

*Together we can!*

December 1, 2008

Dear Friends,

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very happy and safe holiday season and to say "THANK YOU" on behalf of Orphan Support Africa, the children and the communities that we work with in Africa. Your friendship, support and generosity has helped us bring hope and a positive change in the lives of thousands of vulnerable children and many poor rural communities of Malawi and Tanzania.

We are committed to building the lives of every child in Africa. In 2008, Orphan Support Africa has achieved great success in bringing a positive change and opportunities for most vulnerable children in Malawi and Tanzania. **This is your success as well!** We have truly benefitted from your support of our mission in mobilizing community action to meet the challenges and reduce the impact of HIV/AIDS in Africa. Your support of our initiatives encourage and enabled children to stay in schools through provision of school fees, uniforms and books, receive proper medical care & nutrition, provide for community based child care/education initiatives. Your continued interest in our work has encouraged and allowed community-based organizations to achieve tremendous success in food security, HIV/AIDS prevention & care, sustainable development and income generating initiatives. It is very humbling and inspiring to note that each year extremely poor rural communities are overcoming great challenges to build assets, resources, sustainability and self reliance at the very grassroots level. We are proud of their achievements and commitment towards addressing the impact of poverty and HIV/AIDS AND providing protection, care and support for the children who need it the most.

***But above all, your continued support and generosity gives children the priceless gift of hope, to believe in dreams and look forward to a future.***

The need to continue our initiatives to support communities who already have few resources, assets or wealth is more urgent than ever. Africa faces a chronic food crisis, HIV/AIDS prevalence is high and humanitarian aid programs are being drastically reduced due to the current economic crisis. Further, the extreme lack of access to opportunities for the rural poor, in particular the lack of education, resources and information technology; severely exacerbates the present situation. Although the challenges remain great, we continue to be inspired by those who have so little, yet never give up hope for a better tomorrow.

I hope that you will all join me in helping build the lives, dreams and hopes of the children of Africa. Together we can make their dreams of today become a reality of tomorrow. Thank you again for being part of our successes and challenges and we look forward to your continued support, generosity and goodwill.

***Happy and Safe Holidays***

Praveen Prasad- US Director

Orphan Support Africa

