

### July/August 2010

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### DIRECTOR'S NOTE...

Deanna Wallace

AAO Executive Director

The brightest spot in my summer has not been the vacation time I enjoyed or the family reunions at my home (although those were very special). For me, the best part of the summer arrived last week, when I received this photo of baby Rashida (below), who looked so very different just a few months ago (at right)! Little Rashida came to us at the end of May, with severe malnutrition, TB and typhoid. Since that time, with your help, we have been fighting to see that Rashida survives and thrives. I've lost more than one night's sleep worrying about Rashida and praying that she would be okay. There were a few times when I wasn't certain she would make it (and she is not totally out of the woods yet) — but what a blessing to see a real, heart-melting smile on her face! I can feel myself exhale, and I realize how long I've been holding my breath, waiting to know if she is going to come out of the worst of it.





Rashida has now spent almost three months in the hospital in Freetown, and she still has at least another month there—but I'm thrilled to share her progress with you. Thank you so much for your generous support to All As One that has allowed us to care for Rashida and the other children up to this time. We are so very grateful!

Traditionally, the summer months are the most difficult for All As One, financially. But, this is also the time of the rainy season in Sierra Leone, and the needs for the children increase during these months. Right now, we urgently need your help in making our August budget, and we must raise \$8000 by the end of the month. If you can possibly help, please give online at:

www.allasone.org/donate.php

Thank you for your generosity and for brightening Rashida's life (and mine). You are completely indispensable!

### **NEWS!**

It has been raining like crazy in Sierra Leone – one of the worst rainy seasons in many years. **Several people have lost their lives, and several others have been injured, when their homes collapsed due to mudslides.** We are fortunate that our children have all been safe and sound!

We are currently working on a **November 2010 All As One Benefit Concert to be held in Seattle, WA**. Details will be coming soon! There will also be a **house party on October 9, 2010 in Tacoma, WA**. If you would like to attend either event and want to be kept informed, please email **info@allasone.org**.

Joi Dougherty and some of her work colleagues held a Race Night on the 5th of June, in Northern Ireland, to benefit All As One. This raised a fantastic £1,170, thanks to all the hard work they put into the event. Thanks also go to those who provided great sponsorship and raffle prizes – *The Court Nursing Home, The Bayview Hotel, Energeia Technologies, Europa Foods*. We're also grateful to radio station Q97.2fm, who allowed Joi and Ettaline Hill, our UK country director, to publicize the event, turning a 2-minute plug into a 15-minute discussion on All As One!

We want to thank **Queen's College MCR, University of Oxford**. Ettaline Hill put in a proposal to them and they were kind enough to choose All As One as the recipient of their donation of £250 for a charity working overseas.

**Caroline Donnelly and four of her colleagues and friends** held a **Pub Quiz** on the 21st of July, in the UK. This event raised **£618.70**! Once more, this event was a success, thanks to much hard work by the organizers and wonderful generosity of those attending. Thank you all so much!

**REMINDER:** Our first All As One event in the UK is coming up! We will be having a drinks reception with lovely food, and then a private screening of the film, *Blood Diamond*, at the Soho Sanctum Hotel in central London. The event will be held on Saturday, the 11th of September, for the all-inclusive price of £45. This will be a great event in a beautiful venue, with a dedicated cinema space holding up to 45 people. Please contact **Ettaline Hill** at <u>ukinfo@allasone.org</u> for more details and to book your spot.



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### Thanks to our first time supporters in June & July:

Christopher Bosak - D Watch, ATC - Edward Broussard - Fellowship of the Ranches - Humera Shaikh - Michelle Collins Katherine Ingram-Johnson - Mrs. Kamal Aftab - Richard Lepper - The Blossom Nursery - Tommy Wright Queens College, University of Oxford

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

AirMiles - Allen & Jennifer Holmes - Anne C. Browne - Caroline Donnelly - Children's Hope Foundation - Colin Saldanha Elizabeth Williams - Forbes & Jean Gildersleeve - GEMS Royal Dubai School - Hazel Jackson - Horizon School John & Betsy Lee - Joi Dougherty - Katarina Boustedt - Kelly Barker - Lynn Coulibaly - Mark Montgomery & Irene Powell Melanie Brown Maddux - Nicci Fettis - Patricia Finn - Peter Tan - Philipp von Hammerstein & Isatu Funna Robert Harris & Jodie Hampshire - Sahar Masud - Sharjah English School - Yvonne Katter

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