

HELPING ALL WE CAN...ONE AT A TIME.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Deanna Wallace
AAO Executive Director

This is **Burrah**, age 4 -- a beautiful girl who lost her family to Ebola. She is one of 16 Ebola-orphaned children the government of Sierra Leone is asking us to take into care. These 16 are just a small number of the hundreds of children who have been shunned by their community, and now need a new family. We're hoping to raise support so that we can take these children into care, and continue to provide for the children we already have.

As I write this, our financial situation is dire. Our funds are depleted, and I don't know how we will continue our work, let alone bring in more children. Still, I am hopeful, because I look back on the past 15 years, and see so many times when we would have needed to close our doors, but your support kept us going. YOU have made it possible for us to help over 35,000 children so far. Thank you for caring about children like Burrah, and giving them the chance for a new life filled with good things -- things like enough food, a warm bed, a chance to be healthy, learn, grow, and find healing for past wounds and trauma.

The journey of the past 15 years has been unexpected in many ways (to say the least)! Sometimes I'm amazed that we are still here. Sometimes I feel frustrated that our financial situation keeps us from doing more. But, mostly I am humbled by knowing that we've made a difference in so many lives, in so many ways.

Truthfully, it all comes back to you. You're the reason all of these children have been helped. Without you, none of this would have been possible. I am grateful to you always.

I know that if we join together, we can help Burrah and the others, and get out of the financial dilemma we're in. Please help us continue the work we've accomplished so far.



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THE KIDS ARE ALRIGHT 3- UK CONCERT

In July, **The Kids are Alright 3** benefit concert was held in the amphitheatre of Said Business School, University of Oxford. It was a brilliant night of music from 9 local bands, with an audience of over 250. Highlights included **Ran Kan Kan**, **Dreaming Spires** and Oxford's favorites, **The Shapes**.

Over **£3,500** was raised, which was shared with a local charity, Children's Ambulatory Care.

We would like to thank **Cobra Beer**, **Oxford Marquees**, the **many companies who donated raffle prizes**, as well as **all of the artists who donated their time and talent!**



PARK HOUSE SCHOOL STUDENTS HELP AAO

Five wonderful students from **Park House School** in Qatar, with the help of **Vodafone**, have raised over 500 UK pounds for AAO! The girls took part in a competition by the **Park House Community Initiative** and **Vodafone's World of Difference Campaign**, two flagship initiatives launched in Qatar to promote investing back into the community.

To be eligible to take part in Vodafone's World of Difference Campaign, passionate students from Park House had to start their own charitable projects to help a specific group of people, make a difference to the environment, a social issue or a charitable cause. The winning ideas would then be offered financial support from Vodafone Qatar and logistical support from the school.



The girls carried out various fundraisers which included several bake sales and different sporting competitions, and **raised over 500 UK pounds**. We are so grateful for the efforts of these wonderful girls and the generosity of Vodafone!



AAO STAR ★ ★ ★

One of our former All As One children, **David Raizes**, is currently a starter on the **University of Central Florida's men's soccer team**. They recently released a feature story on his incredible journey from Sierra Leone to his adoption and life in the United States.

We are so proud of David, and are thrilled that his story is being shared! To read the article, visit:

http://ucfknight.co/EC_Raizes



The following poem was written by Deanna Wallace's granddaughter, **Emily Oomen**, at age 15, and won 3rd place in a Washington-state poetry contest. We thought it would be perfect to share in our newsletter.

Race

An invented term.

An incredible lie.

What a crime it is to invent a term

Just for the purpose of pure segregation.

What a crime it is to fabricate the ideology that the difference

between the pigment of our skin

Makes a difference.

We share more similarities in our DNA,

Ninety nine point nine scientists say.

The only race is the human race.





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Thanks to our first time supporters from January through September 2015:

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Fernanda Rockert - Ali Maqbool - Patty Brown - Lisa Teitler - Sriiram Sundaram - Zita Rachmanova

Thank you to those who gave over \$500 from January through September 2015:

Andre & Vanessa Naude - Arun Bablani - Autumn Huiatt - Benjamin & Shirley Ebersole - Brian Ebersole - Cecilia Valenzuela
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Robert & Joanne Lovelace - Robert Wallace - Sharon Beecham - Sahar Masud - Gift in honor of TeamTrio - Tom Young
William & Gwenda Stewart - Yvonne Katter

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

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