

# Living Waters International, Inc.

- Aid for African Catholic Missions -

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Spring Newsletter

May 2015

*Living Waters' mission is the support of Roman Catholic missionary and international development projects in East Africa.*

Christian Charities USA 

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## Grants Awarded to Living Waters International

Living Waters received \$420,000 in grants this March! These grants will provide for tuition assistance at Catholic schools for underprivileged and vulnerable children, formation of seminarians and women religious and their living expenses, campus ministries, teachers' salaries, and seminars and retreats for university students. The grants will also fund a reverse osmosis water retreatment plant, operational expenses for radio evangelization, training of lay catechists and more. The goodness and kindness of individual contributors and charitable foundations continues to encourage us to further the mission of Living Waters.

### You Make a Difference!

The board of directors moved to disburse monetary donations from our 2014 undesignated funds. The generous support from our benefactors made the following needy and worthwhile projects possible:

- \$5,000 to help complete a roofing project for the Mermier Girls Home in Chera, Kenya
- \$5,000 for food relief for orphaned children at the new MSFS Mission in Iyolwa, in the Tororo Archdiocese of Uganda
- \$15,000 for the construction of a classroom at Mji Mpya Relini Parish in the Dar es Salaam Archdiocese of Tanzania
- \$1,000 to the SFS Primary School, Katani, Kenya, for library books

### Update on the Food Relief for Orphans in Iyolwa, Uganda

Last December, Living Waters made an appeal for the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales (MSFS) FOSTER Program (Fransaliam Organization for Social Transformation, Education & Renewal). One of the goals of this program is to provide for the basic needs of orphaned children. Many children were not going home from school for their midday meal because there's no one there to give them food. Thankfully, there was a generous response and donor money was used to buy food grains and a water tank for gathering rainwater.



*Students enjoying a nutritious noon meal.*

The lunch program began in February and in addition to providing lunch for the orphans, FOSTER is providing facilities for recreation where the children can play, work, and learn together. Father Thomas Chozithara, MSFS, is happy to report that he is also preparing a garden for them, "... in order to teach the children how to plant maize, bananas, etc. thus making them to be self-reliant and self-confident as they prove themselves to produce something in their life." Let us keep the MSFS in our prayers as they labor to help God's people in Iyolwa. Once again, donor response brings light and life to poor families in East Africa. **Thank you! Together we're making a difference!!**

## ***Grant Dollars Help Less Privileged Women to Have a Safe and Sterile Environment to Birth Babies***

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny (SSJC) know well the many dangers that a poor woman in a remote village in East Africa faces when becoming pregnant. Hospitals, even small health clinics, are few and poor economic conditions discourage doctors and midwives from working in these areas. As a result, women fail to have qualified personnel attending them. Many terminated pregnancies could be prevented if only medical facilities were available.

***“Many terminated pregnancies could be prevented..”***

Sister Preethi Vayilil, Head Nurse of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny Health Clinic - Igunga, Tabora, says, “We are providing delivery services for up to thirty-five to forty women each month, with twenty-plus more cases for diseases during pregnancy. In some cases women need to be treated because of an incomplete abortion.” With grant dollars received in 2013, the clinic now has two labor tables and a maternity ward that accommodates fourteen women. Sister expresses her gratitude by saying, “We are very thankful for the kind-hearted individuals and foundations that have contributed to the financial and moral support of our ministry here at the clinic.”



*Sisters in delivery room.*

Food shortages and lack of education are other major impediments. Poor nutrition contributes to under-weight mothers and babies whose immune systems fail. Lack of maternal education contributes to the problem and age is a factor as young girls find themselves pregnant. Young girls often must walk a long distance to a clinic and end up having their child on the way.



*Sister Preethi tending to a newborn baby.*

***Visit us at our website at [www.livingwatersinternational.org](http://www.livingwatersinternational.org)!***





# SPOTLIGHT

by Eileen Hartl, LWI Board Member

Today we shine the light on two girls waiting to be sponsored.



## **Constancia Odete Jose, Shopal, Mozambique**

For reasons unknown and at a very young age, Constancia's mother, Pitcha, was taken in by her maternal grandmother. When her grandmother died in 2003, she was taken in by an uncle. Though fortunate to be with family, an alarming event occurred one day when Pitcha was on her way home from school ... she was raped by a man. As a result, she gave birth to Constancia in December of 2008. Pitcha did everything she

could to feed and care for her daughter, but things became very difficult and life for them became extremely harsh. Sadly, Pitcha became sick, weak and died.

