

## **ABOUT ALL OUR CHILDREN**

### **David, Grace & Mercy:** (6/10/1998, 29/02/2000 & 19/04/2004)

are the children of Mama Catherine. They are 20, 19 and 15 respectively. Before we met Mama Catherine in 2007 she was living in a one roomed hut with the three children and was really struggling to keep the family together. She had left her abusive husband which was brave for a woman in Tanzania but put the family into poverty as a result. **David** is very much the “father” of the family and is well loved and respected by everyone. He is sorely missed now he is away at college in the west of the country. He is studying accountancy. **Grace** was being educated at St. Jude’ School as she was believed to be very bright and deserving. She did well but missed out on continuing there for her secondary education. She did reasonably well at Edmund Rice and is now studying animal husbandry at Tengeru College. She is mature and highly capable of running the household if necessary. She is a natural leader and has taken leadership roles at college. **Mercy** was only two when we first met her and is very much a surrogate grand-daughter to us. She is extremely bright and physically able. She has formed a powerful friendship with Goodluck and they have been in healthy competition throughout their education. She is not very happy at her secondary school so we will probably move them all at the end of this year.

**Mercy** is half-sponsored by Faraja Support for her secondary education. Her fees at Aldersgate are currently about **£430.00** per year for Form 2. This will increase substantially and she needs sponsorship to help the charity with the fees.

**Grace** is sponsored for her education by Mike and Helen.

**David** is sponsored by Faraja Support for his education – he needs more sponsorship as his F.E is proving to be expensive at approximately **£815.00** per annum

### **Juliana:** (18/01/2012)

is a niece of Dada Anna. One of Anna’s sisters had a complete breakdown when her husband abandoned her two years ago leaving her alone with six children. They were split up and **Juliana** was sent to Anna. She is a twin but we have no idea where her twin brother is. Faraja Support agreed to fund her school fees. She is a bright little girl and is benefitting from the good education at Good Will Primary School where all our kids attended for their primary education. She is in Standard 1 and the current cost is about **£230** per annum. This will rise steeply as she progresses through the school.

### **Elia and Aron:** (20/01/2001 & 15/02/2003)

are brothers and full orphans. **Elia** is now 19 and **Aron** is 15. Their parents both died when Aron was about two from TB. They were sent to live with an uncle in the local area. Unfortunately the uncle’s wife did not want them and physically abused **Elia** who bears the physical scars of burns and cuts to this day. **Elia** has been the entertainer of the house and is the most loving and challenging of all the children. He would drive the adults to distraction but somehow would reduce everyone to tears of laughter. He is highly motivated. He is about to take his National exams and intends to stay on at Edmund Rice for the sixth form. His current fee is about **£670.00**. This will increase in the sixth form. **Aron** has been the

easiest of all the children in the household up until very recently. He is calm and very hard-working. He is very close to Mama Catherine. He has been struggling with home sickness at boarding school and has been playing up which is not typical for him. We will move him almost definitely at the end of the year. The current fee at Aldersgate is about **£430** per year. This will rise steeply when he changes school. He is currently in Form 2.

**Goodluck & Dominic:** (26/11/2002 & 23/10/2004)

are brothers. **Goodluck** is 16 and **Dominic** is 14. Their mother was a local woman who suffered with serious mental health issues. (Probably schizophrenia) She has produced numerous other children and has disappeared completely now. The various children are distributed amongst people in the community. Father unknown. They were both in a sorry state physically when they came to Usalama House. **Goodluck** is known as Mr. President in the house. He is very bright and an excellent all-rounder. He is strong-willed and is a spokesperson in the house. **Dominic** is more peaceable and a talented artist. He is also bright but has to work at achieving his results unlike his older brother. Both of them are at Aldersgate School in Form Two and will move schools at the end of the year when we move Mercy and Aron. The fee for each is **£430** per year and will increase.

**Joram** (08/02/2006):

**Joram** is 14 and in the last year of his Primary Education in Standard 7 at Good Will School. He is the farmer and animal husbandry expert in Usalama House. He loves to help on the land and cares for the flock of chickens. He is very sweet with Charlie the dog. He shins up trees to collect avocado in season. He is self-contained and quite quiet but is coming out of his shell since the older ones are away at school. His mother died when he was two and his father remarried. The new wife rejected all the children and for many years **Joram** would run away and hide if he saw anyone who looked vaguely like his father, so we can only surmise what might of happened to him. Initially he exhibited bizarre behaviours but those disappeared over time and he now a well-balanced individual. His fees are currently about **£410** but will increase steeply when he starts secondary school in January 2021.

**Jordan:** (08/11/2007)

**Jordan** was living with his grandmother locally. She was extremely poor and struggling to raise several grandchildren on her own. He was actually clothed in a dress when he came to us as she had no other clothing for him. He was very thin. He has been very much the baby of the family until Joshua arrived some years later which he struggled with for some time. His mother is deaf/mute and reappears occasionally. Father unknown. He has matured a lot in the last couple of years which is a relief. He has been quite challenging at school, preferring to play rather than work but this has improved recently. He is currently in Standard 5. His fees are about **£350** currently. These will rise as he progresses through the school. He desperately needs sponsorship to support his education.

**Joshua:** (D.O.B. unknown – given as 07/09/2012)

**Joshua** was abandoned on the street in Arusha and was eventually sent to us by Social Welfare. We do not know anything about his background. We guesstimated his age to be

about 2 when he arrived and gave him his birthday as the day he arrived at Usalama House. He was very traumatised and had nightmares for a long time. He slept with Catherine and then big brother David for about 3 years but is fine now. He is currently being quite challenging at school and needs careful but firm managing at home. He and Jordan fought regularly but seem to have resolved their differences now thank goodness. He is in Standard 3 at Good Will School and his fees are currently about **£340.00** but these will rise steadily as he progresses through his primary education. Can you help to maintain **Joshua** in his education?

All these children need to complete their education in order to ensure that they can achieve in the adult world and contribute positively to their own lives and the society in which they live. Faraja Support really would appreciate any help you can give these children – if you can help in any way please contact us via the contacts page. The children know that education is worth more than gold to them and really value the support that they are getting from us here in the UK.

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO IS HELPING OUR CHILDREN.**