



Kindle

Orphan Outreach

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2004-2005 RURAL FEEDING PROGRAM

Introductory Statement

Kindle Orphan Outreach is a local, Christian, home based orphan program in a rural area of Salima district in Malawi. Kindle has a wholistic approach to orphan intervention that includes programs in health, education, spiritual impact and community development. Kindle has had a strong feeding program since the famine of 2002 due to the continuing food crises, mainly between August and April of every year. In 2004 we were unable to source adequate funding for or feeding program. Through our association with Children of the Nations we received 355 cartons of rice/soya pre-packaged meals, without charge, and were able to feed 238 orphans through the period of November 2004 - April 2005.

Past program history

Previously, Kindle was purchasing maize and beans which were then distributed from a central weighing station, often several miles from peoples homes. This had several undesired effects. During the food distribution day, many children would have to leave school, and many care givers would spend an entire day walking to receive a small amount of food. The nutritional value would sustain children's relatively poor health, but not necessarily improve it. Also, there was often sale of these dry goods, which naturally took the food from the intended beneficiaries.

Impact of Feeding Children International's Fortified Rice-Soy Casserole.

The most obvious difference that this food made was to the children's basic health. Feedback which was being received from our local committees showed that the general atmosphere of play and work was greatly improved. School attendance by registered orphans was increased, and our medical programs showed a reduction of illnesses among children compared with previous years. There have been no dramatic differences in our programs that can fully account for these improvements, accept for the introduction of this food. Another improvement was that we were able to easily transport these pre-packaged meals to distribution points closer to peoples homes and school.

Concluding statements

Thank you to Feeding Children International, and all of the associated organizations and volunteers, for their good heart and dedication in getting food to orphaned children like ours here in Malawi. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Andrew Barr, (Director, Kindle Orphan Outreach).