



The Front Line Report

November 2013

Mission: East Africa

A Child and Her Family Are Rescued

Your Gifts Spare Another Family from Death by Starvation

New Medical Clinic and Child Stabilization Clinic Planned

We were traveling on a dirt road filled with deep ruts. Passage in the four-wheel-drive vehicle we were in was tenuous, at best. When we ran out of navigable road, we parked on the side of the dirt path and began walking. Our destination was to visit several families who were recently added to Crisis Aid's feeding program as a result of your support, as well as other families who needed to be added to the program.

We began hiking the densely forested mountainous terrain. After a short while, we saw a small boy sitting alone on the side of the path. His name was Samuel. A few yards off the path, we spotted the child's mother, Adanech, and his sister, Bethlehem.

Adanech's despair was palpable and her story was heartbreaking: *"I often go out to beg for anything that can fill my children's stomachs. Our poverty has led me to a decision I never wanted to make; I sent away my first born to her aunt with whom she is living now. The church community also tried to ease my burden of feeding the children. I am unable to work as I am too weak."*

When we first discovered this



Adanech's home and her meager belongings.

family, there was no food in their home, nor were there pots or pans to prepare food in. They were eking by on a few handouts. It was clear that no one in this family would survive through the end of the year.

It was the middle of the rainy season when we found Adanech and her children. Her home (see photo above) did little to block out the heavy rains and cold winds that came each day and night. Her husband had left months earlier. She did not know if he would ever return and she feared that her children

would soon be orphans. She was starving to death...and without her, so would they.

You saved a family from an inevitable death.

Adanech was sitting on the ground in front of her home when I first approached her. The look in her eyes was gut wrenching. She was exhausted, worried, lost. She had no food, no water and no help. To make matters worse, her baby, Bethlehem, suffered from rectal prolapse,



Big brother, Samuel, is all smiles after his sister Bethlehem's successful medical treatment.



Adanech also has something to smile about.



Pat Bradley offers comfort to Adanech who is distraught with concern for her family and their survival.



A sad and despair-filled Adanech holds baby Bethlehem.

Adanech resigned herself to the fact that she would most likely hold her baby in her arms until she died.

a condition that could be fatal unless she received immediate medical attention.

There are several causes of rectal prolapse but the most common cause in underdeveloped countries is malnutrition. Malnutrition prevents children from developing the supportive tissues around the rectum.

Adanech's home is several hundred miles from the nearest hospital. The chances of her ever getting medical help for her baby were slim to none. She had neither money nor transportation and therefore had resigned herself to the fact that she would most likely hold her baby in her arms until she died. She believed there were no other options. The despair she was experiencing was overwhelming to all of us. In addition to needing food and clean water, medical care is the next most desperate need for the tens of thousands living in these mountains.

You were the channel God used to give Bethlehem a miracle!

BUT, you were the channel God used to give Adanech a miracle: the life of her child! Your generosity made it possible for us to find this family on the brink of death. You also made it possible for us to take this family to a hospital and provide life-saving care to Bethlehem which she so desperately needed.



Adanech sits with her son, Samuel, and baby Bethlehem in front of her hut.

After Bethlehem was released from the hospital, we placed the family in a medical clinic operated by one of our partner churches. The family will stay at the clinic until we can raise \$5,000. This will allow us to provide Adanech with new housing, furnishings, supplies, food and clothing.

The area in which we found this family is the location of your new feeding program that started last fall. There are thousands in this region who go hungry daily. They also have little access to medical care. We are working to expand the feeding program in this area to help more families like Adanech's.

- Our goal is to build a primary medical clinic and a child stabilization center in this area. The clinic will save the lives of many children dying from malnutrition and related complications like Bethlehem's. The needs are

overwhelming. We simply cannot stand by and do nothing while children, teens and adults are starving to death.

We have identified the land that we want to purchase. On it are now two small buildings that we could use to immediately open a medical clinic and build from.

In addition to the medical and feeding projects, we are planning a small grinding/milling business. Our plan is to employ some of the local fathers so they can support their families. Profits from this operation will be used to support and expand the medical and feeding initiatives and potential new business ventures.

You can help prevent thousands more from dying of starvation and related medical complications by helping us provide a medical clinic and child stabilization clinic.

As our name *Crisis Aid* implies, we serve areas where people are living in crisis situations and need your help. The degree of poverty in which this family survived took my breath away. After years of working in extremely dire conditions, I am not easily shocked. This situation was pretty shocking.

YOU are the difference between life and death for so many children and families we serve. Throughout the years you have been an incredible blessing to those in desperate circumstances by supporting these people through your generosity and prayers. Never doubt the importance of your gifts and the impact that they make. You are indeed **SAVING LIVES!**

Please make a donation today so that it becomes possible to build the new life-saving facility in another under-served area of East Africa.



Bethlehem can now sit comfortably on mama's lap.



In 3 short months, your gifts have turned this family's life around. Adanech, baby Bethlehem and Samuel are healthy, well fed, and all smiles...thanks to YOU!

You are the difference between life and death for so many.

We are so thankful for your love and care. You have saved the lives of so many precious people who live in extremely desperate circumstances.

We are counting on you to help us save more lives. Remember, **NO DONATION IS TOO SMALL.**

- For \$2.00/day you can feed one family.
- For \$35.00/month you can sponsor a child.

- For \$50.00/month you can help rescue a girl from sex slavery and give her a chance for a new life.
- For \$100/month you can help provide food to girls rescued from sex traffickers in the USA.

God bless you,

Pat & Sue Bradley

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Together Eliminating Need



Because love has no boundaries

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