Constancia now lives with her mother's cousin in Shopal, Mozambique, whose monthly income is \$10. They live in a two room brick house with no electricity or running water; there's an outdoor latrine pit. The family sleeps on mats on the cement floor. Father Sebastian Annaikandathil, *MSFS*, states, "This young and vulnerable girl needs support from whosoever can save her from these circumstances. She needs the promise of a brighter future. Please, prayerfully consider sponsoring her education and may you remain blessed all your life."



## **Greciana Hamisi, Bukene, Tanzania**

Greciana is sixteen years old. She's under the care of her grandmother who is extremely poor, existing on only subsistence wages through cultivation. Both of Greciana's parents are deceased and she has one brother who lives with their uncle in another village.

Father Paul Santhosh, *MSFS*, of St. Charles Lwanga and Companions Mission in Bukene, Tanzania tells us that she was in a government school where practically no classes are taking place. "It is common for girls to leave this type of environment; then they end up getting pregnant. Many children come asking for assistance and Greciana is especially worthy. She is a good girl with a great desire to study in order to get any job in her life. I pray some generous person will come forward to help her." Her interests lie in helping the parish during the holidays and also making annual pilgrimages. She is an active member of the parish youth group and willingly comes forward for any work when youth are called.

Living Waters International has already sent money for Greciana to be transferred to Nata Secondary School in the good faith that someone will come forth to sponsor her education. Greciana wrote us a letter of thanks: "I promise you that I will study well. I will join the school this week itself. This new school has good teachers and a hostel for girls. I will be staying in the hostel. Once again I thank you and I promise you my prayers."

## Summer Fund-raisers 2015

### Brat Fry

#### **Sponsored by:**

Wrightstown Area Friends of Living Waters

**Where:** Dick's Family Foods, 400 High Street, Wrightstown, WI

**When:** Friday, May 30, 10:00-6:00

### Brat Fry at Butch's Super Valu

**Sponsored by:** Living Waters (Workers needed for two hour shifts, call 715 623-5082)

**Where:** 115 South Superior St. Antigo, WI

**When:** Friday, June 12, 10:00-2:00

### Music in the Park,

Pie and Ice Cream Social

**Sponsored by:** Living Waters International (Pie donations needed, call 715 623-5082)

**Where:** Antigo City Park, 200 Aurora St, Antigo, WI

**When:** Thursday, August 27, 6:30-8:30

Fundraising   
Support 

# Students In Need



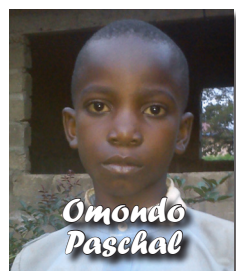
**NAME:** Brian Murangiri  
**GENDER:** Male  
**BIRTHDAY:** November 4, 2004  
**COUNTRY:** Kenya  
**FAVORITE PASTIMES:** Football  
**FAVORITE SUBJECTS:** English & Science



**NAME:** Constancia Odete Jose  
**GENDER:** Female  
**BIRTHDAY:** December 12, 2008  
**COUNTRY:** Mozambique  
**FAVORITE PASTIMES:** Playing with Friends  
**FAVORITE SUBJECT:** Math & English

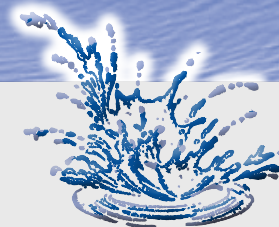


**NAME:** Greciana Hamisi  
**GENDER:** Female  
**BIRTHDAY:** July 7, 1998  
**COUNTRY:** Tanzania  
**FAVORITE PASTIMES:** Youth Group  
**FAVORITE SUBJECTS:** English & Geography



**NAME:** Omondo Paschal  
**GENDER:** Male  
**BIRTHDAY:** May 17, 2007  
**COUNTRY:** Uganda  
**FAVORITE PASTIMES:** Singing & Playing  
**FAVORITE SUBJECT:** Social Studies

To learn more about these children and other children waiting to be sponsored, visit our website at: [www.livingwatersinternational.org](http://www.livingwatersinternational.org)



## Student Sponsorship

**\$25 a month provides help for:**

- Tuition
- Books
- School Supplies
- School Uniforms
- Shelter
- Food
- Health Care

**Payments can be made:**

- Monthly..... \$25
- Quarterly ..... \$75
- Semi-annually\$150
- Annually .....\$300

100% of your tax-deductible donation goes directly to your child's sponsorship.



## Project List

- ✓ Love
- ✓ In
- ✓ Small
- ✓ Things

Project LIST looks at the little ways and the small things that can make a BIG difference in the life of a child in East Africa. In the battle against poverty, one of *Living Waters International's* goals is to help turn every contribution into big benefits. No contribution is too small!

Your support of Project LIST can supplement the donations we receive through student sponsorships. Students sometimes lose their sponsorship or fees increase when they move on to secondary schools. Project LIST can ensure continued assistance in these cases.

