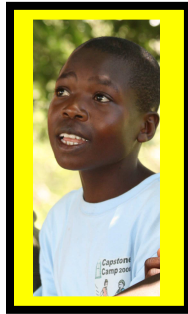


# CAPSTONE MINISTRIES

*Rescuing Children; Strengthening Families*



**Norman Alex Opany** lived on the streets of Kisumu for two years. During this time he was suffering from the effects of a damaged heart valve from a case of rheumatic fever as a child. Capstone, with the help of Rotarians from Colorado, Massachusetts and Nairobi provided him with life saving surgery in Sept. 2008. Norman is now reunited with his father and step-mom in Bondo, enrolled in school and growing like a weed. His father is digging a well to irrigate his crops. Capstone visits the family often and is working with father Alex to empower the family and become self sustaining.



**Mark Kidula** was rescued from the streets in 2007 and has been reunited with his aunt and uncle. Mark attended Capstone Camp in 2008 and '09. During this camp he was inspired to build a small chicken coop at his home even though he had no chickens. (Now that is faith). Capstone helped Mark and his family with his first two chickens that are now thriving. Mark's cousin was discovered to be suffering from untreated epilepsy and autism. Capstone organized to have the young boy enrolled in the Lutheran Special School in Kisumu and is now responding to treatment and doing well.



**Maxwell Obwamba's** rural home is near Luanda and was rescued through Capstone's second outreach program. Maxwell attended Capstone Camp 2009 and was reconciled with his father. Maxwell completed Grade 7 while at the Capstone Transition Center and was #3 in his class. He returned to his rural home in December and will begin Grade 8 from there in January.

These three boys are representative of the 101 boys Capstone has reunited with their families as of December 2009. Some cases are more challenging than others. We depend on God's grace along with your prayers and support. Make this a Capstone Christmas. Give generously.

## **Who we are!**

Capstone Ministries was founded in 2005 by Dan and Patty Schmelzer. Dan and Patty are members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Patterson California. They live in Kenya full time as administrators of the mission.

## **What is the vision?**

The vision of Capstone Ministries is the reconciliation of street children and their immediate family.

## **What is the process?**

The staff of Capstone meet children on the street on an ongoing basis. Twice a week the children are invited to the Youth Centers in Kisumu and Luanda. Here the first step of relationship begins. The boys bathe, have a meal, hear a Bible lesson, play games and receive counseling. Those who wish to go home are given the opportunity. Others, whose home situation may be more complicated, come to the Transition Center in Mbale. Here in a rural home environment, 8-10 children are enrolled in school, live a typical rural life and when the right time presents itself, are reconciled with their family. Restored children receive regular follow up visits to continue the process of reconciliation, provide encouragement and look for empowerment ideas from the family.

## **What is your affiliation and tax status?**

Capstone is under Key Ministries in California, a 501(c)3 organization initiated by Pastor Paul Johnson in our home congregation. Our Saviour's Lutheran is an AALC congregation in fellowship with LC-MS. Capstone serves under Bishop Richard Amayo of the Lake Diocese of the ELCK.

## **Will Capstone always be donor dependant?**

It is the goal of Capstone to become 100% independent of donor support for the local ministry budget. At the end of 2009, the ministry achieved its goal of 10% of its funding coming from local income generating. The ministry is working on a number of income generating ideas.

**What is your website?** [WWW.CapstoneMinistries.org](http://WWW.CapstoneMinistries.org)

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