

# Shalom Ministries

Supporting Shalom Reconciliation Ministry

## Annual Report

# 2012

### Shalom!

2012 was a very busy year for shalom on both sides of the ocean. There are many changes afoot as the new year starts and the largest of these is the proposed restructuring of Shalom USA. Since Shalom started in 2008, there have been some very actively involved leadership. The support for the children and vulnerable in Kotido has continued to grow and so have the tasks of administrating and managing the vision and growth. We are in the process of looking for a new coordinator that can bring the much needed

**God—you're my God!**

**I can't get enough of you!**

**I've worked up such hunger  
and thirst for God, traveling  
across dry and weary deserts.**

*Psalm 63:1*

*(The Message)*

skills and energy. As with many organizations in our position, we are interested not only in the tangible skills that someone can bring but the right ethos and motivation to serve and help Shalom to adapt and continue to stay focused on its mission. So as the year finishes, we have much to report and much to look forward to. May your new year be rich with meaning, purpose, and people who are committed to love as we have seen Jesus love us.

*Mike Barbee*

Shalom USA Coordinator

## Stories from far away but near to our hearts in 2012

There are many stories to tell from the ministry in Karamoja in 2012 and it is remarkable the number of children that are being cared for by Rainbow and his small 3-person team. Here are a few snapshots:



Scovia was received at Shalom Home in June with her baby and has since tested HIV-positive. She started ARVs and her baby has tested negative.



Winnie, the Shalom Home mother, dresses the wounds of Betty, who was beaten and sought refuge at Shalom.



Modo John grieves the loss of his mother to HIV/AIDS in Dec 2012.



Meron Joseph tending the fertile gardens at Shalom Home



Apoyet Jeremiah feeds the pigeons he has raised at Shalom Home



Namuya Mark was thankful for his fresh batch of supplies for the third term of school in 2012!

## A fresh view for the upcoming year!

2013 will see our fourth anniversary! Leadership is a hard thing to come by in many circles but we have seen some wonderful support from a dedicated team. Some of these people have chosen to move on from their positions at Shalom and we would like to thank them for their service in the last 4 years. Over the last 3 years Shalom USA has been underneath the non-profit status of Advance Him Ministries in San Antonio, TX. It has been and continues to be a very good relationship and was especially helpful for Shalom since the registration as a non-profit was not appropriate for the size and focus of our small organization. However, the direction for Advance Him is beginning to change and we feel that it is the appropriate time for us to part ways in order to keep our attention on the values that we have to support Rainbow Mike in his leadership. We also are getting much larger! We have been steadily growing and sending more funds for sponsorship and general expenses to keep SRM operating and receiving children. With all this in mind, we are beginning the process register as an independent



non-profit in CO. This should be relatively straight forward since the volunteers over the years have kept our books very well organized. Sponsors and other donors will not likely see any changes in how things are done but we will keep you informed if anything arises.

We are looking for dedicated people to bring fresh energy into Shalom for the year(s) ahead, especially to push our mission forward. Our mission continues to be: 1) to support Shalom Reconciliation Ministry to equip youth in Karamoja to live hopeful, healthy, and transformative lives; and 2) help connect people in the US with the vision that God has for the youth/people of Karamoja.

We are specifically looking for a **community outreach coordinator** and a **website designer/manager**. We also love actionable ideas and input, so your feedback is welcome! Please let us know if you have interest in giving your time and energy to further the vision!

## Giving towards priorities

During 2012, Shalom USA decided that the needs in all areas of Shalom Reconciliation Ministry were growing beyond the vision and resources of Shalom USA. Though the needs are great, Shalom USA decided to focus its resources on the students in the sponsorship program and supporting Rainbow Mike's family so he would be free to direct the ministry. Any other donations, unless specifically allocated, go into the general fund for SRM to meet the variety of needs at Shalom Home, among the widows, poor, children at the Home, and the youth football outreach.

## 2012 Financial Statement

<b>Income</b>	
Rainbow Mike Support	\$ 2,450.00
Sponsorship and General	\$ 18,689.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 21,139.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Sponsorship	\$ 7,723.06
Rainbow Mike Support	\$ 2,433.00
General	\$ 9,834.48
<i>Beads</i>	\$ 500.00
<i>Building Fund</i>	\$ 1,903.50
<i>Mercy Ministry</i>	\$ 4,344.45
<i>Continuing Education</i>	\$ 2,100.00
<i>Misc</i>	\$ 586.94
Admin (wire fees, copying)	\$ 399.59
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 19,990.54</b>
<b>2012 Net Income</b>	<b>\$ 1,148.46</b>

## Update on Rainbow Mike and the family

Mike and Mercy moved out of Shalom Home earlier this year in order to have more space for their family and work on their marriage. Family pressures on the two of them have been a source of great strain and they are caring for an extended family network.

