

STATISTICS

We started the year 2007 with 99 girls.
9 Girls in PLCC informal education
10 Girls in Nursery and Pre-unit
65 Girls in Primary Schools
7 Girls in Secondary Schools
6 Girls in Colleges
2 Girls left PLCC

The girls' family status at the end of the year 2007:

17 Girls living with both parents
51 Girls living with single parent
29 Orphans

NEWS IN BRIEF

- » We proudly welcome new PLCC friends! In 2007 one parish and two private persons from USA, three parishes and nine private persons from Germany, one parish and one private person from Kenya and one private person from Tanzania.
- » On 22nd September an Orientation Course Group from German Speaking Congregation, Nairobi visited Pangani House.
- » The former KELC Christian Education Department Director Reverend Klaus Dotzer visited PLCC with 22 guests from Unterfranken on 7th November 2007.
- » We thank Corinna Fette for volunteering with us for three months, who is now back to Germany.
- » Joyce Wanjiru, Leah Kavuli and Beatrice Wanjiru celebrated their Confirmation in Mathare Lutheran Church on December 9. We pray for them to keep the promise they gave in front of God and their fellow Christians.
- » Our Christmas Party took place at Jerusalem Church Compound on 15th December. It was a very nice day for all of us: our girls and their siblings, guests and the PLCC staff.
- » Geoffrey Gunyali and George Opaka left PLCC at the end of the year 2007. We wish them all the best for their future.
- » Susan Gatonga and Ronald Bosire joined PLCC in January 2008. Susan has a Diploma in Community Development and will work as a Social worker in the Project. Ronald is a trained teacher and heading the Education department.
- » Linda Achieng, a former PLCC girl, finished her course in Relief and Development now joins PLCC Staff in Education Department.
- » Ann Wangare and Beatrice Wangui are now enrolled at St. Francis Xavier Secondary School.
- » Ivy Achora Okello and Irene Awino passed the KCSE and are now preparing for further studies.
- » We are mourning with five girls, who lost a parent in 2007.



in need is a friend indeed

Bulletin 17

March 2008

We give thanks to you, O God, we give thanks, for your Name is near; men tell of your deeds. You say, "I choose the appointed time; ... When the earth and its entire people quake, it is I who hold its pillars firm." Psalm 75 :1-3.



Susan smiles again.

Dear PLCC friends,
It is another time we would like to share with you what has been happening since our last bulletin.

Though we started the year with a lot of anxiety, today we are all walking with shining faces and confidence to face the future if the situation continues to be calm. Children have resumed schools and some parents able to start their casual activities again.

From what PLCC went through as a family within the last four months, December-March, what we had considered to be future plans has become an immediate need. A centre away from the slums.

The stories told by the children now, are enough testimony that we could do more if at all we manage to have the PLCC fully operating at Ongata Rongai land.

We are asking you, our readers, to join hands with us to see the PLCC family operating from a safer place.

*Mary Mshana
Director*

Special Appreciation

We are grateful for immediate help from Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, German Speaking Congregation Nairobi, Mission EineWelt, Church District Niederberg, Nordelbisches Missionszentrum and Church World Service through the KELC Communication Desk for special needs arising, because of the post election violence. We were able to:

- * Provide 18 girls extra (beddings, clothes, rooms, two extra staff, food)
- * Help parents and guardians with food, clothing and bedding

**KENYA EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
PANGANI LUTHERAN CHILDREN'S CENTRE**
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EDUCATION



One of the first days of Susan, Vivian and Carolyn at the centre

The start of the year 2008 was totally different from the other years. This was because of the violence erupted that after the 2007 general election.

Schools' opening dates were extended from 7th to 14th January hoping that calm could have returned by then, but the situation continued to worsen as the days went. Nevertheless school were opened on 14th January, but most of them remained deserted, because most parents were afraid to let their children go to schools where they were not sure about their security.

PLCC was not left behind in moni-

toring the situation and advising the girls concerning their security. When there was an indication that the situation will be unsafe, we advised them not to leave their places of stay.

The admission of the girls from the affected area to Pangani House did not only ensure that they are secure, but it also ensured that they got the basic needs since most of them had been displaced. As the days

went, normalcy came and most of our girls were now in school except two who had traveled up country and were held there because of lack of means of traveling back to Nairobi. However they later came and are now in school.

In the year 2007 we had four girls who sat for their Primary level examination. Two of them, Ann and Beatrice passed the exam and have joined secondary school. Also two girls sat for Secondary level examination and both of them scored above the pass mark.

Ronald Bosire, Teacher

SOCIAL WORK

The new year 2008, had little to celebrate about. Many people lost their lives, homes, properties and direction in life.

PLCC was not left out in all these skirmishes. Some of our girls lost their homes and others were displaced. They sought refuge in Internally Displaced People's Camps. Life was not normal business anymore: Gunshots, tear gas, tears gas cans, people's homes burning, looting of properties



Mama Pauline in front of her temporary home

and houses being reoccupied by others.

We therefore took the responsibility with the help of the PLCC friends of making sure that all the 18 displaced girls were housed in the Pangani Hostel. Normally the place accommodates 13 girls comfortably, now 31 had to be squeezed in four rooms. To enable them to go on with their normal life, basic facilities were provided. Life was not easy for the traumatized girls, who missed the family members and were worried about their welfare. This called in for constant counseling, encouragement and reassurance that hopefully things were and are going to be well. We now thank God that they are safe and stable at the hostel and generally normalcy in the country is returning back.

Every year we admit ten girls to the project. We normally get them from the streets of Nairobi City Centre. This year business was interrupted, many young girls were filled at the camps and they could not proceed with their school anymore. Just like any other

charitable organization, who stretched their hands to help the displaced people, PLCC too through the Social Work Department visited such camps



Lucy got a safe place to sleep!

and their environs and admitted five new girls. The girls are staying at Pangani House till their parents get a permanent place to stay. The girls are happy at the hostel; the parents/guardians visit them to know how they are doing.

Josephine Munini, Social Worker

CHALLENGE

- » Limited space at the hostel, so that we are not able to admit all the new and old needy girls.

BOREHOLE DRILLING ONGATA RONGAI

In January the drilling was done. At a depth of 193 meters, there was plenty of water found in a good quality. The only problem could be the relatively high rate of fluorine, which has to be treated in order to avoid negative consequences to small kids. The pump is already installed, the next step will be to build a water tank.

