

SPONSORSHIP REALLY DOES CHANGE THE WORLD

A top economist shared astounding news about child sponsorship; it really does change the world. Bruce Wydick, a professor of economics and international studies at the University of San Francisco, conducted a study in six countries – two countries on each of the three continents that make up the developing world. (Uganda, Kenya, India, the Philippines, Bolivia and Guatemala.) For over two years, Wydick and his team studied the life outcomes of adults who had been sponsored as children and compared them with those who had not. The results were astonishing. They discovered that overall, sponsorship makes children 27 to 40 percent more likely to complete secondary school and 50 to 80 percent more likely to complete a university education. When a sponsored child grows up he is 14 to 18 percent more likely to obtain a salaried job and 35 percent more likely to obtain a white-collar job. Evidence also indicated that sponsored children grow up to be both community leaders and church leaders.

Poverty causes children to have a very low self esteem and low aspirations. The big difference that sponsorship makes is that it expands children's views of their own possibilities. Many feel they are incapable of accomplishing much but with guidance, support and encouragement children come to realize that they have each been given special gifts from God which can benefit them, their families and their communities.

A critical part of helping children escape poverty is to nurture their sense of self-worth, self-expectations, their aspirations and dreams, along with spiritual guidance. It is a holistic approach that secular antipoverty initiatives have largely down played, but one that Christian development groups have championed for decades. And according to Wydick's study, it works.

The academic paper containing the full methodology and results of Wydick's study appears in the April 2013 issue of the *Journal of Political Economy*.

"Thank you very much for the contribution you are rendering to me, at our school. I am doing very well because of you."

Chilumva Zambia

FROM POVERTY TO UNIVERSITY



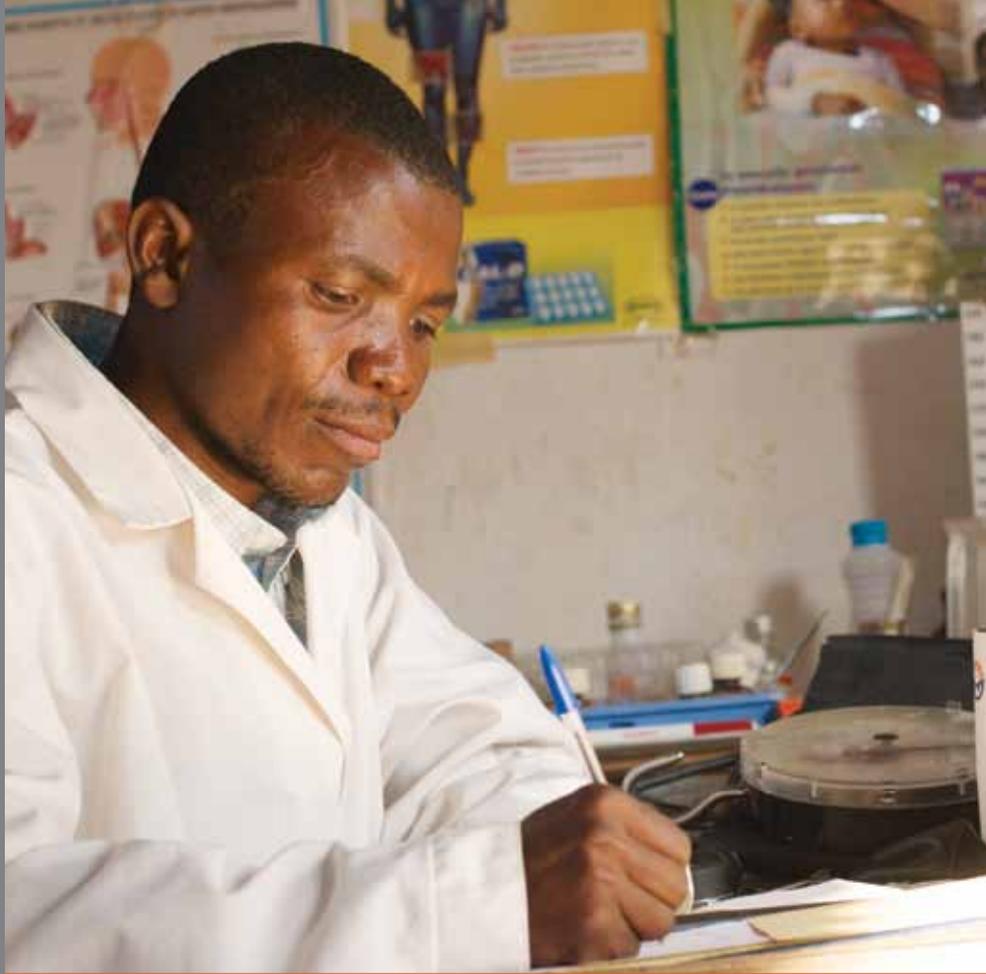
Ernest grew up in Amrahia, a semi-urban community in the Greater Accra Region of Ghana. His father and grandfather worked on a government dairy farm.

