

**DONATE NOW !**

**USD 150:** monthly fee per child - to cover school, food, medicines and the support of the child at the village (including workers' salaries and other necessities)

Dear friends, supporters and volunteers,

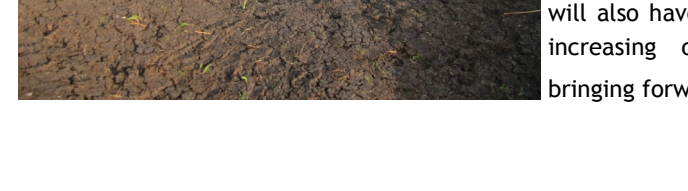
here we are, at the end of the summer holidays, with fresh news about all the small and big steps forwards that have taken place during this recent period. We hope you all want to continue to follow and support the growth of “New Hope Orphanage” and of the new projects that continuously spring from our cherished project.

If you have any tips, suggestions, requests or great ideas that you would like to offer for the Newsletter and the project itself, please write to us at: [info@aina-onlus.it](mailto:info@aina-onlus.it)

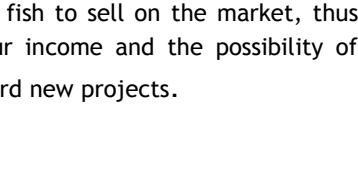
*The staff of the AINA*

**Dances and games, mosquitos and fish**

During the period June-August many active and energetic volunteers have spent time at the village: thanks to their efforts many small but essential projects have been completed. The windows of almost all the houses are now equipped with *mosquito nets*: Stefano, who was in charge of this project, also managed to teach our local carpenter how to continue the job. Stefano, who is also a fan of Latin-American dances, has introduced our children to the fun and acrobatics of these dances. You can have a look at them here, having fun during one of the many evenings they happily spent together: [look at the video on YouTube!!!](#)

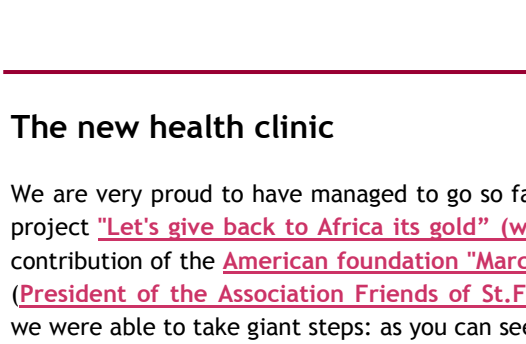


**The wall paintings in the canteen**



The great hall of the canteen has been embellished with a cheerful *mural* that welcomes younger children with lovely drawings of animals. Silvia, the young author of these “frescoes”, also produced one for the class of the older kids: it reproduces the sayings of some famous people and hopefully will stimulate the kids to read and think.

A group of teachers (Antonella, June, Annalisa ...) invested their time in the training of the *nursery house-mothers*: they introduced them to the use of group games and to activities meant to help develop the sensory and motor skills of the younger children.



The large tank built in the shamba for *fish farming*, is now not only complete but also populated by about 1000 “babies” of Tilapia, a common species in Africa and in the Middle East (where it is called “St Peter’s” fish). Tilapia is characterized by rapid growth, tasty flesh (when cooked!) and the fact that it is a good source of protein. Soon we will not only be able to offer the kids fish to eat, but we will also have fish to sell on the market, thus increasing our income and the possibility of bringing forward new projects.

**Seventy eighth**

In September, Mary Wanjiku, an 11 years old girl, was the seventy eighth child to join New Hope Orphanage. During the summer months Theresa (9 years), Linda (7), Benjamin (2), Nicholas (3), Cynthia (3), Glory (4) and Agnes (6) also joined us. There has certainly been a lot of work for the housemothers to do in the nursery in the past few months: we are at the moment considering hiring a new house mother in order to ensure that every child can be well looked after and that the house mothers are not under too much pressure.



