



More Project Hope Stories

~ from Lou Wiebe: "Project Hope." Two small words which for months has meant to me a trip to Kenya.... And now? After seeing the street boys with their glue bottles literally living in a trash dump. After shaking hands with their sticky fingers....And now? After building a new kiosk for Margaret (a grandmother caring



The street boys of Kisumu.

for her 27 grandchildren.) After sitting in her living room with 19 of her grandchildren. After seeing her sons' graves....And now? After visiting the CHE project in the nearby mountains and seeing how it is changing lives and making unbelievable progress....And now? After meeting the boys of the Agape home, seeing their transformation firsthand, singing and playing music with them into the wee hours of the night... And now? After working at TEMAK, seeing the finished classrooms, hearing the 3 and four year olds sing "Jesus Loves Me, This I Know"....And now? After meeting Bob, Kevin, Daniel, George, Isaiah, Evan, Musa, Victor, Ambrose, Patrick....And now? Now it has become real! The faces, the words, the pictures, the people...They all have become real! I have touched

"Now it has become real!"

them, sweat with them, laughed with them, sat quietly with them, and cried inside with them. These two words "Project Hope" have taken shape as real living flesh and blood, real hopes, real dreams, real people. "Project Hope" was designed to change lives in Kenya which it has undeniably done. But it has changed one more life forever. It has changed mine!

~from PDG Nick Mascitelli: There are so many experiences Cathy and I would like to share with you about our Project HOPE trip. Our very special experience was a one and a half day project we worked at in the slum area of Ubounga, a neighborhood of Kisumu. The pro-

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ject was to help Margaret, an 82 year-old grand-

mother of 27. Margaret, a widow, lost all five of her children and several grandchildren to AIDS. Margaret provides food and housing for her 27 grandchildren by selling a porridge made of corn meal millet. She also prepared a mixture of beans and corn that she sells or unselfishly gives to the children of the slum.

The small stall she worked for was destroyed by the local government. When this happened she had no place to sell her food and had to sit on the ground in a spot that she found away from the main street area. Our project was to build her a kiosk to sell from right in the main village market area. The structure was made from wood limbs, very hard wood, and tin siding and roof. She now has her own enlarged area with walls and a roof which will protect her from the sun and rain. She will be able to serve her customers and increase her business and make enough money to feed the 27 children that live with her. We cannot wait to get back home so we can show you some pictures of Project HOPE.

