

# compassionate life FOUNDATION james127.org

## Helping Orphans and Widows in Swaziland, Africa

“Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.” James 1:27 (NIV)



### CLF Partnering With God's People To:

**Strengthen families** in order for them to protect and care for orphans and vulnerable children. Helping families help themselves.

**Mobilize and support** community based responses to provide both immediate & long term assistance to vulnerable households.

**Ensure access** for orphans and vulnerable children to essential services, including education, health care, birth registration and others.



**Help protect** the most vulnerable children by channeling resources to impoverished Communities.

**Raise awareness** at all levels through advocacy and social mobilization to create a supportive environment for children affected by HIV/AIDS.

**Help develop the spiritual** well being of children and their families.

*When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless like sheep without a shepherd. (Matthew 9:36)*



### Swaziland, Africa

- Has one of the highest HIV/AIDS rates in the world.
- Life expectancy rose to 42 yrs old, ranked one of the lowest in the world.

Swazi women age 25 to 29 have an HIV prevalence rate of 49%.

- Over 150,000 children in Swaziland have lost at least one parent.
- More than one in four adults age 15-49 are infected with HIV/AIDS.
- In Swaziland 63% of the population lives below the poverty line of \$1.25

### In Sub-Saharan Africa:

Over 15 million children are orphaned due to HIV/AIDS. Over 22.4 million people are living with HIV/AIDS.



***“It’s not what you believe that counts; it’s what you believe enough to do.”***

## A Little Ray of Sunshine Goes a Long Way



The “Jackie Fernelius” and “Lisa Gessert” Memorial Funds helped to spread a ray of sunshine in the midst of tragedy. Jackie and Lisa were the type of people that could light up a room with their laughter and heartwarming ways. The world lost two incredible people in 2010 but heaven gained a couple of bright shining stars.

In honor and memory of ‘Jackie Fernelius’ a wheelchair was purchased for a young man in Swaziland. Good Boy is his English name and if you knew him you would say his name suits him well. Tragically Good Boy became paralyzed last August after suffering trauma to his spinal cord after he slipped and fell while running to school one morning.

After CLF learned of his story we knew something had to be done. We delivered a wheelchair to Good Boy’s house during our trip this past January. When

we arrived we found him laying in bed in the corner of his house where he had been for over four months. We didn’t waste any time moving Good Boy onto his wheelchair. He instantly felt freedom at his finger tips. Without a moment of hesitation he raced out the door. He was so eager to feel the warmth of the sunlight on his face. It moved us to tears to see the joy flood through him as the sun covered him from head to toe. Good Boy quoted one of his favorite verses from Joshua 1:9. **“Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go”.**

In honor and memory of ‘Lisa Gessert’ Good Boy was able to receive a full physical evaluation by a qualified neurologist at the Mbabane Hospital. The Doctor confirmed that the damage to his spine appeared to be permanent. Upon hearing this news we immediately thought of the verse from Mark 10:27. **“With God all things are possible”.** We can be sure Good Boy will walk again one day, either on earth or in heaven. **But until that day comes we can trust that a little ray of sunshine goes a long way.**

## Gifted Students Press on with a Strong Spirit of Determination

**CLF’s El Shaddai Community Scholarship Winner** - Phindile Matsabula finishes the 2010 school year in position 8 out of 180 students. This is especially amazing when you consider her walk to school takes 1 ½ hours one way! Not taking anything for granted she presses on with a strong spirit of determination.

**El Shaddai South Africa Gifted Students Score Big in 2010** - Mathokoza Dlamini received two silver athletic certificates - one for 3rd in the High School 800 meter run; and one for third in the 1500 meter run. Khetsiwe Maseko won a gold certificate for academics with an average of over 80%.

## El Shaddai Children and Youth Begin a New School Year



CLF was able to purchase uniforms and shoes for over (43) of the El Shaddai children attending the ESM Primary School. Eight new children were brought to ESM by the Swazi Welfare Department just weeks ago. There are now over (80) children living at the two Swaziland ESM Homes. The cost for running the home continues to rise, which means your willingness to partner with us is more important than ever.



### El Shaddai Komati Youth

Because of the faithful giving of our Compassionate Life Sponsors and Partners we were able to pay for the El Shaddai High School Youth’s educational fees, uniforms, shoes and book bags. There are now (12) girls and (8) boys living at the home.



## Hope filled the Air at the Ebenezer CLF Care Center in Manzini



All the children and caregivers gathered to collect their uniforms, shoes, school supplies, sponsors gifts, letters and food to last weeks. Many of the children received Bibles, book bags, street shoes, soccer balls, towels, wash clothes and much more. There were plenty of smiling faces and joy filled hearts. God is awesome for providing such wonderful gifts through our faithful CLF Sponsors.

**A Wood Burning Cook Stove and a 4,500 liter Water Tank was also purchased** Thanks to our CLF Partners we were

able to purchase new items for the CLF Care Center in Manzini. Both the stove and water tank are a crucial part of properly caring for over (70) children and adults that are served regularly at the center.