Even though the family was poor, Ernest's parents knew the value of an education and sent him to school. The firstborn of four children, Ernest traveled 45 minutes to the town of Madina to go to school. Then the unthinkable happened. Ernest's father died and the family was left destitute. His grandfather took responsibility for his education but eventually the financial burden became too much for him. It was at this time that our partners in Ghana stepped in to help Ernest and his family. They were determined that Ernest would go to school and not to work in the stone quarry. Ernest received sponsorship through International Needs when he was in grade 3 and knew that someone in Canada cared for him.

"I loved receiving letters from my sponsor. Sometimes there were small gifts like stickers or bookmarks. At other times there would be photos. This made me feel special and connected to my sponsor. I prayed for them and I knew they prayed for me." Ernest

A life transforming change came when Ernest received Christ as his Saviour. He saw the hand of the Lord perform many miracles in his life. Through the support he received from his Canadian sponsor, Grandma Audrey and her children, Ernest was able to finish school and go on to obtain a Bachelor of Agriculture at the University of Ghana. He is now living in Canada, renting a place with a Ghanaian family, and working on his masters in Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics, at the University of Guelph. He hopes to get his PHD in Rural Development.

"No matter what the future holds for me, I will be helping out with what's happening back home in Ghana. My journey has been amazing. I can't emphasize enough what International Needs' support has meant in my life." Ernest



MEDICAL STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The West African country of Ghana has made significant improvements in health care but still faces serious challenges to meet the United Nations Development Goals. Like most other countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, child mortality, maternal death and HIV/AIDS are the main medical problems in Ghana, particularly in rural areas, where nearly 60 percent of its population are living. Health experts have suggested that **Ghana needs to increase its health workforce by more than 60 percent** to achieve enough coverage for essential health interventions and to make a positive difference in the health and life expectancy of the population.

International Needs is seeking to invest in the lives of bright young medical students who are experiencing financial hardship. Through our **Medical Student Assistance Program** students receive help with tuition, books, and accommodations which enables them to focus on their studies. This program has been very beneficial and brought notable transformations in the lives of

our students, their families and their communities. Students like Narious Naleene, who grew up in a poor rural family, the second of eight children. Narious and his siblings often didn't have enough to eat, and held very little hope of being able to go to university. Thanks to the generosity of Canadian donors, Narious was able to finish his medical studies at the University of Ghana and is now doing his internship at the Korle-Bu Hospital. Narious has also participated in International Needs' medical outreaches in the Volta region of Ghana.

"I am currently taking care of my family and putting my younger siblings through school. Thank you International Needs. You have given hope to the hopeless and brought joy to many homes." Dr. Narious Naleene

You can help meet a real need in Ghana by putting a bright young medical student through University. To support our Medical Student Assistance Program, please call 1-888-702-9805.

A DREAM FULFILLED

Anjuara is a young Bangladeshi mother, with three sons and one daughter. Her family lives in the village of Naogoan. Her husband, who works as a day labourer, has had very little opportunity for work. This has left him feeling frustrated and unable to provide for his family. When Anjuara was young, she did not have the opportunity to go to school and never learned to read or write.

As a result, she worried about her family's future and felt helpless to bring about any change. When her children were given the chance to go to International Needs' Naogoan School, Anjuara and her husband were very happy. Their children would learn to read and write and hopefully create a better future for themselves and their children.

Secretly, Anjuara battled with despair over her own life. The staff

at the school counseled and encouraged her to take the Sewing Course at International Needs' Vocational Training School. She agreed to take the four month course and applied herself to learn well. When she had successfully completed the training, she began saving money by working as a maid in order to purchase a second hand sewing machine. Now, Anjuara has her own sewing machine and makes many lovely garments for the women in her community. This has transformed her family financially. She is very happy with her new work as a seamstress and feels empowered. Her husband also is grateful that she is able to help support the family. International Needs' staff at Naogoan village continue to share the love of Christ with this Muslim family and pray that one day soon they will receive Christ into their lives.



"This year in school I am in class one. When I grow up I want to become a teacher. I will work hard this term to score well. God bless you and I will pray for you."

