



# -SEEDS OF HOPE-

helping orphans around the world

SPRING 2026

*“But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, long suffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.” Psalm 86:15 (KJV)*

## BECAUSE EVERY CHILD DESERVES CARE

By John Chalkias, Executive Director

Dear Friends,

The past few months have been especially heavy with medical needs among several children and young adults in our Seeds of Hope family. Many have faced serious health challenges—each requiring urgent care, advocacy, and prayer.

Sydney, a 26-year-old young man who grew up at Grace Academy and is currently attending Bible School, was recently sent to Lusaka for a critical cornea transplant.

Oscar, age 14, suffered a complete arm fracture while playing soccer. He required surgery involving open reduction and internal fixation.



William, just 13 years old, was recently diagnosed with a rare immunodeficiency disorder called Hyper IgE Syndrome, along with hypochromic microcytic anemia. His condition requires ongoing treatment, including regular intravenous immunoglobulin therapy and frequent hospital visits. Our medical team traveling

in April will further evaluate his diagnosis and treatment plan.

Many of you may remember Anderson, one of our Seeds of Hope graduates. As a child, he endured isolation, bullying, and severe pain due to gigantism—his feet were so large he could not wear shoes. Everything changed once he came to Grace Academy. Through perseverance and support, Anderson received corrective foot surgery in the United States in 2012. His experience inspired him to pursue medicine, and he went on to graduate from Apex Medical University in Lusaka—becoming our very first doctor.



Despite this incredible journey, Anderson

continues to face serious health struggles. He was recently hospitalized in Lusaka for several weeks with an unexplained fever. Soon after being discharged, he became bedridden with debilitating knee pain and has been unable to walk for over a month. Doctors have since diagnosed a fungal infection in his knee joint. Seeds of Hope has flown him to South Africa, where he is now awaiting surgery to treat the infection and receive a total knee replacement.

Many people ask, “What happens to your kids once they graduate from Grace Academy?”

The answer is simple: just like with your own biological children, our responsibility and love does not end when they grow up. We continue to walk with them through life’s challenges.

We are deeply grateful for our volunteer medical committee, who tirelessly advocate for our children and generously donate their expertise and time. We are also thankful for the medical team traveling to Zambia in April to assess the children at Grace Academy and participate in outreach ministry.

Most of our children are orphans—they have no parents to speak on their behalf or provide for their medical care. But they are not forgotten. Jesus cares deeply for each one, and we are called to care for them as our own sons and daughters.

Today, we are asking for two things:

1. Please pray.  
Pray for healing, strength, wisdom for the doctors, and peace for each child navigating these medical challenges. Pray for our April medical team and for our medical committee as they advocate for the health needs of our children.
2. Please consider supporting our Medical Fund.

Your donations go directly toward hospital visits, assessments, surgeries, treatments, and life-saving care. Your generosity ensures that these children receive the high-quality medical attention they deserve.

Thank you for standing with us, for loving these children, and for being part of their hope and healing. We truly could not do this work without you.

### GENERAL INQUIRIES

- #101B-43869 Progress Way, Chilliwack, BC V2R 0E6
- 604-392-0884
- 604-392-2006
- 1-877-236-HOPE (4673)
- admin@seedsofhopecm.com
- www.seedsofhopecm.com

### SEEDS OF HOPE CHILDREN'S MINISTRY USA

- PO Box 30592
- Bellingham, WA 98228-2592
- www.seedsofhopeusa.com

### CONTACTS

- John Chalkias | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
- Susan Chalkias | DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS
- Mary-Ellen Schulte | OFFICE MANAGER
- Sue Houle | OFFICE ASSISTANT
- Penny Puffer | SPONSORSHIP

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Elvira Warner | CHAIR
- Deni Starbuck | VICE-CHAIR
- Kevin McAllan | DIRECTOR
- Eldon Guenther | DIRECTOR
- Brydan Patzer | DIRECTOR
- Kerri Dibski | DIRECTOR
- Tami Strople | SECRETARY, EX-OFFICIO

### OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry exists to equip children and those in need to love and serve Jesus Christ while becoming healthy, educated, responsible members of society.



Follow us and invite your friends!

# EXCITING PROGRESS IN TANZANIA!

The past few months have been an exciting season as we officially took possession of our new property in Tanzania. A heartfelt thank-you goes to the **VanMaren family**, who generously invested their time and skills to oversee the renovation of two houses and build a new cafeteria. Their work has transformed Upendo into a safe and welcoming space for the children who will soon call it home.

