

Sunrise of Life Annual Report



September 2013- August 2014

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A Lifetime Experience

Penned by Yvonne Kreft

2013 Volunteer

When I boarded the plane leaving my comfortable western life I had no idea what I would encounter in the next four weeks. I had no idea that I was about to embark on one of the most memorable trips I believe I will ever have. I simply was excited to experience something out of my norm. I landed in Nairobi, Kenya and was bussed to the Sunrise of Life Residential center. I remember when I arrived I was swarmed by little Tanzanian children. I was overwhelmed; they all looked similar with their dark eyes, and dark hair but within days I was able to get to know the children and their personalities.

During my four week stay, I lived at the Sunrise of Life Residential Center allowing me to interact with the children throughout the daily routines. I began each day with them, helping with their chores, and then greeting them again after school. My favourite time was spent with the children after school. I was able to help with their chores, and spent time playing with them until it was time to retire. Soccer was the most common game among the boys, and skipping among the girls. I was surprised to see how well all of the children got along; they treated each other like a family, and soon I felt I too was a part of their family.

The children at Sunrise of Life are expected to help out at the center. Each child is expected to do their assigned chores. They help with the gardening, upkeep of the center, and caring for the animals. This helps the children to learn responsibility and skills necessary for a successful independent life. Most of the children also have to learn about proper hygiene because they were never taught it. Education is a major mission in the Sunrise



of Life Organization; with education they will be able to become invested contributors to their society, a life they would not and could not have had otherwise.

My most memorable experience while in Tanzania was doing street outreach in Arusha. With the help of another volunteer from Canada and the center manager we were able to feed over thirty street children. Each child received half a loaf of bread and a juice box, which immediately became their prized possession and was hidden out of sight from other street. Happiness and thankfulness emanated from their eyes, and they thanked us over and over. It was the first time I saw some of the youth smoking and sniffing glue. At the orphanage this kind of behaviour is prohibited, and extra care is taken to protect the children from becoming addicted. Seeing the grasp the addiction of glue had on the youth, some under ten, broke my heart. Not only were they killing their hunger and pain, they were killing their minds, limiting their chances of a bright future. It was hard to leave the stadium, knowing that at the current time we could not offer them permanent help. However, it was reassuring to go back to the center and see all the boys and girls who have already been helped by Sunrise of Life.

I was surprised to find out how connected I became to the children and organization in the short time I was there. I would love to return and offer my time and assistance to this organization that is so passionate about helping those less fortunate than ourselves.

Organization News

Sunrise of Life is an organization that is guided towards saving the lives of street children in Arusha, Tanzania. Sunrise of Life is guided by the following mission statement: Sunrise of Life (Sol) provides assistance to the street children of Arusha, Tanzania. Sunrise of Life dedicates itself to assisting these children with the basic



needs for survival: food, shelter, health-care, and education. Sunrise of Life believes in creating opportunity for those children who have no opportunities available to them. Sunrise of Life continues to operate under the value of transparency and openness within the organization and with its donors. This report will discuss the organization and its aspects in Canada, America and Tanzania. This report will also outline what has been accomplished this past year in Tanzania, and some of the challenges that were faced and overcome.



Over the past year much has happened with Sunrise of Life. Big steps were made in Tanzania in the efforts to assist street children there. From opening a new centre, to hiring more staff and having more children join the Sunrise of Life family this is just the beginning. All of this could not happen without the dedication of so many people around the world, but especially those in Canada and the USA.

Over the past year there were a number of fundraisers held in Canada. In Edmonton Alberta a black-tie dinner was held and about 50 people came together in the name of street children in

Tanzania. A great evening was had by all. In Lethbridge a Formal Dinner was held at the Readymade Community Centre. Close to 200 people joined this event and enjoyed home cooked food, a great silent auction and made dreams come true for so many children in Tanzania. The outcome from both of these events were outstanding.

Sunrise of Life Canada also received a grant in 2013 from the Government of Alberta Community Initiatives Program. With these funds an Outreach centre was opened in the City of Arusha. This centre will be discussed in more detail at a later section of this report. We are so thankful for the amazing support from the Government of Alberta, and know that these funds will forever create positive change in the lives of so many children.

