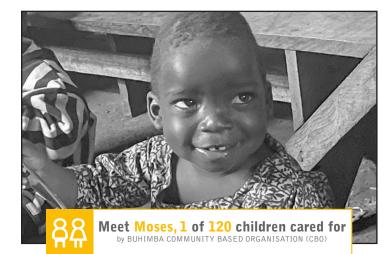
UPDATE FROM BUHIMBA COMMUNITY | DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO



October 2023

Twelve dedicated local volunteer Care Workers coordinated by Honorina, support the most vulnerable children in the community of Buhimba. The love and care they provide ensure that each child is physically, emotionally and spiritually cared for.



Community Update

Since the beginning of 2023, the level of violence in and around Goma has increased, resulting in many families needing to flee for their lives. By the grace of God, the conflict has not directly affected Buhimba, allowing the children to remain living in their homes and going to school. Though the situation is unstable and could quickly change, the Care Workers remain hopeful and steadfast in their commitment to the children. For many years, the Buhimba CBO has been renting the land that they use for the Care Point. Recently, the landlord passed away and other family members are wanting to sell the land. A plan has been made and funding secured to purchase the land. This will give the Care Workers and children a greater sense of security as they would no longer have to worry about needing to move. Pray for the paperwork to all go smoothly.



When Care Workers in Buhimba first saw Moses*, he was sitting with his sister against a wall outside the Care Point, watching children play. Moses had no social skills; he was wearing a torn girl's dress and was severely malnourished. Moses was invited to join the Under 5's program where over time he started to flourish. He began gaining weight and growing stronger and healthier. The local Hands at Work team in Goma have been spending lots of time with Moses' mother, helping her to process the pain and trauma that has prevented her from effectively caring for her children. Through their support and faithful encouragement, she is starting to care for her children in a more holistic way. Praise Jesus for the way that He is restoring and redeeming Moses and his family! Pray that God will continue to do a deep work in their family.



Activities and Projects

Each of the Care Workers was again given a goat for their incomegenerating activity. With the profits they earned from this activity last year, several of the Care Workers were able to pay for their own children's school fees. They trust they can do the same this year. This helps to ease the burden that they carry in providing for their own families. When Erick Rukang, a Hands at Work African leader, was in Goma in May, he supported the Goma team in facilitating a youth camp for several of the youth from Buhimba and Luhonga (pictured left). The purpose of the camp was to share the truth about Jesus and who He can be in their lives. Coming away from the camp, many of the youths committed their lives to Jesus and were baptised. Praise Jesus for the lives that he is changing amid such turmoil!

www.handsatwork.org