



## Tiny Tim and Friends Newsletter Fall 2007

The Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia (CIDRZ), the largest HIV treatment organization in Zambia which is working closely with the Ministry of Health, has decided to sponsor some medications and testing for Tiny Tim and Friends recipients—freeing up some of our limited resources for other uses, such as nutritional and educational support. CIDRZ (pronounced as “ciders”) originated from the University of Alabama, Birmingham. We have enlisted the help of Dr. Sam, one of the Clinical Officers from Corpmed Medical Centre, to assist in registering each of our children with CIDRZ. He and our social worker Fernando are systematically opening CIDRZ files on the kids and we have already begun to receive some of the testing and medicine. This is a huge step forward in getting our previously neglected orphans and vulnerable children into the CIDRZ/government-sponsored programs that will take them into adulthood. We are enormously grateful to CIDRZ for allowing us to accomplish this mission. For more information on CIDRZ, visit [www.CIDRZ.org](http://www.CIDRZ.org).

### Organic Farming

The Tiny Tim and Friends Organic Farm has begun to attract some local attention. The farm was established on the concept that giving financial support without work is less effective than asking people to help with the project in order to receive aid. The 25-acre farm in Lusaka is used to grow tomatoes, cabbages and maize, plus raise pigs and quails. The farm workers are mostly caregivers of Tiny Tim and Friends children or people from the Grips Village, which is a short walk from the farm. Tiny Tim and Friends has supported some farm activities, believing that locally generated revenue, in addition to the support from our donors outside of Zambia, is the most sustainable way to move forward. The farm will ideally provide work and revenue for Tiny Tim and Friends recipients and their caregivers, as well as provide education on small-business formation—helping to form the basis of sustainable income. If you would like to dedicate your donation partially to farm activities, simply indicate which portion of your donation you would like to go toward the farm.



### Volunteers

Over the last several months, there has been an unusual amount of volunteer activity in Zambia. An extraordinary group of volunteers from the Demelza House Children's Hospice in the UK ([www.demelza.org.uk](http://www.demelza.org.uk)) traveled to the day care and built a new playground and painted murals for the children. This project took more than two years of planning and expert execution by Corine Koppenol-Lyndon and Sarah Marsh from Demelza House, Kara Counseling and Training Trust ([www.kara.org.zm](http://www.kara.org.zm)) and Tiny Tim and Friends. The volunteers paid for their entire trip in addition to raising significant funds for the purchase and shipment of the playground and many other materials. This fascinating group of people was driven by a variety of motivations: some had been helped by Demelza House Children's Hospice after losing their own



children, some had participated in previous Demelza travel projects, and some were inspired to help fight AIDS in Africa after seeing the Tiny Tim and Friends Web site. In three days of dawn-to-dusk labor, they transformed the Day Care into a wonderland of paintings and murals, built a fortress-strong playground (which will outlive us all), and still had time to see a bit of Africa. Tiny Tim and Friends sponsored a welcome party for the newly-arrived volunteers on the balcony at the farm. Everyone had a wonderful time, including Tiny Tim and the rest of the boys, who all received football jerseys from our new favourite football club, West Bromwich ALBION.



**Volunteer Spotlight: Dr. Kurtis Sauder**

This month, Dr. Kurtis Sauder, his wife Cindy, and Leland and Tanya Brennemen have come to help out at Grips Community School. Dr. Kurtis is a paediatrician in Virginia and his church has raised money to help the Grips Community School get on its feet. Tiny Tim and Friends organized for Dr. Kurtis to do head-to-toe examinations on each of the children attending Grips school (plus some who are not) and to test those who gave consent to be screened for HIV. Cindy and Tanya have been assisting Sharon (and her devoted team) with teaching at the school. Tiny Tim and Friends continues to assist Grips Community School with food and school supplies, and Dr. Kurtis' Mennonite Church in Virginia has provided desks, blackboards and concrete for the floors, which previously consisted of packed dirt. The school is really looking great! Happily, of the 43 children that Dr. Kurtis screened, only one was found to be HIV positive. The girl is already receiving medication from a local clinic.