From Rainbow Mike:

"Mercy and Newman are both doing well. Newman is 4 and started nursery school in 2012. Mercy's sister (Aloyo) is now living with my family and she is also doing well. She sat for her primary school exam last year - she did well and shall be joining secondary next term (February). The gift for Achan Everleen through Shalom was a perfect gift and it came at the right time for her and my family. She sat for her

primary leaving exams (PLE) in Nov, 2012 and she is happy to go for vocational training school (tailoring or catering). My other sister, Jennifer, finished her exams in S.6 in Dec, 2012 and is hoping to go for a course (media) or go to university if she will succeed in finding a government scholarship by Sep, 2013. She has been attending to my grand father at the hospital. Colleen and Francis are joining S.2 this year. Mercy is preparing to go for antenatal this week and it seems we may have the baby out early next month. I am glad to update you on how my family is pushing on. I am so glad to see God answering our prayers."

Please pray with me that they will see victory in areas of their relationship where they have been struggling and will be a family and a couple "after God's own heart."

## First group to graduate!



Two of the seven students who finished O-level in 2012

Seven students from the program are finishing their secondary O-level education and five are choosing to join trade schools—either nursing or agriculture. Two students are continuing their secondary schooling into A

levels in order to move on to a university or college after another two years. This is the first "class" from Shalom to be moving on and we are very proud of them. Owili Moses is now in his second year of A-level and Achen Regina just completed her nursing certificate with the help of a generous donation. The further education of these 7 students requires more funding and we hope that those of you who are sponsoring these students will be able to continue sponsorship—we understand the considerable commitment this is but hope and pray many people will see how transformative this is for children and Karamoja!

## Achen Regina—Inspiration for girls

by Achen Regina



For the two and half years that I have been in school things were not so simple. The course is tough but I managed to make it 'til the end. At the moment, I am assisting in Dr. Richard's drug shop without any payment as

I wait for the results that will allow me to graduate in May and register with the Uganda nurses and midwives council (UNMC). That's when I can say am done with my nursing education for the moment and start searching for a nursing position. After 1 or 2 years, if still given the opportunity to go for a diploma or a university degree, I would appreciate and be glad for that. My certification will require more funds so I can begin my new career!

Above all, am so grateful for your spiritual and financial support and may the almighty God bless you and the work of your hands abundantly and continue to bless you more and more to keep supporting the needy and orphans.



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Shalom Reconciliation Ministry is a community-based organization (CBO) in Kotido, Karamoja with a focus to reach out and improve the living condition of the most vulnerable children, youth and adults in Kotido Town Council and the surrounding areas.

**Our main objectives for the year 2013 are as follows:**

- 1) Increase provision of quality psychosocial support to orphans and vulnerable children (OVC's) in Kotido Town Council.
- 2) Promote and support sustained formal education for the OVC's including vocational and life skill development.
- 3) Meet the standard required by the government of Uganda for the care of OVC's in order to achieve recognition as an official children home.



**Shalom Ministries, USA**

Serving the needs of people in Karamoja by supporting Shalom Reconciliation Ministry, Uganda



## Children and needs at Shalom Home



Shalom Home is now the home for 28 children! At the end of 2011, only a handful of students were allowed to move off the streets and into the

Home. This increase in 2012 was due to the shift in attitude and heart among the political and administrative leaders in the District and the favor that Rainbow Mike and the team there have gained as the only place that focusses on children and is working consistently to address the particular needs that they have.

These needs continue to be:

- 1) a place of shelter and welcome for them to find a meal and place to sleep at night;
- 2) a loving family atmosphere;
- 3) a place to have an open ear and experienced prob-

lem solver to help heal and also reconcile broken relationships; and

- 4) life-changing news about God's love for them and the hope there is in a future with Jesus.

Rainbow Mike, Victor, Winnie, and the other children at the home open their arms to the sick, the rejected, the poor, and the badly off—they learn their stories and how they can assist. Due to the focus we have to send children to school and consistently take care of the children in the sponsorship program, the funds for these children at the home is sporadic and Rainbow Mike has to be creative in how to help feed and clothe the children that come. Please let us know if you would like to contribute specifically to the needs of Shalom Home to be a place of refuge and healing for these children.

**Our Website:**

[www.shalomuganda.com](http://www.shalomuganda.com)

