

# THE LINK Newsletter

A quarterly newsletter published  
by International Needs Canada

WINTER 2022

## Exciting Development in the DR Congo

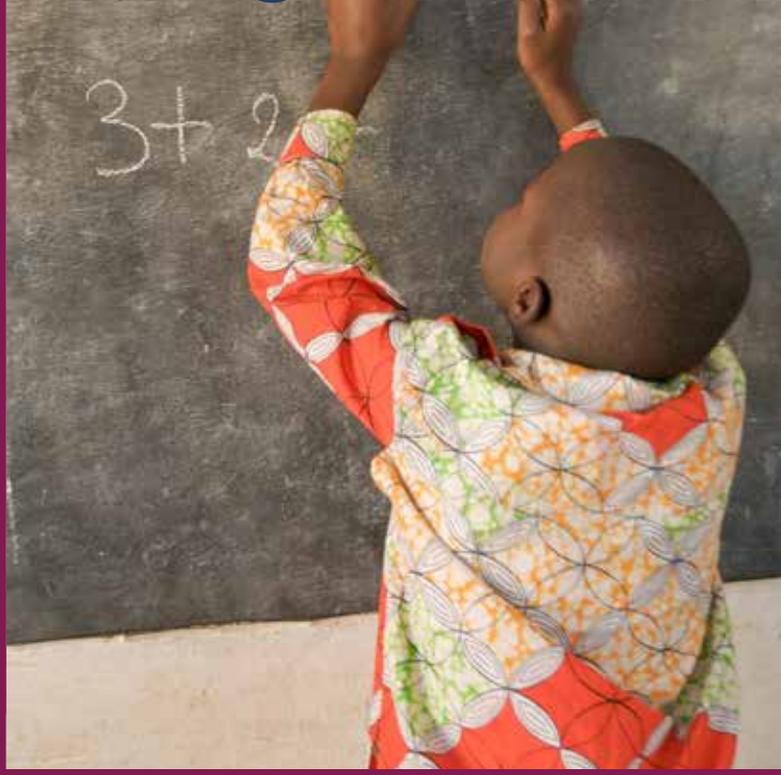
### Praise Points

We're thankful to God that most of our partner schools are now back in session, and that the pandemic seems to be winding down.

### Prayer Points

Please pray for an improvement in the mental and physical health of the vulnerable children who suffered during the pandemic.

**\$50,000**  
**matching grant for**  
**DR Congo!**



Women wait to see the doctor  
 at the Clinique Papillon



**double your**  
**IMPACT!**

Thanks to the generosity of a Canadian donor, we're pleased to invite you to take part in an exciting matching grant campaign. Until May 31st, **every dollar you give will be matched up to \$50,000**. That means up to \$100,000 will be used to support four amazing programs and projects. You can give to all four, or pick your favourite:

### At Clinique Papillon

1. To support women's health in a country that's known for their extremely harsh treatment and neglect of women.
2. To offer free surgeries that save the lives of people who live in extreme poverty and can't afford public hospital fees.

### At Ephphata School for the Deaf

3. To provide Christian education to children and youth who are hearing impaired.
4. To install solar panels that provide power to a section of the school that has no electricity.



Help us reach our  
 goal of **\$100,000** by  
 the end of May!

As always, **every dollar** you give goes straight to the DRC.

# Quenching thirst in Burkina Faso

Dear donors and partners at International Needs Canada,

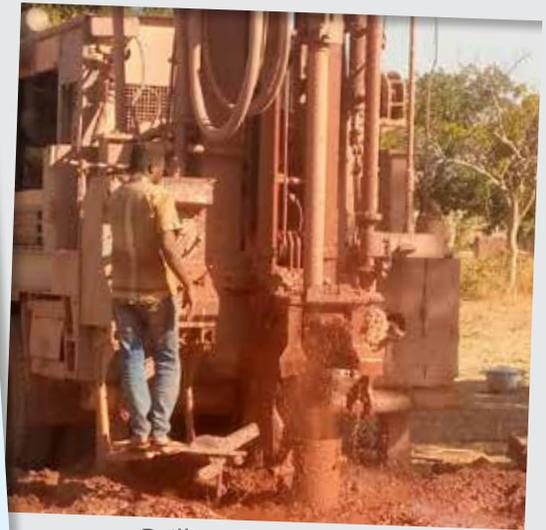
My sincere greetings to you!

Despite the political and security situation in Burkina Faso, your generosity provided **drinking water to more than 5,000 people** in the village of Lah today. In the presence of the mayor, the village chief, and various religious leaders, we officially donated two boreholes to this community, which has seen the fulfillment of their prayers of many years.

Several villages in this area **suffer enormously from the lack of water**, and people are sick because of the poor quality of the water they drink. We hope that with your support, **more boreholes can be provided in the future.**

May God bless you for helping the rural population of Lah.  
Thanks!

