

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

### DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Deanna Wallace  
AAO Executive Director

Thankfully, so far, the children and staff at the Center have not personally been infected with coronavirus. Sierra Leone is taking precautionary measures, and we are doing all we can to keep the children safe. **Because the country has one of the world's worst health care systems, prevention is our best line of defense.**

But the pandemic is still affecting life for our kids in many ways. Right now, schools are not in session, and our kids' activities have been greatly curtailed. **Betty**, age 11 (*shown here*), was asked how things have been going. She said:

*"I am concerned about the lockdown. We don't see our friends, and no one visits us. We don't celebrate. We have to sit far apart. I don't feel good about it. I hope God will end this soon. I want to also make sure everyone washes their hands and listens to their leaders. Also pray to God."*

We will continue to do all we can to keep the children safe. **But one of the biggest issues we are facing right now is that we are, once again, being threatened with eviction.** Our annual rent was due last month, and we have not yet been able to pay it. Our supporters span the globe, and, as you would imagine, the pandemic has been severely affecting donations since March. At the time of this writing, we have \$6,000 toward the \$16,000 amount, and **we're in urgent need of the remaining \$10,000.**

I hope that we'll eventually have our own place, and won't need to be paying rent. Until then, I look forward to the time when our budget can be met, so that we won't have to strain to make this large, annual payment. But the reality is that our budget has been so lean for the past year, there has been no way to prepare for this.

**Being forced to leave our home in the midst of a pandemic is a situation I can't even imagine.** PLEASE help us keep the children in their home by giving as generously as you are able. Thank you, as always, for caring about the kids of AAO!



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

Al Roberts - Jeffrey & Autumn Huiatt - Tom Young - Yvonne Katter

### Thanks to our first time donors in May 2020:

Alan Thoms - Lisa Fisch - Luke Robinson - Rebecca Just

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