With renovations complete, we've hired our new managers and are now furnishing the home from top to bottom—everything from bedding and furniture to appliances and everyday essentials.



Mattea

We are also thrilled that **Mattea Chalkias** will serve as our Canadian Liaison and Project Supervisor for the next 9-12 months. Her role is essential in helping establish Seeds of

Hope values and programs during this foundational year.

If you would like to support Mattea during her service, please mark your donation: **Tanzania – Mattea Chalkias**.



Josiah and Maria, our new managers

# CLIMBING FOR A CAUSE: KILIMANJARO FOR UPENDO HOME

A team of courageous athletes is taking on an incredible challenge to help launch Upendo Home: **climbing Mount Kilimanjaro**. Their goal is to raise the funds needed to fully equip the home for girls 10 and under—covering everything from furniture and bedding to appliances and daily necessities.

**Every step they climb brings us closer to welcoming the precious girls who will find safety, stability, and love at Upendo Home.**

We invite you to sponsor a climber or invest by a one-time donation and be part of this journey of hope.

To donate, please designate your gift to "**Kilimanjaro Fundraiser**."

Give online at:

[seedsofhopecm.com/take-action/general-donation/](http://seedsofhopecm.com/take-action/general-donation/)



# CHILD SPONSORSHIP

Will you help give one of these children a brighter future? Sponsorship is just \$40/month CAD or \$35/month USD, and it provides food, schooling, and loving care. Through sponsorship, you can make a lifelong difference.



Koreen (Age 15)  
ZAM.F.0389



Emson (Age 2)  
ZAM.M.0379



Remember (Age 5)  
ZAM.M.0373



Aum (Age 9)  
THA.M.0086



Praewpraw (Age 3)  
THA.F.0087

# NATASHA



**Natasha Mushili** was born on August 10, 2000. In 2007, at just seven years of age, she was admitted into Grace Academy during one of the most difficult seasons of her young life. Her mother had passed away, Natasha herself was unwell, and her father was unemployed and unable to care for her.

What could have been a story defined by loss became a story defined by grace.

Natasha often describes her life at Grace as “amazing.” She shares that Grace Academy did more than provide food and shelter — it gave her a family full of siblings, restored health, access to education, and most importantly, the opportunity to know who God is. In a place of stability and love, Natasha flourished.

In November 2018, Natasha graduated from Grade 12 — a milestone that once may have seemed out of reach. But she did not stop there. With determination and the faithful support of her sponsors, she continued her education and in 2025 graduated with a **Bachelor of Social Work**.

Today, we are thrilled to share that Natasha has come full circle.

Beginning in January 2026, Natasha joined Grace Academy as our **Social Worker**, working closely with our Director, Prudence Mwale, and the local ministry department of social services to care for

the children in our program. Having once walked in their shoes, Natasha brings deep compassion, understanding, and lived experience to her role.



In addition to her professional responsibilities, Natasha also serves as a part-time youth mentor for our teenage girls. She leads youth Bible studies and youth group, pouring into the next generation and helping young women grow in confidence, faith, and purpose.

Natasha is deeply grateful for her position at Grace. She would like to sincerely thank Seeds of Hope and her sponsors for supporting her journey. “I would not be here without your support,” she says.

She also expresses heartfelt appreciation to her family and friends for their constant encouragement along the way.

Natasha’s story is a powerful reminder of what is possible when compassion meets opportunity. Because of faithful supporters like you, a young girl in need has become a leader, a mentor, and a professional serving the very community that once cared for her.

This is the impact of your generosity.  
This is the power of grace.

## GIVE THE GIFT OF INSPIRATION



**SEEDS OF HOPE**

# 5K WALK FOR ASIA

Helping the vulnerable in Thailand and Myanmar

**May 30, 2026**  
10am - 1pm  
Mill Lake Shelter #4 (Bevan Avenue Entrance)  
33015 Bevan Avenue  
Abbotsford, BC V2S 4S5  
**BBQ lunch included**

**Prize for top fundraiser!**

**REGISTRATION**  
**FREE** thru March 31 entering registration  
**\$10** per person starting April 1  
**FREE** for kids 12 and under

Phone: 604-392-0884  
Email: [office@seedsofhopecm.com](mailto:office@seedsofhopecm.com)  
Visit: #101B 43869 Progress Way Chilliwack, BC



**SEEDS OF HOPE**  
helping orphans around the world

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Prov/State \_\_\_\_\_ PC/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

I consent to receive emails from Seeds of Hope

### Monthly Sponsorship:

Sponsor # \_\_\_\_\_ children @ \$35USD (\$40CAD) /month  
in  Thailand  Zambia  Myanmar  Tanzania = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ /month

Sponsor a Seeds of Hope project: Name of Project: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ /month

Support Education sponsorship: Qty: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ /month

### Pre-Authorized Donation (Canada)

[seedsofhopecm.com/take-action/child-sponsorship](http://seedsofhopecm.com/take-action/child-sponsorship)

Download **Pre-Authorized Debit & Pre-Authorized Credit Form (PDF)** and email completed form to [sponsor@seedsofhopecm.com](mailto:sponsor@seedsofhopecm.com) or fax to **604-392-2006**.