M. Dieudonné Kone  
Programs Manager of International Needs Burkina Faso



Drilling for water

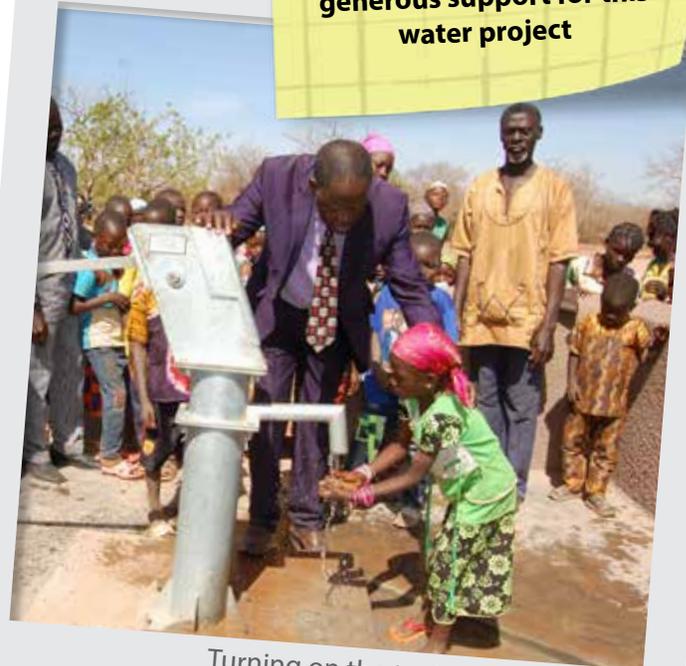
**Thank you!**

*Women  
Making a Difference*

**once again provided  
generous support for this  
water project**



Ribbon cutting ceremony



Turning on the tap!

# Giving children the best possible start in life

## Guatemala

In January, we visited Guatemala to check in on the **Survive & Thrive** program. The team went deep into the rural Western Highlands to see life as it really is among the indigenous Mayan people.

**Preventable death rates are high.** We spent time with Patili, a Traditional Birth Attendant (or TBA, which is similar to a midwife, but lacks the formal training). She told sad stories of mothers and babies dying from complications that arose during pregnancy and childbirth.



Patili is a Traditional Birth Attendant in the highlands of Guatemala

**Birth conditions are difficult.** Patili also showed us a traditional birthing hut, which is a filthy, smoke-filled room the mothers crawl into when it's time to deliver. It was hard to imagine having a baby in such unsanitary conditions, yet that's the reality in the rural villages, where there are no hospitals, delivery rooms, or pediatricians.

**The Survive and Thrive program literally saves lives** by teaching the TBAs, mothers, families, and entire communities about safe delivery, nutrition and early child development. The program sets the stage for children in Guatemala to have a healthy and productive life.

Thanks for your support!



A traditional birthing hut with a fire stove



Mom and baby live in the smoky hut for weeks after birth



Your support will **save the lives** of mothers and babies and **build a better future** for children in Guatemala

# Fighting for Social Justice During the Pandemic

## Naogoan Free School, Bangladesh

When schools around the world ground to a halt during the pandemic, International Needs Bangladesh found a powerful new way to care for their students. Since children would be returning home to many different traumas, the teachers decided to check in and visit the students to assist in the transition. During the visits they uncovered a number of themes. Here are a few short stories.



### Child Labour – Rajkumary (10 years old)

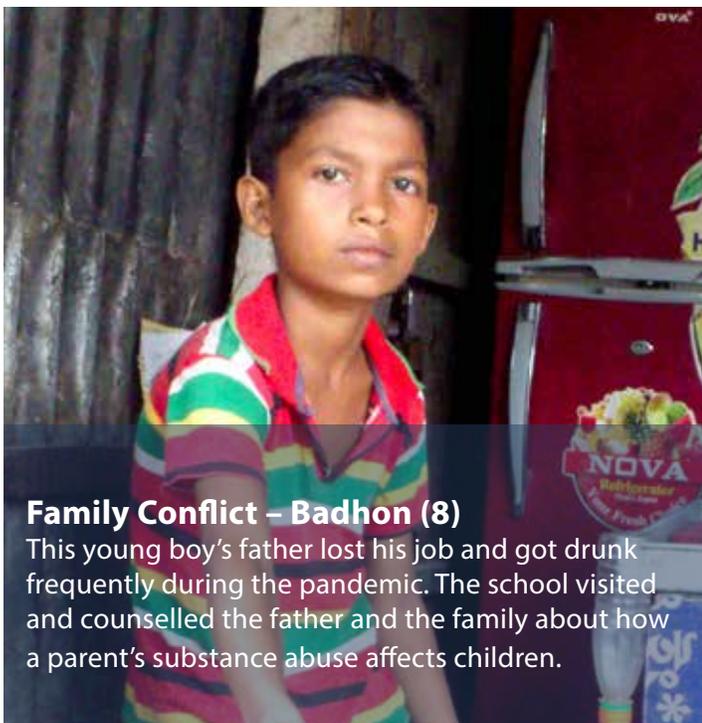
This young girl found herself cooking and doing all the household chores because her father could not find work and her mother worked all day at the rice mill. The school provided financial assistance and reminded the parents about the importance of education.



