



# Capstone Ministries

## Child and Family Restoration Outreach

*"The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone" Psalm 118:22*

A prayer letter from Dan and Patty Schmelzer, Kisumu, Kenya

April, 2011 Volume 6 Issue 4

### "A Father and a School for Maxwell"

*"He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children and the hearts of the children to their fathers." Malachi 4:6*

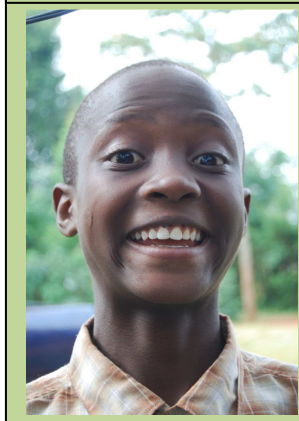
Relational conflict is the most common cause of street children. Some might think it is poverty or HIV/AIDS. But our experience has taught us that once a family is united, they can overcome every other obstacle. Maxwell is just one of many examples of this axiom. Maxwell and his father did not get along. However, through counseling and the perseverance of our Capstone staff, the two now have a strong bond.

As a result, Maxwell performed well in his KCPE exams last year and was called to Kaimosi Secondary School. This is a wonderful achievement for Maxwell. Having missed several years of education from his time on the street, Maxwell focused on his education in the peaceful environment of home.



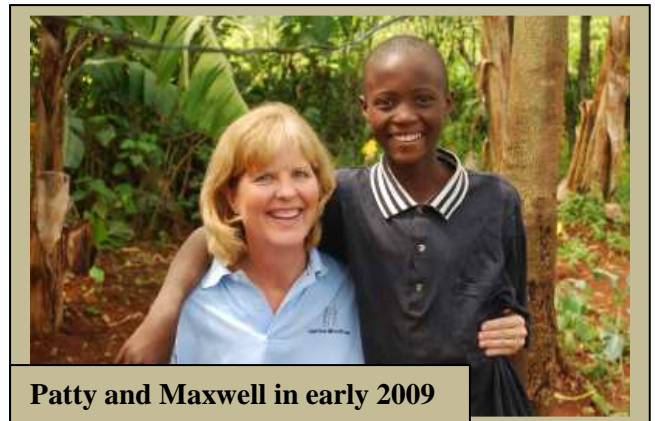
**Maxwell & Father at Capstone Camp 2009**

**Maxwell hamming it up for the camera**



Capstone works very hard to encourage families to take responsibility for all aspects of their children's lives, including education. That is one reason we do not have a formal program for educational support. But sometimes it isn't realistic for a poor family to raise the funds to support a child in a good school where he/she can maximize his/her potential. This was Maxwell's situation.

We connected with an organization that specializes in educational sponsorship for poor and aspiring students. A donor was willing to support Maxwell and now he is enrolled in Kaimosi Secondary. We will follow up with him and his father during April as Maxwell will be home for his first term break.



**Patty and Maxwell in early 2009**

Maxwell is Capstone's first reconciled street boy who is enrolled in secondary school (high school). He is a joy to be around. With his quick smile and quicker wit, this boy will go far. FYI: Maxwell's mom and dad both attend the weekly Bible Study described in the March newsletter.

Note: Capstone will have three boys in need of educational support in 2012. If you feel the Lord is leading you to support a Capstone boy through HHH, just send us an email for more info:

[Capstoneministries@gmail.com](mailto:Capstoneministries@gmail.com)

**Next month:** Capstone Scout Troop. Thanks to a life-long scout from Evergreen, Colorado, Capstone has begun a scout troop at our transition Center. More in the May Capstone Newsletter.

Having the opportunity to send his son to a good boarding school, Maxwell's father was very proud and worked hard to raise the money so his son could continue with his education. But for a poor subsistence farmer, coming up with the 30,000 Kenya shillings in a few months time is nigh unto impossible. But he tried, and raised 5,000 and had bought many of the items his son would need in school.

## Praises, Prayers and Recent News

1. Praise God for the numerous congregations who understand our vision and approach to helping street children reconcile with their family.
2. In February we hired two new staff, a welfare officer and an operations supervisor. Thanks for your prayers. Benedict and Berline are just what we had hoped for.
3. Pray for the 7 new boys at the Transition Center: Dennis, Titus, William, Derek, Moses, Daniel and Collins.
4. March brought the rains to Kenya. We are now getting a regular shower most nights.
6. Thanks for our approved registration of Capstone with the government
7. Pray for successful registration as 501(c)(3) in the states.
8. Patty will travel in May to visit with her Mom and to attend the Rotary International Convention in New Orleans.
9. Pray for Susan, whose life long companion Dennis entered glory in March. Dennis and Susan are long time supporters of Capstone.
10. Capstone will open an office in Kisumu in April. Praise God.



### Check out the Capstone Page on Facebook.

Pictures, News and more...  
Just search for Capstone Ministries.  
Become a fan!



Capstone participates in Savemart/Lucky Supermarket's SHARES program in N. California. You only scan your card before purchasing your groceries and SaveMart donates 3% of your purchase. To date Savemart has given Capstone \$1,310,7612...because of your shopping!! Ask for your card.

## More Information!

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### Contact Information and to donate:

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## Patty's Post It

Can you imagine how devastating it would be to your family if both you and your spouse were in an auto accident and each of you broke a leg? It's not difficult to imagine how that would impact your life and even your children's lives, at least for a while. Now, imagine that neither of you had financial means of being treated by a doctor. This is the scenario that took place in January at Phillip's home. Phillip was rescued from the street in 2009. The broken legs healed but the father's leg needed to be set. The leg healed badly leaving Baba Phillip unable to walk. He ties a burlap sack to his behind and scoots in order to move around. These are the types of stories we sometimes hear during our weekly staff meetings. It's heartbreaking. The good news is Phillip is home and is doing well in school. When we learned about the father's poorly healed leg we inquired with APDK Association for Physically Disabled in Kenya and found that they will hold a clinic near their home this month. His parents will be assessed and given the necessary appliances they need to help them be more mobile.

Nobody could imagine how a boy like Elie could end up on the street. Elie also came to us in 2009. As Dan stated in the cover story often kids run to the street because of relational issues at home. With the support and counseling guidance of a Capstone Welfare Officer Elie was willing and able to return home directly from the street. Elie has developed a strong bond with Isaiah one of our Welfare Officers and a trained counselor. Elie's mom joined our Hand-Up Empowerment Program giving her a boost with her small business. The Empowerment is not a loan but does require the recipient to sign a document agreeing to take responsibility for the child especially in the area of school. Imagine our joy when Elie's mom called to share with pride that she was able to buy her son school shoes. As a result of family support Elie has been in the top 5 of his class last year and again this year. Elie is one of our boys who will need a sponsor next year for high school. As Dan stated in the front page story, if your heart is so inclined to sponsor a Capstone Kid in high school, please contact us. We will connect you with the organization that is facilitating school sponsorships. The commitment will be approximately \$400. per year for four years. Capstone will also keep you updated on that child from the family relationship side.

Donations are tax deductible.

Make checks payable to: Capstone Ministries

As our partners we encourage you to spread the word about this ministry. Feel free to share this newsletter or write to Dan and Patty to add a friend to this mailing.