

COVENANT Kids



Covenant Kids support programs that meet the educational, social, physical, and spiritual needs of children around the world.

COLOMBIA

Covenant Kids Colombia

INDIA

Child Development Centre
Neighborhood Schools
Child Laborers
Rag Picker Children
Children of Commercial Sex Workers
English Medium School, Solapur
St. John's School, Gulbarga
Industrial Training Institute
Higher Education

CONGO

Technical Training
Elementary Education
Girls' Education

SUDAN

Good Hope Academy

**Covenant Kids is a ministry of the
Department of World Mission**

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Visitors to ministry sites in Congo and India share stories

In the past few months various friends, World Mission staff and leaders have visited each of the ministry sites that are supported by Covenant Kids scholarships. These visitors share their first-hand reflections with you. In this newsletter only India and Congo are featured to allow for more reflection space. Colombia and Sudan reflections to follow.

Congo



Martie Peterson is the wife of Curt Peterson, executive minister of Covenant World Mission. Martie traveled to Congo with Curt in October and spent time with Rev. Sanguma, president of the Covenant Church in Congo, and his wife Sabuli. Sabuli runs an orphanage that receives scholarships from Covenant Kids.

Martie writes, "When I had a chance to visit Congo, I most wanted to spend time with my friend Sabuli. I wanted to see her garden and visit with her extended family - the orphan children who have found their way to her. As we walked and talked I realized that I was with a Proverbs 31 woman; a wife of noble character who has her husband's full confidence. She gets up while it's still night; she provides food for her family. Sabuli walks two hours to her garden while it is still dark. She considers a field and buys it; out of her



Sabuli Sanguma stands in front of her garden on the outskirts of Gemena, Congo. From this garden she feeds her family, neighbors, and the orphan children in her care.

earnings she plants a vineyard. Sabuli has purchased 10 hectares (about 25 acres) of land. She started with a small plot of land and little by little, by God's grace, she has purchased plots so that she now has this large garden that is planted with peanuts, corn, rice,

banana and much more.

She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy. From her garden she feeds all the children in her orphanage (about 40 children), her sisters and the others who work with her in her garden. Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her.

Sabuli once told me that if I came to Congo and saw all the needs of the children I would cry. She is right, there are so many

needs and hardships that it's overwhelming and your heart breaks. Sabuli has cried but has not eaten the bread of idleness. She is working very hard to care for the needs of family, children, friends and neighbors in her corner of the world.

Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Thank you Sabuli for all you shared with me and taught me while I visited your home."

India



Carolyn Poterek, associate pastor of First Covenant Seattle, WA visited India with Covenant World Relief last summer. Carolyn writes,

"When the movie Slumdog Millionaire came out in theaters, I was there. I found myself profoundly touched and moved by the film, though I struggled with the images I saw portrayed on the screen.

Upon arriving in Mumbai, India the first place we stopped was at the largest garbage dump in the world, over 500 acres in size. It was this very sight that the movie Slumdog Millionaire depicted. In and around this garbage dump are numerous child rag pickers, roaming throughout to find remnants that may still be of value, even as garbage trucks line up to pile on more trash.

There are simply no words that adequately capture the deep feelings that arose in the pit of my stomach when we pulled up to this mound of garbage. Feelings of astonishment, anger, sadness and hopelessness all seemed to meld together; the seats to this real life show were not entertaining in the least.

At this sight Hindustani Covenant Church (HCC) has 3 schools all of which teach and provide a hot meal to 50 children each day. While we were visiting these schools we heard testimonies from the children who attend. These children have great hopes for their future- becoming doctors, teachers and

computer programmers. One young girl said, "I want to have a life of significance, I want to help other people."

In the midst of this heart-breaking, real life picture there is a seed of hope. These 150 children are receiving the gift of hope through Christ's love, which is the only hope



Children show off their healthy snack at a Truthseekers Neighborhood School in India. Donations through Covenant Kids help to pay for these snacks as well as the educational opportunity.

that any of us have in life. The circumstances by which these children and their families live is by far sadder than anything I have ever witnessed. But thanks to the love of God and the compassionate ministry that is being done by the Hindustani Covenant Church the lives of these children are being touched with a seed of hope everyday."

Covenant Kids News & Notes

Covenant Kids service project and special thanks



The 2010-11 Children's Service Project, **Hope 4 Kids**, is well under way and many churches are

using it to teach children about other children in the world. It is also a way to pray for and contribute scholarships to children in Colombia, India, Congo and Sudan. Powerpoint slideshows are available to share with your Sunday School or Children's church program. These slideshows include photos of children in each of the four countries, the ministry sites and neighborhoods where they learn and live. Contact us if you would like these or any other Hope 4 Kids materials.

You are invited to join a **Vision Trip** to India in Spring 2011. Covenant World Mission will be taking a group of pastors, leaders and Covenant Kids friends to visit the ministries of Hindustani Covenant Church, India for Christ Ministries and Truthseekers. Interested? Contact Kim Crawford kim.crawford@covchurch.org for more information.



You can help...

Your \$25 monthly donation provides scholarships for children, teenagers, and young adults, so they may participate in programs that meet their educational, social, physical, and spiritual needs. To start your monthly contribution, get more brochures or find out more information, call (773) 784-3000, or email to covenantkids@covchurch.org.