



May 2018

Tragedies and acts of violence that defy human comprehension have become common place in local, national and world news today. We seek answers to understand why people do what they do. Most often the answer centers on a multitude of factors. When I first began traveling to Bunia, DRC in 2008, machine-gun bunkers, convoys of troops and helicopter fighter squadrons going out on night maneuvers were common-place even though a peace treaty had been signed. Over time, the signs of war disappeared as peace settled upon the region. The scars of war take a much longer time to heal and fade away. In December of 2017 tensions began to surface once again



in northeastern DRC. In February 2018 armed conflict struck in the middle of the night. Small villages were brutally awakened to acts of violence that are hard to comprehend. One human being striking another with whatever weapon he had in his hand, seeking vengeance for...For what is a very difficult question to answer. Lives were lost, homes burned, and villages plundered. Thousands fled the region for fear of continued violence. People sought refuge wherever they could; some fled to Uganda and others sought safety in Bunia. Displacement camps were set up to assist those fleeing the violence. Camps were filling quickly and lines grew long as people waited for items such as a cup of porridge. It was disheartening to think that peace could be so fragile in a country that had come out of a 10 year war in which millions of people died.

An urgent prayer request was sent out to many of you. Your prayers were heard. In Exodus 22: 22, the Lord says, "Do not take advantage of a widow or an orphan. If you do and they cry out to me, I will certainly hear their cry." The Lord heard their cry and he heard your prayers.



The fighting stopped several weeks ago. We are thankful for the peace agreement that has been reached. Our partners in Bunia and Bogoro are hopeful that peace will last. They are hopeful that both sides will honor the peace agreement. A Visible Blessing! Even though the armed conflict was within 50 miles, the schools in Bunia and Bogoro remained in session. The children continued in their studies. They are now preparing for the end of year school exams. Thanks to your partnership, we will assist with the payment of fees for the



exams. The children, upon passing the exam, will be allowed to advance as they strive for the goal of graduating from high-school. Thank you for your prayers. Thank you Lord for answered prayer. There is no guarantee that peace will be everlasting in this region. The Board of Directors will not throw caution into the wind. We will continue to reach out to orphans and widows in feasible ways in DR Congo. The work in Uganda continues to move forward. The Lord tells us the poor will always be with us and they most certainly are! The girl with her little brother pictured in this newsletter are now orphans. Their mom was killed during an attack on their village. The children received severe injuries but survived the attack. With your continued partnership we will continue to reach out to those in need. Children such as these are in great need. A meal helps for the day. A blanket will keep them warm at night. A drink will quench their thirst for a time. However, through the holistic approach of HCCA, children once again learn to trust others. They come to believe in themselves. They come to know they have value. They learn to forgive. They learn the value of becoming responsible young adults. They learn of a love that far surpasses human understanding. They come to trust in a Father that will never leave them nor forsake them. The widows continue to do well in the micro grant program. They are steadily increasing their profits and are thankful they can put food on the table each day. Please continue to pray for DR Congo. The people are still waiting for the national election for the office of president to take place. They have been waiting since December 2016. Thank you for your partnership.

- Glenn Mork, Executive Director/HCCA

## WAYS TO HELP

- **Assist with school fees, \$5 for primary, \$10 for secondary each month**
- **Micro grants, assist with an increase for the widows.**
- **General Fund/Where most needed**

Thank you, Glenn Mork, Executive Director, HCCA

Your gifts are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.  
Checks can be made payable to; HCCA, 500 Rudy Lane, Buffalo, MN 55313