[canadahelps.org/en/charities/seedsof-hope-childrens-ministry](http://canadahelps.org/en/charities/seedsof-hope-childrens-ministry)

[seedsofhopecm.com/take-action/gift-catalogue](http://seedsofhopecm.com/take-action/gift-catalogue)  
Click "Subscribe" button under sponsorship.

### Online Banking (USA)

Create a new online banking payee with the following information:

ACCOUNT NAME | Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry USA

ADDRESS | PO Box 30592, Bellingham, WA 98228

ACCOUNT NUMBER | Sponsorship

ACCOUNT PHONE NUMBER | 360-319-0817

PAYMENT AMOUNT | Enter your monthly payment amount and add the date you want to have it debited each month.

### Pre-Authorized Donation (USA)

[seedsofhopecm.com/take-action/gift-catalogue](http://seedsofhopecm.com/take-action/gift-catalogue)

Select **Child Sponsorship**

Payment options:

- PayPal
  - Online Banking
  - Etransfer (credit card or debit)
- Fill in your own credit card info securely online.





2026

Mother's Day

Tea

Please join us.....

Date: Wednesday, May 6, 2026  
Where: Cedar Valley Church  
32860 Cherry Ave, Mission  
Time: 11:30am - 1:30pm

RSVP: 604-392-0884  
tami@seedsofhopecm.com

Spring dresses and tea party hats are welcome, but not required.



## SAVE THE DATE

### LADIES TEA

Wednesday, May 6, 2026 | Please RSVP  
Cedar Valley Church, Mission, BC

### WALK FOR ASIA

Saturday, May 30, 2026  
Mill Lake Shelter #4, Bevan Road, Abbotsford, BC

### FALL BANQUET/FUNDRAISER

Saturday, October 24, 2026 | Abbotsford, BC

**YOUR PRAYERS AND SUPPORT  
ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED**



## MAILING ADDRESS

**CANADA**  
Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry  
#101B-43869 Progress Way,  
Chilliwack, BC V2R 0E6

**USA**  
Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry  
PO Box 30592  
Bellingham, WA 98228-2592

## OUR CURRENT NEEDS



### MYANMAR CHILDREN'S HOME

Help us support the Precious Gems family.



### EDUCATION SPONSORSHIP

\$10.00/month. Join us in unlocking the futures of the children in our care.



### MEDICAL FUND

Helps us meet the urgent medical needs of our children.



### MOSQUITO NETS

Aid in the prevention of Malaria by supplying mosquito nets.



### BUSINESS START-UP

Help by supporting young entrepreneurs in a new business venture.



### UPENDO (HOUSE OF LOVE), TANZANIA

Please lift Upendo Home for Girls in prayer, and consider giving toward a future overflowing with love, hope, and opportunity.



### FEEDING PROGRAM

Support our feeding program outside the walls of Grace Academy.



### WIDOW'S JAR

Give to women and children in need.



### SPONSORSHIP

We have several children and women needing sponsorship in Zambia, Myanmar and Thailand.



### BUILDING

Give to our ongoing construction costs.

Please visit our website to view our urgent needs:  
[www.seedsofhopecm.com](http://www.seedsofhopecm.com)

## GET INVOLVED

Please call our office for more information on how you can get involved. We have several ways for you to help: volunteer at our office, join a team project, or coordinate a speaking engagement with our directors, John or Susan Chalkias.

604-392-0884 | 1-877-236-HOPE (4673)

Seeds of Hope Children's Ministry is a certified member of the Canadian Council of Christian Charities and abides by all its strict ethical and financial standards, including annual audits by an independent accounting firm. Spending of funds is confined to programs and projects approved by the organization. Each restricted contribution is designated with the understanding that when the need for such a program or project has been met or cannot be completed for any reason determined by the organization, the remaining restricted contributions will be used where needed most.



**Canadian Centre for  
Christian Charities**  
ACCREDITED MEMBER