Existing partnerships were nourished, and new partnerships were made with organizations in Canada and around the world. Sunrise of Life's longest partner is the University of Western Ontario Med-Outreach team. This team consists of

Canada's best upcoming Doctors, Dentists and Nurses. Every year this team comes to Tanzania to provide free health-care services to all the children of Sunrise of Life. The support received from UWO Med-Outreach is outstanding.

FURSA- An International Development Mission continues to support the children who do not have a sponsor by paying their school fees. The partnership with FURSA grew from the beginnings of Sunrise of Life and the support received from this organization every year is outstanding.

Street to Feat is another amazing organization that has roots in Canada, Ontario. The visions and goals of Street to Feat are parallel with those of Sunrise of Life. This past year Sunrise of Life worked very closely with Street to Feat to administer the Streetkid Picnic project in the City of Arusha. Streetkid Picnics is a very unique street outreach that originally come to fruition from Street to Feat. This great initiative was brought to the next level when Sunrise of Life received a grant from the John Humphrey Centre for Peace and Human Rights.



At Sunrise of Life we are very excited to be building a brand new partnership with Help for Africa. Help for Africa is based in Germany and members from that organization will be travelling to Tanzania this fall to see where their resources will be directed. Help for Africa will be focusing more on the Outreach portion of the Sunrise of Life program.

Volunteer Update

Over the past 18 months SOL has been fortunate to have several volunteers participating on many different levels. As the organization grows we will continue to experiment with how to best utilize volunteers both in North America and in Tanzania. Over the summer of 2013 Sunrise of Life had the first organized volunteer trip take place with a cohort of both organization staff and volunteers from Canada and the USA. In total a group of 9 people were charged with everything aiding Sunrise of Life's residential center with tasks ranging from carpentry to tutoring. Over 8 weeks the volunteer team built chicken coops to house 100 chicks, repaired deteriorating exteriors on dormitories, renovated our center kitchen to provide more hygienic food preparation areas, conducted street outreach, and tutored children. The volunteers were also able to expose themselves directly to the issues facing children living on the street. With these experiences Sunrise of Life's hope is that they will go back to their homes and share their first hand experiences which in turn will help raise awareness about the problems Sunrise of Life is trying to help.

Sponsorship Program

The Sunrise of Life sponsorship program has been a primary focus of the organization for the past year. The goal of this program is to help raise funds to directly support the operational needs of caring for each child at the residential center. These needs include but are not limited to clothing, food, housing, and education. The sponsorship program functions by finding individual sponsors to donate on a monthly or annual basis towards the needs of one child. Sunrise of Life has determined that a donation of \$45 monthly or \$540 annually is needed to meet the financial obligations for each child living at the residential center and attending school. At present we have 11 individual sponsors supporting 15 children. The goal of the program is to have each and every child covered by a sponsor. For each new child that is sponsored Sunrise of Life is able to contribute more of its general funds to hire staff, develop outreach projects, and work on infrastructure improvements.

Residential Centre

The Residential Centre continues to operate smoothly with improvements happening in leaps and bounds. The basis for the Residential Centre is a place for children to live who cannot be reunited with their families. Some of the reasons for failed re-union includes Addiction with core family members, orphaned children, and basic needs, such as food not being met. These children are provided with a safe place to live at the Residential centre. In addition all the children at the Residential Centre are required to attend school. About half of the children are in

Primary School while the other half is in Secondary School. Both of the schools are walking distance to the centre. The children are also provided extra educational support at the centre to supplement government school weaknesses.

There are many projects at the Residential Centre which help move the centre towards self sustainability. At every opportunity Sunrise of Life moves towards improving these projects and making them more efficient. Projects at the Residential Centre include a Milk Cow Project which includes 4 cows, a Garden Project, a Chicken Project including 100 chickens and a new Goat Project including 6 goats. The Goat Project is the newest addition to the farm projects at the centre. This project was sponsored in part by a Rotary Club in America and in part by generous individual donors. The goats are milked twice a day providing the children with a healthy diet. In addition the extra milk is sold to the local market and the revenue returns to the operations of the centre. The Milk Cow project is run in much the same way. Each year the cows are bred and the new male calves are sold to the local market when they are ready.

