



# R.O.C.K. Ministries International

Reaching Our Children in Kenya

March 2010

Dear Partner in Ministry,

A few weeks ago, I shared a prayer point with you about the Government demands in regards to street children in Kisumu. Basically all Children's homes were to begin integrating their existing population back into their rural homes in order to make room for children who are still on the street (five a week).

A subsequent meeting was called at the Remand Center (Juvenile Hall) from which we were to pick five children to interview and ready them to return to their rural home. There were thirty plus people from different organizations at that meeting who were being called to account for what we were doing to comply with the mandate.

I had asked you for prayer for wisdom to know how to respond and deal with the expectations of the Government. Here's what happened. At the meeting we were all given a chance to state our position. I stated that R.O.C.K. Ministries existed to rescue, rehabilitate and educate street children and that our children would not be leaving until they finished their education. I also told them we were over crowded because we have taken in additional children at the governments request and we did not have room for any more but I felt we could help with the interview process for new children coming off of the street if we had a place to meet with the children. Others expressed the same idea. They then agreed that we could set up a time and come to the Remand Center to do the interviewing and wanted to know when I would start. I simply asked them not to pin me down to a date and time until I had time to assess the situation and I told them I would come in the following week some time.



## ***Street Children: The Challenge***

Peter, our Manager and Steven, one of the house parents and I went last Tuesday morning to meet with the manager of the Remand Center. We had never met before so he asked for some background information. After bringing him up to date, I suggested that we could help if he would let me use the same approach at the Remand Center as I did with the kids we brought from the street. I then asked for permission to start a Kid's Church in the Remand Center for the purpose of reaching them for Christ. I explained that if they are approached by loving and caring people, without the government pushing, they would be much more



**Elaine Yi, Children's Pastor~The Kid's Church ---- E-mail: [rock-ministries@maf.or.ke](mailto:rock-ministries@maf.or.ke)  
PO Box 1153/Lake Elsinore, CA 92531 USA ---- PO Box 2281/Kisumu/Kenya 40100  
[www.RockMinistriesInternational.org](http://www.RockMinistriesInternational.org)**





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compliant. In addition to that when you have a bunch of kids who have made a commitment to Christ, it would make everyone's job easier because they are less resistant and can be disciplined and brought to a place where they are willing to return home if the home is a safe place. He agreed "this just might work" and gave his consent wanting to know when we could start. He stated that one organization had taken five children back to their home and three of them were already back on the street.

The Remand Center has a capacity for 85 children and at the time we met, they had 156 and still bringing more in. Friends, the door is wide open and I am excited about what God will do. So, I am asking for prayer again for strength for our staff (I'm asking them to volunteer their time), for protection as we undoubtedly will be confronted with principalities and powers and wickedness in high places, continued favor with the various Departments having anything to do with children's services, and for revival among these vulnerable children who for the most part are mainly neglected and rejected by society. Our first service will be at 9:00 a.m. Tuesday April 6.

Only God knows what is ahead of us but we must walk in obedience. Pray that we will remain faithful as we accept this challenge. Your continued prayer support is crucial for this endeavor.

Much love and many blessings for standing with us.

*Elaine*

