

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE...

Deanna Wallace  
AAO Executive Director

This month I want to introduce you to **Melvina**. She came to live at the All As One Children's Center when she was 1 year old – so **we are the only home she has ever really known**. Here's what Melvina has to say about herself:



*Hello,*

*My name is Melvina. I am 9 years old. I live in Freetown, the capital city of Sierra Leone. In the Children's Center where I live, we are all one family so I have many brothers and sisters too.*

*My favorite color is pink and my favorite animal is a dog. I like to play games like balance ball and skipping rope. I want to be a teacher when I grow up.*

*I have many friends and we are all doing fine. Thank for being my friend and helping All As One.*

*Melvina*



Let me echo Melvina's "thank you" for all you do to make life better for the children in Sierra Leone. We're now at a very full capacity at the Children's Center, with **over 70 children we're caring for each day**. We need your continued help to make sure we can keep saving lives and providing a positive future for these kids. **Please give a gift online today at:**

[www.allasone.org/donate.php](http://www.allasone.org/donate.php)

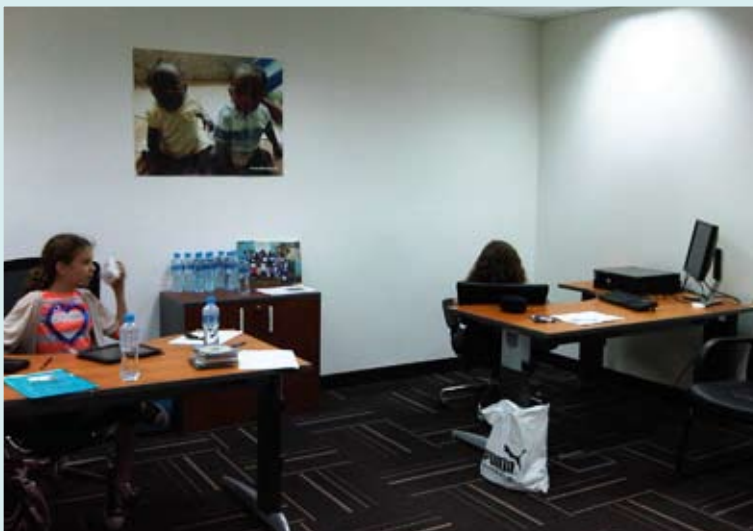
**Thank you so much for your support!**

## Garage Sale in Olympia

Our heart-felt appreciation and thanks go to **Melanie Stewart**, for hosting and donating the proceeds from a garage sale in Olympia. It was a 2-day event, in June, that required a lot of work! It was a great success, and **raised over \$1800** for the children in Sierra Leone! Melanie wants to thank **Jackie Gavin**, "who was amazing," donating many items for the event and helping out on both days. We're grateful to Melanie, Jackie, and the many others who donated and bought items, or just gave to support AAO!

## Step For Africa

**Fitness First** in Dubai held a month-long promotion in June, "Step for Africa," that offered a Mt. Kilimanjaro climbing trip to 2 lucky winners, with plans to donate a gift to All As One too. Thank you so much to the Fitness First team for the incredible support to All As One throughout the years. You are amazing!



## New office furniture in Dubai

A warm thank you to **BAFCO** and their marketing manager, **Gilbert Griño**, for the donation of office furniture for our new Dubai office at IHC. They have provided 2 desks, 4 chairs, 1 bookcase and 1 printer cabinet. We are so grateful! *(Pictured at left are Geri Mitchell's daughters, trying out the new desks!)*

## Rebecca Strawford Charity Swim-A-Thon

Our tremendous thanks to the **GEMS Royal Dubai School swim team** for their swim-a-thon, in memory of **Rebecca Strawford**. The event raised **Dh 9100 (\$2486)** in June. **Mr. Ian Galas** (seen at top left in the photo) is the teacher who so successfully helped to organize this annual event. We'd also like to thank all of the staff, parents and students who made this possible.



## Mt. Kilimanjaro Climb

**Paul, Suzanne and Ryan McConnell** will be climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro from the 3rd through the 7th of August, to raise money for All As One. The McConnells have been supporters for many years. A website has now been set up for their charity climb:

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

Please take a few minutes to look at the website. From there, you will be able to **bid on any of the items for auction**, or **donate, however small the amount, by credit card or PayPal!**



*Sierra Leone Director, Steven Amara,  
with Suzanne McConnell.*



## Thanks to our first time supporters in June 2012 :

Blesson Thomas - Diana Buchanan  
Dr. William & Maggie Jekel-Penn - Jarryd Loyd  
Joseph & Lisa Rehberger - Kathleen Collins  
Madison Muller & Amara Anwar - Nicholi Long  
Mary-Claire Buchanan-Archer - Susan Holm  
William & Jacki Gavin

## Thank you to those who gave over \$500 in June 2012:

BAFCO - Dubai Duty Free Foundation  
GEMS Royal Dubai School  
John Moore - Melanie Stewart - Nicci Fettes

**And thank you to our regular monthly supporters, who make our work possible!**

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