

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

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Deanna Wallace
AAO Executive Director

I'm so happy to share with you that **we've moved into our new home, and the kids are all safe and well.** We're still in the process of fixing up the home (as it needs painting and some other repairs). But it is a large home, and there is space for the children to play. One of the best things about the new place is that it's close enough to our old home that the children from the community, who come to school at AAO, are still able to attend (see photo at right). We all feel very blessed!

A couple of weeks ago, **I spoke to the children and asked them what it was like when they were told we had to move, but didn't have a new place for them.** Understandably, they answered me with words like "scared," "afraid," and "very bad." When I asked them how they are feeling now, I was told "good and happy," "thankful," and "it's a miracle!"

One of our boys, **Steven**, told me: "At first when the landlord said we had to move from the other house, I felt so bad. I was thinking that if in the morning they will come and move us out, what will we do? But, I thank God that when we had to take our things out, that we had a new place to go. At the new place it is very big, and we play hide and seek. We even fixed the swing at the new house. We have place to play football too. Also, we eat good food and sleep well at night. We even have new mattresses to sleep on." **He sounds pretty happy, doesn't he? That's because of YOU!**



I know I mentioned it last month, but I want to say thank you again to **Crossing Borders**, and also to **Isatu Funna** and **Philipp von Hammerstein** for their very generous help that was instrumental in making this move possible. The support we've received has made us feel very loved.





I am also under strict instructions to pass thanks from the children and staff to **ALL** who made our move possible. In Krio (the lingua franca of Sierra Leone), the kids say "Tenky boku boku" which translates to "Thank you very, very much!" So to everyone who has helped us in so many ways, **TENKY BOKU BOKU!**

We still have a lot of expenses and, as always, **making our monthly budget is an ongoing challenge – so please keep up your support! We need YOU!**

AZANIA'S BENEFIT CONCERT

Azania Noah, singer and the **director of our new branch in Switzerland**, gave a benefit concert for All As One on May 25, in Geneva. The show raised the equivalent of **\$3,200!** Azania then added **\$2,800** as a personal donation, to arrive at the estimated \$6000 needed to buy new beds and mattresses for the children!

Azania said, "I was touched to see how many people came to support our benefit concert for the All As One Children's Center, and they were very generous in their donations. My pianist and I had a wonderful time and a few of my vocal students also volunteered their talents to support, as well."

We are so grateful to Azania for all she does to help AAO. The kids will be sleeping sweetly, thanks to her gift!



PARIS TO BRISTOL CYCLE CHALLENGE 2019

From June 14-16 an amazing group of cyclists pedaled from Paris to Bristol to raise funds for All As One. They pushed themselves to their limits for the kids once again! **At the time of this writing, the total raised (plus Gift Aid) is £12,980.75!** We can't thank the cyclists and donors enough. We're overwhelmed with gratitude! Look for details of their adventure in the July newsletter! If you'd like to add to the total, they're still taking donations at the link below:

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Team/ParistoBristol2019>



SO MANY TO THANK!

In last month's newsletter, we shared the names of all who had donated in May, up to the time of that mailing. **There are more who gave at the end of May, after the newsletter was sent, and we want to thank them now!**

Ani Gorhan - Chantal Gaud - Christian Mettler - David French - Delphine Morin - Dilar Mendes - Gary Hall - Helene Mudry
Ines Liengme Amoo - Joele-Renee Atouga - Judith Rickinson - Naiche Barbaglia - Olivier Saenger - Pascal Strubel
Silvie Holowaty - Vesna Katchmakov - Xavier Rouhling - Yusuf Bangura

[Spelling corrections from the May Newsletter: Magali Gruber, Marco Scanu and Zainab Diallo]