A very new recent development at the Residential Centre is a Girls Dormitory. Girls on the streets is becoming an apparent issue to the organization and as such we are targeting this population as well. At the Residential Centre there are now 6 girls. Currently the Girls are staying in the staff house but as the numbers increase it is becoming ever apparent to have a separate dormitory for the girls. As such an existing room attached to the Centre Classroom is currently undergoing renovations. 6 bunk beds will be placed in this room facilitating beds for 12 girls. The Childcare Worker or the Matron will live in with the girls in a separate room within the dormitory and provide them with ongoing support.

Outreach Centre

The most exciting development this year was the opening of the Sunrise of Life Outreach Centre in the city of Arusha. This feat would not have been possible with the amazing dedication of our dedicated board members in Tanzania, Kanie and John, and the Sunrise of Life Patron, Faye Cran. The work these people have put into this project is outstanding. The Outreach centre serves children and youth in the city of Arusha who are living on the streets. Staff at the outreach centre include a nightwatch, cook, social worker, and child-care worker. This centre was opened on a very small scale this year- but it was a big step in the right direction.

The Outreach Centre was made possible because of the support of the Government of Alberta Community Initiatives Program as well as support from the Rotary Club of Edmonton Urban Spirits and Street to Feat. The coming together of all these supporters created amazing positive change in the lives of many children who are currently living on the streets of Arusha.

Much of the focus of the Outreach Centre is street outreach. To carry this out Sunrise of Life is privileged to have the support of the surrounding community and many volunteers join the Outreach Team every week. This team will go to the streets during the day and during the night. The purpose of doing outreach at different times like this is so that all children who are living on the streets can be targeted. In Arusha there are some children who come to the streets only during the day. These children are usually newer to the streets and are well on their way to

living permanently on the streets. It is important to have contact with these children so that they can be educated on where they could end up, and be given resources to return to their home communities if they wish. Night outreach targets the long-term street children, who live and breathe the streets. Many of these children come from communities far from the city. Often these children do not want help because they are addicted to glue, alcohol and marijuana.

The story of a little boy of 6 years old stays strong in the minds of all the outreach workers. For this little boy it seems that the intervention stage came too late. This boy has such a strong addiction to glue, and other substances that he has no desire to change his life. Sunrise of Life will maintain a connection with this boy in hopes that the day will come when he he will be able to see a positive in his bleak future. When and if that moment comes Sunrise of Life will be prepared to help him. Hope is what keeps the team motivated.

The Outreach Centre also has a number of beds for children who show a strong desire to live a better life away from the streets. Currently there are about 4 children living at the Outreach Centre. We are currently creating a separate fund for these children so that when they are ready to be transferred to the Residential Centre the basic supplies for the children can be purchased, as well as the first term of school fees.

A vital part of the outreach program in Arusha is reuniting children with their home communities. Many children come to the streets against the will of their home communities. Often the outreach workers are finding that when they bring these children home they are welcomed back. Other times it is found that the conditions the child was living under drove him or her to the streets. The primary effort of the Outreach Centre is always to reunite the children with their families. If this is not possible Sunrise of Life explores other options such as moving the child to the Residential Centre where they receive an education, or correcting the catalyst in the community that originally drove the child to the streets.

Streetkid Picnics-

By Mark Tannous, Director of Street to Feat

In the past year we embarked on one of several Street Kid Picnics that have launched in liaison with Street to Feat. These picnics are held in the heart of Arusha, Tanzania in amidst the busy city life. Street to Feat's initiative is to provide warm, hearty meals, packed with nutrition, care and love for individuals on the street who are hungry and are in need of rest and friendship. Our picnics prove to be successful events, sometimes attracting special guests ranging from tourists to police officers in the community. Without the help and leadership of Samson Elisante, support from Street to Feat and Sunrise of Life, these picnics would not be possible.

