

Prayer News from KENYA – July 2007

Msamaria Mwema Community Project
located in Kiambiu slum, Nairobi
is a Community Based Organisation overseen by
Glory Outreach Assembly.

Hello there all,

Thank you for your faithful prayers and many encouragements I've received. Be assured your prayers are not in vain. At church on Sunday I was struck by these verses from the parable of the persistent widow:

And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will see that they get justice and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth? LUKE 18:7-8

Let's continue praying in faith...

This month the Lord has really blessed the project:

New Volunteers and staff

It's been great to have support and new momentum because of **two new volunteers** joining the team at Msamaria Mwema. One is a Community Development student called **Gideon** who is with us for a 2 month placement and has a real heart for sharing the Gospel. This has personally been a great support to me too, because I'm not allowed to go on home visits on my own in the slum and sometimes all other staff are busy with their other responsibilities. It's been great to visit more of our HIV positive members in their homes to encourage them.

The other volunteer is a Ugandan lady called **Racheal** who is studying for a Masters in the area of HIV/AIDS (can't remember exact title!). She will be at the project every Monday and has started doing training sessions with the members, for which they will receive a certificate at the end. She is also full of good questions and ideas and has a lot of contacts at other agencies which has been a great help.

The project also has a **new staff member** called **Peter** who is a security/handy man. He works tirelessly and has been able to free other members of staff to get on with their jobs, particularly the director. For some time a factory in Nairobi has been offering us excess bread and fruit that we have not been able to collect, but Peter seems to find ways and means of getting it to Kiambiu! He also has a brilliant knack of making instant friends and spends a lot of time chatting to neighbours at the project gate when on security duty.

Please pray and thank God for these new additions – I feel it has boosted staff morale and we are working together quite well.

Home Visits

I have seen God work in our home visits this month and **several people in the community have made a commitment to Christ**, praise God! Their names are: **Rose Awinja, Pamella and Alice Atieno**.

Sadly, Alice passed away several days later, but it has been a great comfort to her family to know that she had made peace with God and is now with Jesus. Please pray for her family, especially her daughter, **Ciru**, who is about 19 years old and now has 4 of Alice's children to take care of as well as 2 of her own. She made a commitment to Christ some time ago but feels she has backslid.

Please also pray for a **bedridden man called Charles** who is thinking about Christ but says he wants to be healed before he gets saved. He is very frank (which is unusual in Kiambiu) and has softened in the time we have been visiting – he really likes to hear about Jesus.

Governing Board

I think I told you last month that Glory Outreach Assembly had decided that the project should have a new Governing Board to lead the project. Progress is going well with this and it will be made up of 2 members of GOA church, the director (Agnes), a GOA pastor, and 3 of the HIV positive members of the project. Hence the project will remain as a Community Based Organisation (CBO) where the target group (HIV positive people) has an active part in the running of the project, but its important link to GOA church will be emphasized in the new constitution they plan to devise. Sounds complicated?! – but these things have become very crucial to the success and continuation of the project. I think it's a bit daunting for Agnes, handing over so much of the responsibility she's been carrying alone, but she seems to be accepting this change now. I think it will be good that the members will have a lot more 'ownership' and will probably lift a burden from Agnes too. I'm amazed and so thankful at the progress – [please keep the project's tentative steps forward in your prayers.](#)

Craft Group

Seeing as attendance had been low at Group Therapy and Fellowship, and I was not always able to go on home visits, I had the idea of starting a craft group, making crafts with a Biblical theme, so that I can spend more time with members and them with each other. Found the idea a bit daunting – am I going to have enough craft ideas?! – but God helped us to start up on July 31st and it will be running every Tuesday. We are not selling the items for now – I would prefer, if it is to become more like a business, that the members take that initiative themselves because it seems that it often causes problems here when white people 'lead' a business. Plus I don't know a thing about business! [Please pray for the group, that it would have an affirming environment, that God would truly work in it, and for any future business moves to be made wisely.](#)

Social work

The two VCT counsellors at the project have been given a mandate to be taking one day per week to do 'social work'. They have been spending a lot of time networking with other agencies and are investigating ways the project can make proposals for funding. They are making progress, but I think it is hard starting from scratch – getting information is a bit harder than in the UK. [Please pray for God to guide this work.](#)

Prayer Points:

Praise:-

- For the [Holy Spirit working in the project](#) for all of the above!
- Especially praise for the project being [strengthened in organization.](#)
- Numbers have gone up at Group Therapy meetings, answer to last month's request.

Requests:-

- God to continue to [move in lives](#) in Kiambiu.
- Good [discipleship](#) of new believers; numbers at fellowship meetings are still low; we are considering changing it a bit to become something like a discipleship class – we need wisdom in this.
- Pray I stay [focused on Jesus](#). Sometimes I still struggle with feelings of frustration in communication – even when the language is English!
- Pray for the new SIM Kenya Director, [Dwight Hazard](#), who took over on 1st August.

[Thank you, as ever, for all your excellent support. Love, Moira.](#)

Moira Hannan
SIM Kenya
PO Box 60875
00200 City Square
Nairobi
KENYA
leaudegiraffe@hotmail.com

SIM-UK
Wetheringsett Manor
Wetheringsett
Stowmarket
Suffolk
IP14 5QX

01449 766464
info@sim.co.uk
www.sim.co.uk