



Hello and welcome once again to VANA news...

What an amazing evening we had at the Watoto Concert of Hope. The Watoto children's choir from Uganda performed for a full and very appreciative house at the Goodlife Community Centre in Buderim in July. This very special performance was added to the choir's busy tour schedule as a gesture of support from Watoto with all proceeds from the evening going to Vana. The Watoto children not only sang, danced and entertained everyone with their enthusiastic and energetic singing and dancing, but they touched our hearts with their testimonies, which in many respects mirror those of the children we are serving at Vana in Chivhu, Zimbabwe.

Families turned out from all over the coast to come and watch the Watoto kids perform and to support Vana Childcare Ministries and these fabulous people contributed over \$7,800 on the night! This money goes an incredibly long way to help us build a better future for the kids of Zimbabwe. Equally exciting is the fact that during the course of the evening we were also able to secure monthly sponsorship for 17 children, which is a fantastic start to our new sponsorship program. If you would like to know more about sponsoring a child please contact us. Thank you to everyone who came along and thank you to Watoto.



Vana Australia would like to say thank you to all the volunteers who helped with making the Watoto/Vana Concert of Hope such a great night ... without your help this night would not have been possible!

VANA ZIMBABWE

Our work in Zimbabwe is moving right along. We are now feeding 26 children each and every day as well as providing all of the Sunday school children with a hearty breakfast each Sunday morning before church. Furthermore, we are now also providing breakfast to 100 children a day with the porridge that was recently donated to Vana by the world food program over in Zimbabwe. Pastor Makoni has also been busy getting all the workers at Vana fingerprinted and having medical tests done for the final stage of the certification process that we need to complete before we can begin to take full time care of these children and provide them with a new home and family.

It is cold and windy over at Vana Zimbabwe at this time of year and everyone is feeling the cold. As you can probably imagine they simply don't have the comforts that we have here in Australia, with fireplaces, heaters and cosy thick blankets to rely on when the temperature dips. It is times like this that you can really be thankful of where we live and how blessed we are that we have places to turn to, to find warm blankets!

Bek and Dion (who are doing a 12 month mission trip at Vana) are being kept busy with making sure that everything that was sent over in the container is going to as many people in need as possible.



THE VANA MUMS

For a long time Pastor Makoni has been praying for the right mothers to be found to enter the Vana homes. He knows his people very well and is very wise in all the decisions that he makes, so it is very exciting to have finally arrived at this stage of the Vana journey, because the first team of mothers have been chosen! We know each one of them to be a marvellously loving, caring human being. These mothers already look after at least a couple of grandchildren whose parents have passed away. Each of these mothers are themselves facing extreme hardship, so it is very gratifying to know that this new season for Vana will benefit the children and these women.

Each mother will soon move into a brand new Vana home together with their grandchildren and form the nucleus of a new family home, which other orphaned children will join. Each of them is actively working in our feeding program already – helping to prepare meals for all of the children in the feeding program every day. They are faithful workers, filled with motherly love for all of the children. Each one of them trusts totally that God will provide for them and readily attest to the fact that He has already answered so many of their prayers. Amen!



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