

# BEAHERO

## Kenya Elections Crisis – Update

Our staff in Kenya have assured us that the children cared for and supported by Be A Hero are safe and have been spared from harm in the recent violence that erupted after the federal elections in that country.

The chaos began with the elections in Kenya that were held December 27, 2007. Kenya had had a sense of stability for some time, and was touted as an example for other African nations.

Every five years Kenyan residents go to the polls. Due to the close results of this election the opposition's supporters incited riots. This led to the death and displacement of large numbers of people, especially that of the Kikuyu tribe, which is the tribe President Kibaki belongs to.

Dr. Weston Gitonga (our children's home Director in Nyahururu, Kenya) reports that calm has slowly been restored as more police forces and the army have been deployed to most of the regions. The police are enforcing peace as the army works to evacuate those in danger to safer places.

Humanitarian aid groups have also come in to assist and many of the people displaced are in refugee camps, run by the churches and other organizations. The government has promised to resettle these people and ensure they do not lose their properties.

During this crisis, Dr. Gitonga and his wife Violet have opened their Bible School to the people displaced by the violence. The Bible School is right in Nyahururu town. Thousands have been streaming into Nyahururu, as it is largely populated by those of Kikuyu origin.

Dr. Gitonga has been playing a key role in the rescue operations in Nyahururu. They have offered their premises as a place of refuge. The Red Cross has been dropping those people evacuated at the Bible School. By January 10, 2008 they had over 100 adults and a greater number of children staying with them. The local business community and churches have been greatly supportive towards this effort, giving out food and clothing but still more is needed. Caring for the refugees and resettling them in safe locations is an expensive venture.

During the rescue action Dr. Weston is using the Children's Home's bus to help transport people to places in the rural areas where they have relatives who can accommodate them to ease the congestion at the Bible School.

There are a large number of children who have lost contact with their parents or have been orphaned in this crisis. These children need to go back to school, and funds are required to provide these children with school uniforms, books, and basic personal items. Dr. Gitonga's orphanage has taken in many more children. Some will only stay until they can be reunited with their families, others may remain for the rest of their childhood.

The staff and community are continuing to pray for the peace talks. There is a great need for healing in Kenya.

We would like to ask you to pray for peace in Kenya and for the continued safety of our children and staff.

If anyone wishes to help with the relief efforts they can send a cheque to

**Canadian Office:**

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**US Office:**

**Be A HERO**

2504 W. Main St. Ste K,  
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Or call us at (250) 717-1003 to make a credit card donation.

100% of all funds donated for this project will be applied directly to the project. Be A HERO does not keep anything for administration. Be A HERO is able to do this because the Hero Partnership and Pillar Program participants designate their donations specifically for administration. If you would like to invest in this project, we accept donations by cheque or by credit card.

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