Former street child Samson Elisante inspired this initiative. Our innovative purpose for these street kid picnics is to change society's perception of individuals who are called "street kids" and connect them to a larger community with no judgement or ridicule. Our initiative continues to cultivate when picnics are hosted in participants' community. This allows an opportunity for

a variety of participants, foreigners, and even prestigious guests to be invited to share a meal or a conversation with street kids from the surrounding area. This idea was initially supported by Street to Feat, and later sponsored by Sunrise of Life.

On average each picnic attracts approximately twenty to thirty kids, youth and young-adults from the surrounding streets. These participants age average between nine to eighteen years. We encourage participants who live their lives on the streets to share an array of real-life experiences and stories to share with the Street to Feat community. These real-life narratives range from domestic violence, abandonment, or loss of their guardian(s) resulting in extreme poverty. Street to Feat provides a safe inclusive space for these destitute individuals who have been living on the streets from as little as days to years to finally rest and form new friendships within their community for a period of time. When individuals' confide in the Street to Feat community they share their struggles, challenges and addictions with others, amongst the conversations they also are willing to share their aspirations, talents and dreams in life.

Our team provides a healthy environment for each attendee. Participants are offered a two-course meal that consists of a full plate of rice, beans, vegetables, and fruits with drinks. Participants are also offered hygienic supplies to wash themselves, clothes and skincare products to maintain their wellbeing. After lunch participants are offered an opportunity to reflect, relax and sleep. We have no explicit agenda when participants' confide and ask members from the picnic for advice and or mentorship. Our team offers positive assistance, guidance and suggestions given by others who may have lived on the streets of Arusha. Majority of our guests are intrigued about Samson Elisante's story and other humble guests they can relate to. Ultimately the Street Kid Picnics not only addresses their nutrition and health but the well-being and future aspirations of each individual.

Feedback from the participants has been continuously positive. A variety of partakers continues to express how grateful they are and appreciate our picnics. Some have commented how they have become inspired sufficiently and wish they could offer their own support for these picnics to run. Individuals have commented on how their behaviour improved overtime and learned to practise respect for others in their community. This ever-changing community of picnickers reflect on stories that have been shared within the group; one volunteer commented, *"I feel like I am making a real difference in someone's life since arriving in Arusha"*.

The distinct purpose for our organization is quoted by Samson Elisante, *"The thing that makes me happy is when I talk to them, they share their life experiences freely without fear and are able to express themselves openly."*

With the dedication of Samson Elisante, Street to Feat and Sunrise of Life initiatives, we can continue to provide supports for additional picnics throughout the year; creating a safe inclusive environment with the sole purpose to serve more nutritious plates to a greater number of street kids while offering a listening ear.

Transition Program

The Transition Program has undergone some changes over the past year based on the needs of the youth. It was found that having a specific home for the youth restrict their options of making a sustainable future for themselves. To alleviate this restriction the Transition Home was re-named Transition Program. There is no longer a specific home for the youth moving from the Residential Centre but instead there is a Transition Program. This program is more flexible in that it allows the youth choose where they are best suited to go to school. From there Sunrise of Life will support that youth in finding a place to live close to the school, or board at the school if that is an option. More responsibility is also placed on the youth with the change to the Transition Program. The biggest one being that the youth must be responsible for food costs. Putting this requirement on the youth encourages responsibility and self sustainability, and pushes them to do better. All the youth from the Transition Program must also sign a contract and abide by the condition drawn up between them and Sunrise of Life.

Challenges

So far this report has outlined all the great things that happened with Sunrise of Life over the past year. All these great things did not happen without some challenges. Staffing is becoming one of the biggest challenges facing Sunrise of Life in Tanzania. Sunrise of Life operates a budget based on donations, and donation predictions. Donation predictions are based on the previous year of donations collected. The staff in Tanzania are highly dedicated and do the daily tasks with passion and joy, but observation has found their workloads to be very high. Sunrise of Life has done several things to attempt to alleviate this, including hiring a staff to float between the centre to relieve staff so that they can receive their deserved time off. With budgets stretched to the limit there is always more work that can be done, and more staff that needs to be hired to do this. Sunrise of Life is hoping that within the next year enough funds will be raised so that an adequate number of staff can be hired to take care of the children, and the centres.

