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Note from the president of CAIRD:

It is an privilege for me to introduce Renelle Gray—CAIRD board member and new liaison for Africa (pictured to the left with two FH Africa children). Renelle was born and grew up in South Africa. Along with her husband and children, she moved to Canada a number of years ago. Renelle now oversees Father's House Africa. Her faith, compassion and commitment to help orphaned and abandoned children is evidenced in everything she does. CAIRD is very blessed to have Renelle as part of our leadership team. - Peter Mrazik

**Dear Friend and Partner of CAIRD,
Fall 2012**

On my recent trip to South Africa with CAIRD board member Melody Babin, we came face to face with an overwhelming number of children in need of hope, healing and love. Sadly, the country's high crime rate often takes the media center stage, leaving the plight of orphaned and abandoned children in the shadows. South African Social workers are overburdened with their caseloads, resulting in service delivery to vulnerable children being extremely slow and frustrating. Absent fathers and households run by women only are somewhat of a cultural norm. Millions of children grow up without a father figure. This fact increases the risk of abuse for women and children as well as leaving young boys without good male role models.

A growing trend in South Africa is the establishment of cluster homes, where orphaned and abandoned children are housed in a "group home" system and raised by a house mother. We applaud these organizations for attempting to meet a dire need. At the same time we believe that the Lord has given CAIRD a very clear vision to place children in a family with a mother and a father. I am convinced that in order to break the cycle of absent fathers in South Africa, the Father's House model is needed to bring healing to children's hearts and thereby change the course of their lives. We are seeking long term solutions and believe that by following the vision that God has given us, individual lives can be mended, hearts healed and a generation changed.

The visit with our current Father's House families was a wonderful testimony to the hope that Father's House has given to each of our children. We are excited that in the midst of such negative cultural norms, God is raising up Christian couples who have a desire to love and raise orphaned and abandoned children within Father's House Africa. Thank you for your continued prayers and support for this life changing ministry.





News and Needs

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Fingerprints of God

By Melody Babin
CAIRD Board Member

I had the immense privilege of meeting our Father's House families in South Africa for the first time this summer.

From the moment we arrived, you could see the genuine love and care the children received from their Father's House parents and in turn the love they each had for one another and for their parents. I cannot count how many times I observed older children helping and nurturing younger children. It

was a pleasant surprise to see teenaged children helping their parents and serving guests without being asked. To see the exuberance these children have for life, you would never know the sadness they once carried by being orphaned or abandoned.

What makes Father's House homes so dramatically different from other orphanages I wondered? As I prayed, it became clear that it is the fingerprints of God on the lives of these children that makes them so remarkable. Even though the children were orphaned or abandoned - rejected by society, they have now been rescued and claimed by God's love. In the context of a loving, Christian family, the Father's House children are growing up to resemble their Heavenly Father in their character and actions. Thank you so much for partnering with the work God is doing through CAIRD to transform these precious lives.

- Melody

How to Help Father's House South Africa

1. Pray
2. Sponsor a Father's House Africa parent
- sponsors needed: \$50 or \$100/ month
3. Give—if you would like your support to help the children of Father's House Africa please attach a note indicating "Africa" with your donation to CAIRD

www.caird.info

CAIRD'S NEW Website:

- regular updates
- pictures (and videos to come)
- current needs and opportunities to help

As per Alberta legislation, the following information is provided:

CAIRD's Canada Revenue Agency number is 88662 6274 RR001. The goal of this newsletter is to raise \$12,000.

Administration costs will not exceed 10% of the goal. The total cost of this newsletter is \$200.

For more information, please contact the CAIRD office @ 780-439-5510.

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