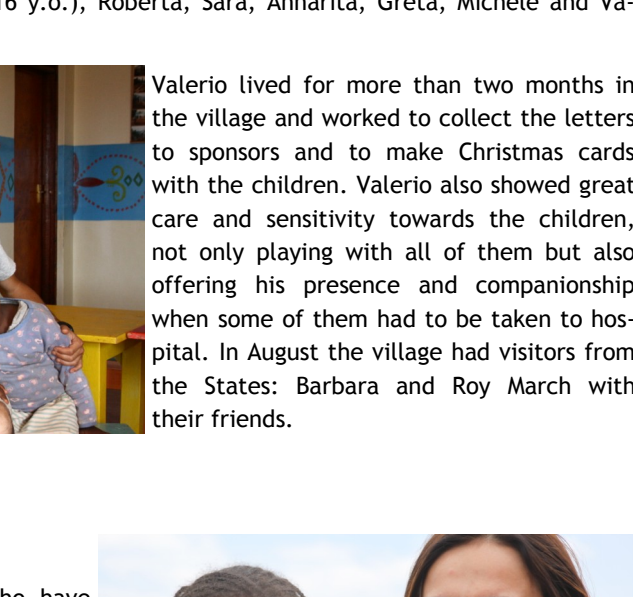
**Mary Wanjiku, 11 years**

**The new health clinic**

We are very proud to have managed to go so far and so fast! Thanks to the funds raised by the project [“Let’s give back to Africa its gold” \(www.ridiamoloroallafrica.com\)](http://www.ridiamoloroallafrica.com), to the generous contribution of the [American foundation “March to the top”](#) and to the help of Giancarlo Magni ([President of the Association Friends of St.Francis](#)) in coordinating all the work to be done, we were able to take giant steps: as you can see, there is already a roof on the building!

In the coming months we will concentrate our efforts on completing the interior of the building (plaster, tiles, flooring, furniture, medical equipment) and we hope to be able to inaugurate the centre in February. Luciano, who is the project manager, has already indicated the basic equipment that we need (a microscope, a small laboratory for analysis, sterilizers, surgical instruments, refrigerators for medicines ...) and we have begun to raise funds to provide the clinic of all that it needs. Luciano has also started building a network of contacts and relations with small and medium-sized medical centers that operate in our area: in such difficult conditions it is essential to be able to help each other and share resources. Nicola, the “resident doctor”, has already made his first visit and has come back from the Aina village very enthusiastic about the people, the children, the place and the work that awaits him. He is now back in Italy to solve a few bureaucratic issues, but can't wait to go back to 'Nchiru.

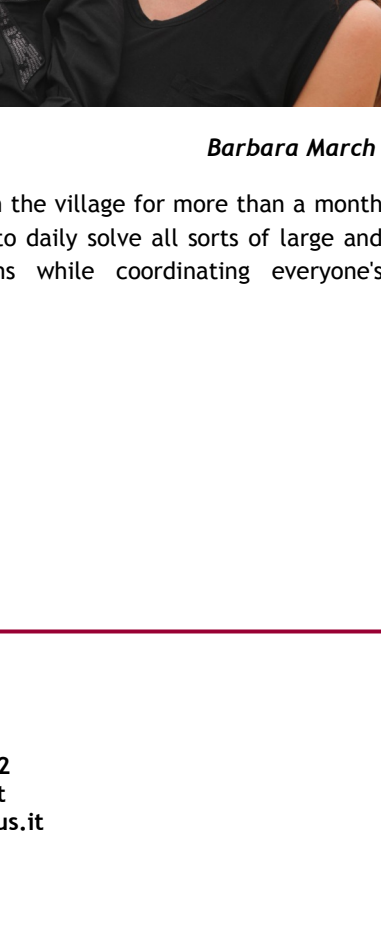
The health clinic is located on the left of the entrance gate, on the ground that we bought a year ago. It consists of a long rectangular building that will house, in the part adjacent to the road, the health clinic (so that, in the future, it will be accessible by the local community from the road) and, in the part that faces the inside of our village, a dormitory for boys.



**She has told us that....**

Valentine is ten years old and has lived in our village since it opened. Valentine attends the sixth grade and listens to her lessons with such attention that she often wins some awards. At school, her favourite subject is maths.

Both her parents died when she was much smaller. She has a brother and a sister, but they do not live in the village with her. Valentine knows she is HIV positive, but hopes to be able to get over it. She says she is happy to live in this village where there are people who love her and take care of her. When asked what her favourite food is, she said: vegetables! And her favourite game? Football! She would like to grow up to be a surgeon. Valentine greets all the Italian and American friends of AINA, but would like to send special greetings to Martina because she always stopped to play with her.



**Valentine Nkirote, 10 years**

**Some more numbers**

- 10 - piglets were born in September in our small farm;
- 30 - the piggy banks with information about the AINA village that Marek had the brilliant idea of distributing in the banks and shopping centres of Meru and Nairobi and that have already brought good fruits;
- 48 - kilos of flour that we received as a very welcome gift by an Indian benefactor in August;
- 77 - pairs of shoes arrived as a gift from a group of Sicilians who are close to us and help us;
- 92 - kilos of beans (grown with the advice of the Sicilian volunteers), were gathered at the end of the season: many were eaten, many were sold!

**The volunteers' corner**

In addition to the volunteers who we have already mentioned, other visitors to the village in the summer months were: Carina (only 16 y.o.), Roberta, Sara, Annarita, Greta, Michele and Valerio.



**Valerio**

Valerio lived for more than two months in the village and worked to collect the letters to sponsors and to make Christmas cards with the children. Valerio also showed great care and sensitivity towards the children, not only playing with all of them but also offering his presence and companionship when some of them had to be taken to hospital. In August the village had visitors from the States: Barbara and Roy March with their friends.



**Barbara March**



**Stefano**

Vicky stayed in the village for more than a month and managed to daily solve all sorts of large and small problems while coordinating everyone's work.

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