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Spring usually is the beginning of rain season. This year it is especially rainy.

On the whole territory of Kenya it rains hard, many towns are flooded. Our town is not flooded but still we stay alert.

Our day schedule depends on the weather and our kids feel the absence of shoes like never before.



## Through rains to knowledge

A new school semester began at the Heart of Help school. Despite the weather children attend lessons regularly. Nothing stops them from attending school: neither rain or cold, nor the absence of warm clothes (it takes a couple of hours to get to school for some of them!!!) A new skilled teacher became a great blessing to us – local teachers teach the lessons now and the missionaries may just help with organizing of work process.



There is good news about our girls Bekky and Robbai.

The thing is they went to school very late (they hadn't attended school before we found them),



so Bekky attended the 4<sup>th</sup> grade when she was 15.

There is no such thing as extern here but the principal let every year at school be count as two years for



the girls. So they won't have to graduate from the school at the age of 25. Of course now there is twice as much work but it's worth of doing. And we pray for a possibility of further education for these girls.



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### The first anniversary of *«Embrace» - it is just the beginning!*



On the 20<sup>th</sup> of May we celebrated the first anniversary of our project for children of the street "Embrace street child" that we perform together with our friends and partners from Canada.

Having started that ministry we planned, we prayed, we dreamt but none of us could really imagine where God would lead us and what change we'd be able to see in kids' lives.

Now we have something like a rehabilitation for street kids and teens where they can eat three times a day, attend lessons, play and listen to God's word. They spend their whole day there and leave in the evening. Besides they had a New Year party at our camp.

Also a few weeks ago they were in another camp at the Lake Naivasha

where they got some knowledge about concern for the environment, saw some local animals and had a good time.

Our social workers visit local families regularly, they talk to family members to find the reason for kids to leave their families and a way to lead them back.

A lot of guys started to come to the church. They don't look like street children any more.



We are happy to see they learn to respect and take care of themselves. The biggest struggle for them is their addiction to glue. But we believe that together with Christ they will win.



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# The news from desert



The Yaroshenko family continues their ministry in Turkana desert, the village of Kerio. A couple of months ago they adopted a baby and called him Adam. Besides they have moved to a new house (they stayed in the house of a local pastor before).

Also they have started a ministry to street kids in Lodvar (60 km from Kerio), the biggest town in the desert. There are up to 600 homeless children in the town.

The reasons for leaving families are the same in different towns: violence in families, rejection from a new father, hoodoo, and there are of course orphans. Almost all children are addicted to glue. Vova meets with the kids, talks to them, reads Bible and gives them food. 25-35 kids of age from 10 to 16 come to such meetings. In future Vova and Vika want to take some kids to their house for some time, teach them skills and help to lead a normal life.



Website: okafrica.org

E-mail: info@okafrica.org

## Construction is going on in spite of our weakness



Slowly but surely we are getting close to the end of construction process. In May we received guests who helped us with inner works. They did the tiles and puttied. But



still there is a lot of work to do in classrooms, put window glass in etc. We are looking forward to receiving more brave people to come and help us.



Mission is not just preaching with words but very often it is also hard physical work.

### Our plans and needs



This past spring or probably the whole past year became a season of parting for us: two of our missionaries who had spent a long time here went back home. Roma was here almost two years, Oksana – 5!!! God is leading them further, but their absence is hard on us. Our great desire is that someone will take their baton here in Kenya. People are still our greatest need.



E-mail: info@okafrica.org