The development of the Outreach Centre program also came with some challenges. As you can well imagine implementing a brand new program takes amazing effort from all sides. We can thank the outstanding dedication from our team in Tanzania for making this enormous task a reality. Although the Outreach Centre opened some months later than originally planned, the program is now running more effectively every day. As we move forward the Centre Manager and Tanzania Teams advise where further policy and procedure is needed to improve the program. Working as a team the program continues to improve and succeed beyond all expectations.

The services that Sunrise of Life offers to street children in Tanzania are in high need, and Sunrise of Life cannot keep up with the needs. Funding restrictions limits the amount of outreach that can be done, the number of children that can be taken in, and the number of children that can be transferred to the residential centre. We hope that within the coming years donations will increase and that Sunrise of Life will be able to offer these necessary resources to all children living on the streets of Arusha.

Financial Statements

SUNRISE OF LIFE (SOL) LTD.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Unaudited - See Notice to Reader

September 30, 2013

van liere shaw Chartered Accountants LLP



SUNRISE OF LIFE (SOL) LTD.

September 30, 2013

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Chartered Accountants LLP

Notice to Reader

On the basis of information provided by management, we have compiled the statement of financial position of Sunrise of Life (SOL) Ltd. as at September 30, 2013 and the statement of operations for the nine months then ended.

We have not performed an audit or a review engagement in respect of these financial statements and, accordingly, we express no assurance thereon.

Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purpose.

May 22, 2014
Lethbridge, AB

Van Liere Shaw
Chartered Accountants LLP

528 – 6th Street South, Lethbridge, AB T1J2E2 Telephone: (403) 388-2580 Fax: (403) 328-7048

SUNRISE OF LIFE (SOL) LTD.

Statement of Financial Position
Unaudited - See Notice to Reader

As at September 30, 2013

	September 30 <u>2013</u>	December 31 <u>2012</u>
Assets		
Current		
Cash	\$ <u>25,752</u>	\$ <u>18,041</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current		
Deferred grant revenue	\$ <u>5,350</u>	\$ <u>3,491</u>
Net Assets		
Unrestricted net assets, beginning of year	14,550	3,845
Excess of revenue over expenses	<u>5,852</u>	<u>10,705</u>
Unrestricted net assets, end of year	<u>20,402</u>	<u>14,550</u>
	\$ <u>25,752</u>	\$ <u>18,041</u>

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SUNRISE OF LIFE (SOL) LTD.

Statement of Operations
Unaudited - See Notice to Reader

For the nine months ended September 30, 2013

	January 1 - September 30 2013	January 1 - December 31 2012
Revenues		
Donations	\$ 11,262	\$ 25,238
Corporate donations	5,910	2,545
Fundraising	413	2,034
Grants	3,491	4,809
Annual dinner proceeds	17,798	13,020
Interest income	<u>19</u>	<u>9</u>
	<u>38,893</u>	<u>47,655</u>
Expenses		
Bank charges and transfer fees	1,492	1,897
Children needs	577	1,362
Contract services	174	322
Facility rent and utilities	2,397	2,466
Food	7,850	9,386
Fundraising costs	-	600
Home visits	-	177
Medical needs	179	478
Office	457	472
Professional fees	1,260	-
Repairs and maintenance	3,242	1,192
School fees and supplies	8,070	10,850
Security	969	1,043
Street outreach	-	62
Supplies	1,041	55
Transportation	2,042	2,654
Wages and benefits	<u>3,291</u>	<u>3,934</u>
	<u>33,041</u>	<u>36,950</u>
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ 5,852	\$ 10,705


Thomas Kuperus
Director/president
09/11/2014


Nick Rosendal
Treasurer
09/11/2014

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Thank-you for your Support!

Government of Alberta
John Humphrey Centre for Peace and Human Rights
RBC Royal Bank
Scenic Landscaping
Hilltop Greenhouses
Broxburn Vegetables
Rotary Club of Edmonton Urban Spirits
Rotary Club of Canmore
Rotary Club of Lethbridge East
Rotary Club of Tanzania
Rotary Club of Usa River
University of Western Ontario Medoutreach
Street to Feat
FURSA- An International Development Mission
Paradigm Heating

And countless generous individual private donors and corporations