## We are Seeing the Fruits of Our Labor and a Return on Our Investments!



Three youth from the Ebenezer CLF Care Center were registered to attend school at Bosco and Wesco Training Colleges. Mbali, Victor and Lungelo were the three youth enrolled. Fremino successfully graduated from Mechanic School and has been working for a local John Deere business. Ncane completed her accounting degree with high marks and is working as an administrative assistant in Manzini. Francisco completed a course in Computer Repair and is hoping to become a teacher in the near future. Bongani and Michael from El Shaddai Ministry graduated from Bosco's after being trained in the Electrical Field. They have high hopes of being hired by a local Electrical Company. Simphiwe is working as a teacher at El Shaddai Primary School while going to school part time to get her teaching certificate.



## Compassionate Life Foundation (CLF) Partners Needed

**Please consider becoming a CLF partner today!** Sponsorship Funds are important because they provide for a child's educational cost, such as school fees, uniforms and shoes. **Partnership Funds** are important because they help provide for a child or families living expenses such as food, clothes, housing, medical and dental care. As a 'CLF Partner' you will receive newsletters, periodic updates about each ministry we support and a thank you note from the children you are helping. **Help CLF expand our ministry. It's as simple as filling out the attached form on our catalog and mailing it to our office.** We ask that partners donate \$350 or more per year. If you prefer you can view our catalog online and give using our PayPal system. If you wish you can designate funds directly to a specific fund or ministry. The two main ministries CLF partners with in Swaziland are, EL Shaddai Ministry and the Ebenezer CLF Care Center. **Thank you for your support!**

### El Shaddai Ministry Needs:

ESM Staff Wages	\$ 7,100
ESM Fuel and Gas	\$ 2,200
ESM Clothing	\$ 1,800
ESM Food	\$14,500
ESM Maize Planting	\$ 3,500

### Ebenezer CLF Care Center Needs:

Food & Agricultural	\$ 5,000
Clothes	\$ 1,500
Household Supplies	\$ 3,000
Medical & Dental	\$ 1,400
<b>'Partnership' Totals</b>	<b>\$ 40,000</b>

## CLF Directors Wake to the Sound of a Big Black Bellowing Bull

While in Swaziland this past January we woke to a tremendous bang, bang, bang. As we stood out on the porch of the house to investigate, we were shocked to see a huge bull ramming its head into our RED Toyota Corolla. It suddenly looked up and saw us standing just a short distance away and decided to charge. We quickly shut the door. Praise God that the bull went away and decided not to break down the door. Realizing the rarity of the situation we couldn't help but be reminded of how we are in the midst of a battle (Ephesians 6:10-20). For us this incident emphasizes the importance of being covered in prayer. We are thankful to all who take the time out of their busy days to pray for our organization, partners and volunteers. **Prayers prevail!**

# Compassionate Life Foundation U.S. News

**CLF TEAM TRAVELS TO SWAZILAND JULY 6 - 18, 2011**

## Compassionate Life Foundation partners with New Covenant Ministries -

This 32 member team will be visiting the Government Hospital in Mbabane, local Primary Schools, distributing food to over (30) families, planting vegetable gardens, and various other projects as the Lord directs.

While at the Government Hospital, the team will be giving hope to the families with loved ones in the Children's Ward, sharing and lifting up their burdens (Gal. 6:2), and rejoicing in the love of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The visit to the local primary schools will begin with the students and team joining together to rejoice and to praise the Lord through dance and song (Psalm 149:3). This day usually lends to an opportunity to plant gardens alongside the students of the school and other projects as needed.

Please be in prayer for the CLF team as the Lord continues to work in their hearts, preparing them for the work He is sending them to do for His kingdom. Pray for unity among the team and for safety as they travel and work. Pray that the organizers of the trip would have wisdom when making arrangements and a clear vision of what projects the team should pursue. Pray that God helps the team to meet its financial goals of raising funds for travel expenses and project costs. **Finally, pray about how God would have you become involved in supporting the team and their efforts.**



## CLF Visited Kearsley Armstrong Middle School in January

CLF Board member, Neil Richey, presented to 90 seventh grade students for Mrs. Pratt's Social Studies unit. Mr. Richey was able to show the commonalities in geography, social norms, and currency between South Africa and its neighboring country of Swaziland. Numerous videos of students at both school and church, videos of the picturesque geography of Swaziland, samples of art and sculptures, and a PowerPoint presentation that highlighted the government, economics, geography, family life, education, and the importance of religion to the people of Swaziland. The seventh graders were a great audience and ask very insightful questions during the presentation.

## CLF held 'Prayer Vigil' to Raise Awareness of 'Global AIDS Pandemic'

### Contact Us

#### Visit Our CLF Website

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**Thirty three red ribbons lined the driveway** of New Covenant Ministries to raise awareness of the 'Global AIDS' Pandemic. The ribbons symbolize the 33 million people (22 million live in Sub-Saharan Africa) living with HIV/AIDS, and the 2 million who die of AIDS (1.4 million live in Sub-Saharan Africa) every year, and the 15 million children orphaned by this disease. The movie 'Yesterday' was viewed, followed by a candlelight prayer vigil. All in attendance where moved to tears.

**The 'Giving Tree' sparked a spirit of generosity this past Holiday Season.** People were challenged to spend less on themselves so they could give more to those in need. Over \$3000 was raised to support our friends and partners in Swaziland. **Our thanks goes out to Amanda Whitsel for organizing this wonderful event and for all who gave so generously!**



**CLF Book Sale coming soon! Please donate your books today!**

***"Don't fail to do something just because you can't do everything."***