



Capstone Ministries

Mission: *“To reconcile the street children of Western Kenya with God and family.”*



Missionaries: Dan and Patty Schmelzer



The Beauty of Kenya







The sad side of Kenya



Kisumu has an estimated 800-1200 boys living on the streets. They encounter a number of problems on the street: lack of food, sanitation, medical care, and a place to sleep. Most of the time the problem stems from a relationship issue at home.

Capstone Youth Center (CYC)



Capstone meets the boys on the streets every day and invites them to our outreach center at the Lutheran Church called CYC. Here they get a meal, bathe, wash clothes, play, pray, and hear the Word.

Christian counseling is offered by trained counselors and the boys are encouraged to consider going home. About 80% of the boys reintegrated by Capstone go home directly from this outreach. The boy on the right, Geoffrey, is currently at the Transition Center as his case was more complicated.



Capstone Transition Center (CTC)



Difficult cases are transferred to the CTC in the rural village of Mbale. Here more in depth counseling takes place and the boys are enrolled in a local school. The boys are reintegrated with their families as soon as possible.

At every stage of the reconciliation process, Capstone attempts to help the boys to re-enter the living environment at home. This is why a traditional rural home was chosen as the transition center. At appropriate times boys will go for home visits for a weekend and during school breaks. Responsible parenting is encouraged through counseling, local spiritual and government authorities. Since 2006, Capstone has reconciled more than 230 former street boys with their families.



Geoffrey



Austin

Family Reconciliation and Follow-up

Reconciliation is both a spiritual and a social issue. Capstone is lead by two professionally trained counselors and experienced welfare officers who guide parents and children down the challenging path of confession and forgiveness. Often repeated follow up visits are necessary to mediate family issues .



Capstone Ministries is committed to the importance and authority of family as a divine institution.

There are a number of misconceptions about street children.

- 1. They are not total orphans!**
- 2. They are wanted by their families!**
- 3. They can be rehabilitated!**
- 4. Challenges facing families can and should be ministered to!**





**Some of the boys reconciled
with their families.**

Bible Study Groups



During the past one year Capstone Ministries has increased to SEVEN Bible study groups. These are parents whose boys have been reconciled and live in close proximity to each other. Pastor Isaiah (right) heads up these groups along with a theologically trained intern



These Bible study groups are founded on the principle of “wounded healers.” Every two weeks they gather to be encouraged by the Word and to encourage each other in their common struggles.



This year all seven Bible study groups gathered at the Lake Diocese Cathedral in Kisumu to share testimonies, encourage each other, pray, and hear how they can grow stronger as a group.





Having a soda is a special treat!



**Leah Etole shares
her inspiring story**

All Seven Bible Study Groups



Capstone Camp 2011



Capstone Camp 2011

Every year we hold a one week Camp for boys who have been reconciled during the past year. The intent is to encourage them, build them spiritually, and teach them the values emphasized in Boy Scouts: teamwork, preparedness, responsibility and love for God and country.



Led by Scout trainers Felix and Livingstone, the boys enjoy a week of activities that leaves a life long impression.





**One day is focused on
environment and
community service**

Friday is Baptism Day



**Friday evening we show the long awaited movie:
“The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe”**



Capstone Camp 2011

Saturday all parents are invited to a program planned just for them. The boys sing, march and testify about what they have learned.



World Weekend of Prayer for Vulnerable Children



Every year Capstone partners with a Lutheran congregation in Kenya to host this weekend of prayer, songs, worship, games and lessons. This year the event expanded to two days on June 2, 3. The day was hosted by Rarieda Parish of the ELCK. All Capstone staff participated along with Sunday School teachers from 10 congregations.

Saturday was filled with practical lessons and lots of games.



**On Sunday in worship,
the children prayed, read
the Word, sang, and even
participated in the
Sermon.**



High School Scholarship

Capstone has started a new program of high school sponsorship for achieving and needy students. To be eligible the boys must remain at home and in school without incident, parents must assist with essentials and the boys must perform well on their KCPE exams. These are the first four boys in the program.



Moringa Income Generating

Capstone has developed an income generating program with the moringa tree. The leaves are dried, processed and marketed locally. Moringa is a super-food, highly nutritious and taken as a food supplement.



Capstone also works with local Women's Groups who grow moringa as a cash crop. In this way, families are sustained and taught self reliance as well.



Ways you can be involved...

- Sign up to receive the monthly Capstone Newsletter!
- Encourage your friends to sign up for the e-newsletter
- Support Capstone with your monthly donation!
- Pray for Capstone in your regular prayer time!
- Refer Dan and Patty to another church or LWML!
- Become a Capstone Ambassador in your congregation!
- Watch the newsletter for special projects to support!
- Praise God for the work He is doing through Capstone in Kenya!

Bwana Asafiwe (Praise God!)