**Dr. Kurtis and Dr. Sam at Nehemiah House Day Care**

Tomorrow Dr. Kurtis, Dr. Sam and Fernando will begin examining and screening the 30 AIDS orphans residing at Lusaka's Nehemiah House Day Care in a compound called Kalingalinga. These kids are under the watchful eye of Deacon James and his family, who have converted their home into a registered orphanage and day care for vulnerable children. The orphans have lost either one or both parents and are, for the most part, not attending school because of this. We know from other day care experiences that these children are much less likely to be brought in for medical care because of their social situations and are often in very serious condition. These screenings are essential for identifying the children who will need treatment earlier rather than later. With help from CI DRZ and our wonderful donors in the USA, Canada, Germany and the UK, Tiny Tim and Friends is now in a position to reach out to many more children who are in need.



**School supplies arrive at Grips Community School**

**Thank you for your support.**  
Dr. Tim Meade



**Nehemiah House Day Care**

**Our New and Improved Web Site is Coming Soon!**  
Visit [www.tinytimandfriends.org](http://www.tinytimandfriends.org)

# Faces and Stories - Fall 2007

## Mwenzi

**May 2005** - Mwenzi is a small five-year-old girl who has just started talking about three months ago. She was sent to live with her aunt after her father died because her mother could not afford to keep her. This new arrangement was a disaster. When her mother discovered this, she brought Mwenzi back to live with her, although they had no means of producing an income. They are the poorest of the poor amongst the day care children. It is only mother and child in their little room, but they are unable to pay the \$4 per month rent and often are unable to eat.



Mwenzi - May 2005



Mwenzi - December 2006

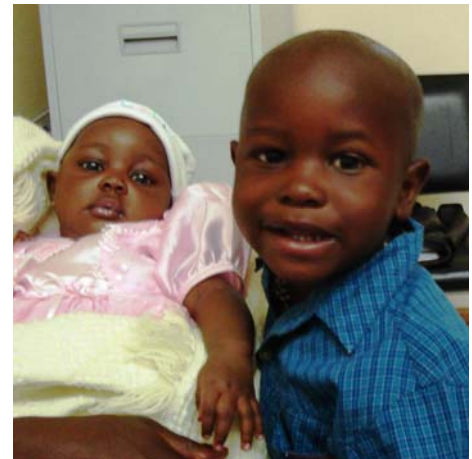
**December 2006** - With special help from a Tiny Tim and Friends donor, Mwenzi and her mother are doing very well. Mwenzi has turned into one of the prettiest and kindest little girls in the day care. Her CD4 count has more than doubled which is confirmation that the HIV treatment she receives is working well.

## Stella and Daliso

**April 2007** - Reverend Zimba from the Transit Home has brought us another sad case: Stella K, who found out that she was HIV positive in 2004, but was too afraid to talk to her husband or do anything about it. She was pregnant at the time and the baby girl died at age two years from pneumonia and meningitis. She later gave birth to Daliso, a lovely two-year-old boy. Unfortunately, he is also HIV positive and we will hopefully be starting them both on ARV's next week when we determine their CD4 counts. This is particularly important for Stella because she is now eight months pregnant! With the proper ARV's, we can almost guarantee that her next child will be born HIV negative. She cried with joy when we explained this to her.



Stella and Daliso -  
April 2007



Baby Esther and Daliso -  
June 2007

**June 2007** - Tiny Tim and Friends is proud to announce the arrival of Stella's healthy nine-pound baby girl named Esther! We started both mom and son on ARV's last month and both are doing so well. Daliso has completely changed—running around, happy and strong. Stella gave birth without complication in a local rural health centre and, because of the medications that we started her on, the chance of this baby being infected is less than 2%. It is even safe for her to breast feed while on these medicines (comparatively safe) as formula feeding is not a viable option because they do not have running water where they live.