

# Ministry of Mercy Orphanage

## Update April 2020

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PO Box 3761, Pueblo CO 81005  
972-283-7910  
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*Daniel & Esther Edeh*

### PRAYER REQUESTS

**Let's thank God that we still have a lifeline called prayer** in pandemic-struck times like this, to present our worries, our fears, our pains, our pressures, even our griefs and our requests before God Almighty. Thank Him for hope of answered prayers always available at His throne every time we show up there in prayer.

**A close relative** was brutally murdered in an ongoing feud between farmers and cattlemen. Please pray for comfort for the bereaved and for the peace of Christ to overrule in the community.

**MoM proprietor still held up in the US:** Daniel and Anibe Edeh traveled to the US in February to welcome their first grandchild. Now they need to return to Nigeria but the covid19 crisis and travel ban has kept them in the US. Thankfully, modern technology enables staff members in Nigeria to consult regularly, and the orphanages are functioning well.



Daniel and Anibe enjoyed visiting **children adopted** from MoM by American families 10 years ago: Lydia Vanderhaar, Gideon Aguilera and Stephen Abebefe.



**Thank God for every covid19 survivor** since the onset of its spread. Thank God for countries which are beginning to experience a flattening of their infection rates.

**Thank God for regions** of the world where the incidence of the infection is very low. It clearly doesn't depend on technological or medical advancements. If it did, a country like ours (Nigeria) would have become a ghost country with bodies littered everywhere. We are profoundly grateful to Him.

**Quarantine facilities** have been created in both locations of our orphanages in Lokoja and Otutulu. It would be a serious mistake to allow even a single case of covid19 to gain entrance into our well populated orphanages. The damage would definitely be colossal. God forbid! Any member of our orphanages returning home from journeys are isolated for 2 weeks while being observed by our health staff for suspicious symptoms. When found to be free of symptoms, they are reunited with the orphanage family.

On March 29, the MoM health center at Otutulu received **reinforcement** from Lokoja (the state capital) to help out with general medical care for the numerous children and staff, as well as to help with education of the community on covid19 prevention measures.



Now, let's **earnestly present before God** with effectual fervent prayers countries still in the heat of this covid19 pandemic like the United States of America, the UK and others. In James 5:16 -18, the Bible says "... **The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous one avails much. Elijah was a man of like passion as we are. And he prayed earnestly that it might not rain, and it did not rain on the earth for the time of three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth caused its fruit to sprout.**" Let's pray that this plague to be stayed all over the world, against a backdrop of confessing our world's faults in the presence of the Lord (James 5:16).

**Please pray** for supply of all the spiritual resources (which include faith, hope, fearlessness, courage) for God's children in crisis areas. Pray for physical resources too, including the needs at MoM.



**In the past, cashew nuts sold** at very good prices and provided a significant portion of our income. From the sales, staff salaries of up to 2 months could be paid. But this year the harvest is much smaller and the market price has drastically dropped (by about 60 -70%). That is a lot!

**Proceeds from sales of eggs** have been of great help to our finances. But recently, there has been a sharp decline in egg production. Not long ago these 2,000 layers produced about 1,500 eggs every day, but now only about 700. We are not sure

what the problem is. Could the feed quality be compromised? We are now testing a different brand. To complicate things, the eggs are not selling as well these days.

**Cost of living** has ironically increased tremendously.

**Water Works at Otutulu:** In February 2020, two water boreholes were dug. The first one was quite successful, yielding much water continuously for 8 hours (this is the litmus test of a successful drilling). With some more plumbing work and electrical wiring it will be ready for use. The second borehole yielded water for just 24 minutes and stopped. Apparently, the workers did not drill to the approved 170m surveyed depth. Please pray that God would cause them to make things right.

**All these events** have become a concern to us. Please be praying for us. May the Divine Provider provide for these orphans. May He stir up willing vessels and helpers.

**Pray for country leaders** to be able to keep a clear head as they take crucial decisions against this virus for their countries this season.



**School Handwashing Program:** In the wake of covid19 pandemic's entrance into Nigeria, prior to the school shutdown directive, MoM Christian Academy started a systematized hand washing practice program to prevent the spread of infections. However, for now schools, including **MoM Christian Academy**, have been asked to shut down. But having been established, this practice is expected to continue when schools reopen.



*The main Academy building, empty until the covid-19 crisis is over.*

**Pray for all the children that were returned** to their families of birth. We not only hand them over to their families, but also to God Himself who by His providence brought these children our way.

**Zemehien, Esther, and Omojo** are the three 2-yr-olds who have returned to their birth families. The mother of each died after giving birth, so the fathers brought the newborns to MoM. Each was entrusted to an "auntie" for two years. Now that they can eat regular food, their families are able to care for them.

**Also, pray for new intakes** into the orphanage. May the Lord equip us enough so that the lives of these orphans will be more meaningful than could have been outside the orphanage.

**Mohammed** was born on March 8, 2020 outside a hospital set-up, reportedly supervised by the watchman in charge of an Islamic prayer house somewhere in Lokoja. The mother bled to death, and Mohammed was brought to MoM orphanage Lokoja the next day to be kept for two years before returning to his father.



**Pray for every new convert** that received the Lord at MoM Medical Center in the month of March. May they be fruits that will remain in the Lord. Remember previous converts too. May they continue to abide in the Lord. We have the following stories of salvation for the month of March.



Mr. Idris Aguma was originally a pagan but later became a Muslim. He got married and now has grown children. Two of his sons found the Lord Jesus and are now pastors. They have been urging him to accept Jesus to no avail. He sustained multiple serious injuries in a terrible traffic accident and was brought to MoMMC for treatment. The same gospel was presented to him there and was finally accepted. God indeed knows how to turn situations around for good. He can use anything, even a hospital bed. This must have been a product of the prayers of his children over the years. Thank God for making Mr. Aguma whole.

A 15-yr-old boy had stopped taking his epilepsy medication, had a seizure which rendered him very weak, and was brought to the Medical Centre. After getting him out of his acute condition, the gospel of salvation was presented to him. He welcomed it and handed his life over to the Lord right there in the hospital. We pray that the Lord who granted him spiritual healing will also heal his body of epilepsy in Jesus name.

The gospel continues to be preached to many souls in different forms: one-on-one and in groups during our morning devotional sessions in the hospital. Your prayers continue to be needful. *Ephesians 6:18-19*

**Give thanks to God for every healing, salvation and act of love in Ministry of Mercy.**

**Pray for further spread** of the gospel Jesus Christ among our patients at the MoM Medical Center. May we be effective hands of the Lord.

**Pray for more hands** to join the work in the Ministry of Mercy as the work continues to enlarge and prosper.

**Please pray for divine provision** for Ministry of Mercy in the face of dwindling resources: that God will raise helpers and empower partners.

*Thank you for your invaluable continuous partnership in prayers, thanksgiving and giving.*

***STAY SAFE!***

***With Much Love from the MoM Team!***

**Ministry of Mercy... *Love finds a way. 1 Cor. 13:7***

This letter is pulled from the monthly newsletter which is written by Ministry of Mercy staff. Subscribe to that newsletter by emailing Dr. Odiba at [mommclkjnig@gmail.com](mailto:mommclkjnig@gmail.com).

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Email or call Esther Nordman with questions.

[esther.nordman@gmail.com](mailto:esther.nordman@gmail.com)

972-283-7910