### Child Marriage – Monya (14)

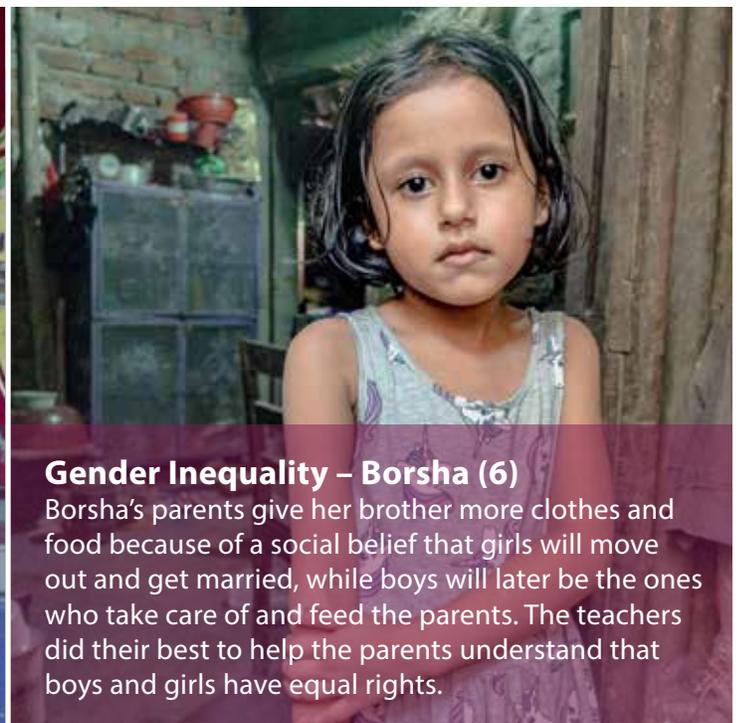
Girls in this region are married off young due to religious prejudice, social pressure, and economic hardship. The teachers visited Monya's family multiple times to teach the family about the evils of child marriage.

*These stories highlight how well Mac and his team understand that protecting children from injustice is just as important as the education provided.*



### Family Conflict – Badhon (8)

This young boy's father lost his job and got drunk frequently during the pandemic. The school visited and counselled the father and the family about how a parent's substance abuse affects children.



### Gender Inequality – Borsha (6)

Borsha's parents give her brother more clothes and food because of a social belief that girls will move out and get married, while boys will later be the ones who take care of and feed the parents. The teachers did their best to help the parents understand that boys and girls have equal rights.

# Rescuing James

## The Safe House, Kenya



**James is an orphan boy who's faced one tragedy after another.**

After losing his parents and then being raised by his grandmother, who later died, he was taken in by his great grandmother, who passed away recently. With no family and no guardian, James went back to life on the streets when the schools closed in March 2020.

**This could have been the end of all hope,** but at that point, James was introduced to a caregiver at the RHYCO safe house, and everything changed! Instead of being pulled into a life of crime, James has turned his life around.

With loving guidance and support, he's shown great improvement in his studies, and he's walking around with a big smile on his face!

James is now optimistic about his future, and sees the tiny inner **sparks of possibility being fanned into flames of achievement.** By God's grace, James will be sitting for the Kenya Certificate of Primary Education exams this year. Our prayer is that he will pass and gain entry into a good secondary school and start working towards his dream of becoming an electrical engineer. Go James!



### International Needs Congress

*Global meeting taking place in Hamilton, Ontario*

Every two years International Needs hosts a gathering of its global partners. This May, delegates will be meeting at Redeemer University for Congress 7. The theme, **Accomplishing Together**, focuses on how the partners can collaborate on programs and projects that transform the lives of vulnerable children and women.

**If you'd like to meet some of the delegates and country leaders while they're here:**

call Corrie Mulder at 1-888-702-9805  
or email [corrie@internationalneeds.ca](mailto:corrie@internationalneeds.ca).



### Join us for a webinar

#### Tools for Effective Charitable Giving

*April 25 at 8:00pm ET*

*Presented by Christian Stewardship Services*

Do you have a desire to give generously to a charity?

- Learn how to save taxes & maximize your gifts!
- Find out how to pay zero capital gains tax by donating appreciated securities.
- Discover the simplicity and flexibility of a Donor Advised Fund.

Have your questions answered about how to bless charities using all these tools and more.

To reserve your spot, call **1-888-702-9805**

Or email [info@internationalneeds.ca](mailto:info@internationalneeds.ca)