YOUR FRIEND IN KENYA, RAELE

A CHILD BLOSSOMS AT NAOGOAN SLUM SCHOOL

Sweety's amazing story began in the village of Naogoan, in northeastern Bangladesh. Naogoan is a farming community with very fertile soil. Sweety grew up in a Hindu family with three siblings. Her father worked hard in a flower nursery while her mother took care of the home and children. The family was very poor and Sweety's father struggled to provide for them. When Sweety was given the opportunity to go to International Needs' Naogoan Slum School her family was thrilled. Sweety was very small when she first came to the school and didn't know how to read or write. It was here at Naogoan Slum School that she first came in contact with the love of Christ through the teachers and staff at the school. Sweety received a Christ-centered education and began to grow and learn. She was very serious about her studies and attended classes regularly. She was obedient and maintained the disciplines necessary to learn well which pleased her teachers. Their love and support was a great encouragement to her and soon all her class results were on the merit list.

Finally, it came time for her to do her national grade five final exams, organized by the Education Board of Bangladesh. The teachers were confident that Sweety would receive excellent results, but they were astonished when her GPA came back, 5 out of 5. As a result of her high marks, the Government of Bangladesh awarded her with a scholarship to complete her Secondary School education. Sweety's family, teachers and friends are overjoyed. She is an inspiration to her fellow students, and an example to all of us. It is our prayer that Sweety will continue to excel and be used of God wherever He leads her.



AN ORDINARY LIFE

Dorothy Moreau (or Dot as she is affectionately known) was born in Calgary, but has been living in Moncton, NB since 1978. Her late husband Nigel Moreau was a lay pastor for the Deaf Ministry at Moncton Wesleyan Church and signed sermons for the hearing impaired in the congregation for many years. Dot always had an interest in this ministry and was thrilled when she had the opportunity to sponsor a deaf child from Ephata School for the Deaf in Lubumbashi, DR Congo.

"I took one look at his photo and thought, this young man needs help and because of his age, he might not get it."

Dot began sponsoring Pacifique through International Needs in March of 2011. That same year, a group from her church was going to do missions and construction work in the DR Congo and Dot knew she had to be on the team.



"I was so excited! I couldn't wait to go to Africa, experience their culture and meet Pacifique. When our team got to Ephata School for the Deaf, I went to each classroom and asked for him. When I saw him I hugged him! He was startled at first but smiled when his teacher explained that I was his sponsor who came to see him all the way from Canada."

Pacifique is a happy young man and he and Dot write to each other regularly. Dot's support ensures that Pacifique receives a quality education, nutritious food, school supplies, medical care and Bible teaching.

"I always watched shows on Africa and when I heard about kids caring for kids in poor rural areas, I wondered if it was really like that. Now I have seen their struggles for myself and I wish I had so much more to give."

Pacifique will be able to get a trade at Ephata's vocational school, once he finishes his secondary education. This will give him a much better chance of finding employment so he can contribute financially to the wellbeing of his family. Thank you Dot!

COMING UP

EVENTS:

October 5th, 2013 · Ride for Refuge
Join the fun and support a great cause!

UPCOMING TRIPS:

Oct 8 – Nov 4, 2013 · McDonald Adhikary, Executive Director of International Needs Bangladesh, will be on deputation in Canada to visit with churches and donors.

November 2 - 17 2013 · Medical Team · Ghana

February 2014 · Bangladesh

For more information contact

info@internationalneeds.ca

PRAYER CORNER

ITEM FOR PRAYER

"I will lift up my eyes to the hills – where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth" Psalm 121:1-2

Please pray for the hunger situation in Zambia. Pray that the Lord will send favorable weather and give wisdom to farmers and the Zambian government so that food production is increased and there is enough for everyone. Children and pregnant women are at greatest risk.

ITEM FOR PRAISE

"Always give thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ" Ephesians 5:20
Praise God for the many success stories coming in from our partners regarding children's lives being transformed. Praise Him for His partnership with us as He leads us to areas of great need around the world and then helps us make a lasting difference in the lives of people. Thank you Lord!



It's that time of year again when we polish up our bikes and hit the road for our family-friendly cycling fundraiser. Last year, many of you put your compassion into action and helped us raise over \$12,000 for children in need. Thank you! Participants for this year's ride can register individually, join a team, or start their own. Typical routes are 10km, 25km or 50km. Join the fun and support a great cause at the same time! If you are not able to ride, perhaps you could help by sponsoring someone who is riding or volunteer for one of the many jobs needed for a successful event. To register or to learn more about a ride in your area, please visit www.rideforrefuge.org

When you register, be sure to make [International Needs Canada](http://www.internationalneeds.ca) your charity of choice. Funds raised for International Needs will go towards helping orphans and vulnerable children at ZACTS OVC Primary School in Zambia.