 9, 2011, South Sudan will declare its independence. South Sudan will be Africa's 54th country. The official name of the Country will be "The Republic of South Sudan"; the new currency will be the South Sudan Pound.

This good news for the people of South Sudan in terms of political stability and determination of their future. But the daunting challenges of developing infrastructure, building viable government institutions and provisioning much needed humanitarian services are a race against time.

Over four million internal displaced persons (IDP's) and refugees are now returning to South Sudan to nothing after 15 years or more. *That's approximately 25% of the current population of South Sudan!* The living conditions are already stretched to being nearly unbearable.

In response to this unfolding situation, South Sudan Voices of Hope is preparing for our next mission trip this spring: **Hope Happens 2011**. During this trip, we intend to provide much needed medical supplies, seeds, goats, etc. We also are planning to complete the shell of the Hope Medical Clinic: a First Responder clinic designed to dispense basic medicines and vaccinations, provide treatment of minor injuries, limited diagnostics, and patient stabilization. (see reverse side for more details)



We are very grateful for the support, prayers, and encouragement we receive from our friends. We ask that you consider your support for this mission trip, whether it be providing financial support, donating airline miles or through your thoughts and prayers.

This is an exciting, yet critical time for the people of South Sudan. Ways in which you can learn more about and keep abreast of the unfolding situation, as well as participate in building a stable and prosperous future, are listed on the reverse side.

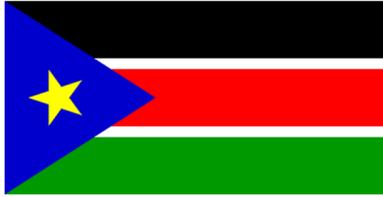
Again, thank you for your continued support of South Sudan Voices of Hope!

Sincerely,
Kenneth Elisapana
Founder and Executive Director

Early in January we received very sad news. Rev. Samuel Elisa Kayanga, Deputy Director for South Sudan Voices of Hope, had passed away. He left three children behind and his wife. Rev. Kayanga was very respected by people, leaders in the community and local government officials. His inspiration and leadership will be greatly missed. *His picture can be found in the group photo on the reverse side. Rev. Kayanga is the second person from the left.*

BRIEF FACTS ABOUT SUDAN

- 1955 - the first civil war between North and South Sudan begins
- 1956 - Sudan becomes independent
- 1972 – Peace agreement signed between South and North Sudan
- 1978 - Oil discovered southern Sudan.
- 1983 - Civil war breaks out again
- 1999 - Sudan begins to export oil
- 2005 January – Khartoum Government and southern rebels sign the Comprehensive Peace Agreement
- 2008 July - The International Criminal Court calls for the arrest of President Bashir for genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes in Darfur
- 2011 January 9-15 - South Sudanese vote in the referendum
- 2011 February 7 - Commission announced voters had overwhelmingly backed independence
- 2011 July 9 – establishment of the Republic of South Sudan



THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN



South Sudan Voices of Hope

- 2005 - South Sudan Voices of Hope Founded by Kenneth Elisapana
- 2005 - Hope Happens Mission Trip
 - Began construction of SSVH site
 - Provided seeds, clothes, medicines, supplies, goats
- 2006 - Hope Happens Mission Trip
 - Provided seeds, medicines, supplies, goats
 - Constructed well
- 2008 - Hope Happens Mission Trip
 - Provided agricultural implements, seeds, clothes, medicines, supplies, goats
 - Began construction of New Sudan school
- 2009 - SSVH became a 501c3
- 2010 - Hope Happens Mission Trip
 - Began construction of Hope Medical Clinic
 - Provided seeds, clothes, medicines, supplies, goats, nets
- 2011 - Hope Happens Mission Trip

Hope Happens 2011

In May/June, Kenneth Elisapana will be traveling to Mvolo for Hope Happens 2011 mission trip. In this trip, not only are we providing much needed supplies to the community, but we are excited about completing construction of the shell for the Hope Medical Clinic. We will also be assessing the socio-economic situation in the wake of returning IDPs/refugees and meeting with local community, municipal and church leaders to discuss the current situation and future needs.



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

During Hope Happens 2011 we will;

- Distribute a great many water purification tablets that would benefit hundreds of families throughout the year
- Distribute basic clothes to dozens of local children

During Hope Happens 2011 we will;

- Distribute various medical supplies including malaria tablets to support hundreds of families this year
- Supply an ample number of mosquito nets to needy widows and orphans

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

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

During Hope Happens 2011 we will;

- Distribute over 50 goats to poor families and widows
- Distribute a considerable amount of various seeds to support underprivileged families as they prepare for the growing season

Learn*

- March 5th: Euclid Ave. United Methodist Church (Oak Park, Ill)
- March 19th: Birth of a Nation celebration (Wheaton, Ill)
- April 15th: Harper College (Palatine, Ill)
- April 30th: Global Activist Expo (Chicago, Ill)

Pray

- For the people of North, South Sudan and disputed areas
- For the leaders of North and South Sudan
- For the Kayanga family
- For our Hope Happens 2011 trip in May/June
- For our South Sudan team as we look for a new leader

Do*

- Support the Hope Happens 2011 mission trip by;
 - Donating unused airline miles
 - Providing financial support
- Schedule a speaker for your organization/group
- Volunteer to work with us on establishing partnerships
- Volunteer to help work with us on communication
- Volunteer to work with us to work on grants
- Support our Sponsors
 - Notting Hill Decorative Hardware (nottinghill-usa.com)
 - Glimpse Into Africa (chazerlydesigns.com)
- Become a Supporting Sponsor

* 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