

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

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Deanna Wallace

AAO Executive Director

I know the world is experiencing a new reality with the pandemic, and I hope you all are safe and well. We're doing our best to keep things going for our children and staff, but it's been quite a challenge. The children's schooling has been interrupted, and some of our staff now have to stay round-the-clock at the Children's Center (instead of leaving as they normally do). This means our staff are living away from their own families in order to make sure the kids are cared for and fed. We are so grateful for their sacrifice and devotion to the children's wellbeing.

Some of our kids made a video to let the world know that they are "Clapping for Carers" who are battling COVID-19 around the world. They are also clapping for our staff in Sierra Leone, who care for them, daily. (You



can view the video at <u>www.vimeo.com/424425557</u>.) **We are so grateful to ALL of the wonderful people around the world who are making a difference during this time.**

I'm sure it comes as no surprise, but due to the pandemic, we have had a substantial drop in donations. It's understandable, but very frightening, too. The government of Sierra Leone doesn't have any social welfare or feeding programs for children. If you're able, please consider a gift today. We urgently need it.

Our children especially wanted me to send messages of thanks and love to all of you who support our work. They also wanted you to know that they are praying for you. Their message is: "May God be with you for what you do for us."

Thank you, as always, for caring about the children.

Thanks to those who gave over \$500 in April 2020:

Andre & Nicki Naude - Jamilah Rashid - Judy Chase - Philipp von Hammerstein & Isatu Funna - Spring Coaching, FZ LLC Zaid Gardner & Claire Molloy

Thanks to our first time donors in April 2020:

Christina Martinez - Roland Jones

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