



NOTES FROM THE UNFORGOTTEN: MARCH 2014

This month we are pleased to share special opportunities for donors to support our work. Take advantage of a donor match, attend a concert, or support a marathon run! Our filmmaking efforts made the news, and we have reached a milestone in Sierra Leone! As always, thanks for your support!

Donor Match: Special Targeted Fundraising Campaign: Agricultural Project – Chingwere, Zambia. In Zambia, The Unforgotten is presently planning and raising funds to start an agricultural project in Chingwere. The women in our Self Help Group have put together a business plan to start an agricultural initiative, where they would raise chickens, pigs and some crops on a small plot of land. Some of the products would be used to feed their children; extra will be sold to help them earn an income. The estimated cost to start this project is \$10,000 US.

A generous philanthropist, who wishes to remain anonymous, has kindly agreed to **match** donor contributions that occur prior to April 30th!!



Please direct a donation toward this targeted fundraising campaign, to take advantage of this donor match! To

do so, please write "Ag project" in the "Comments" field of the credit card donation page. Or write "Ag project" on the "memo" line of your check.

Raising pigs, chickens and some crops can be a very good business in Zambia. Land is quite fertile, and the climate ideal. The primary obstacle to starting this type of business is the price of a parcel of land, which will be about \$9,000 US -- which is far out of the reach of these former wastepickers

that earn about \$1 per day. Our field team has identified a few suitable parcels about 1 acre in size, not too far from the Chingwere slums. The initial supplies are about \$1,000.

Our field team has also developed a good working relationship with the Ministry of Community Development (Faustina is our local contact). The Ministry has a free program in which they train the poor in how to raise chickens, pigs and simple crops. In fact, Kabanana Trust Orphanage, where we installed a drinking water well, pump and tank,



is also receiving this type of training assistance. The orphanage is now producing chickens and pigs -- both to feed the orphans

and to earn some income for the orphanage. Similarly, villagers in Ngwerere, where we installed a well and handpump, are growing crops like mushrooms with assistance from the Ministry.

Fundraising Concert: A Grand Violin Jugalbandhi – Ellicott City, Maryland. On April 12th, from 4 to 6:30 pm, the renowned artists Smt. Pavani Malladi (violin), Sri Srikanth Mallajoysula (violin), Sri Rajasekhar Atmakuri (mridangam), Sri Arun Bagal (violin) and Sri Abhjit Panse (tabla)



will be performing Carnatic and Hindustani music. The concert

will be at 10214 Silverstone Place in Ellicott City.

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Admission is free, with suggested donations of \$10 per individual or \$30 per family. For more



information, please contact Dr. Sriram Padmanabhan at 410-740-1658. Don't miss this opportunity to hear such world class musicians in an intimate setting!

Thank you to our artists and our hosts for volunteering your time!



to “well- educate” their children and hope that they pursue more “decent” vocations than their own. The kids are well aware of the hardships of their parents, and among them we find budding stars of tomorrow in the fields of art, dance, and film-making.

These kids intend to use the skills that they have acquired to earn enough money to support themselves for their higher education. Priya Alhat, Shilpa Zombade and Pradeep Vidhate represent a generation of kids who have to prioritize work before education due to the adverse economic conditions of their families.

Mumbai Marathon: In January 2015, join Unforgotten staff and volunteers as we run to raise awareness and funds for our cause at the Mumbai



Marathon in India. If you are interested in supporting our run by pledging, or if you dare to run with us, please contact Ms. Hemali Mehta at hemali76@gmail.com. Hemali is a director at Vogue India, and was featured in the January 2014 edition as the “marathoner”! Will and Amit are also planning to attempt the race. Never too early to start training!

Kids living in the slums of Mangalwar Peth, Bhavani Peth, Nana Peth, Market yard, Prem nagar, Janata Vasahat have turned to the “film industry”!! Priya and Shilpa living in Panmala Vasahat are best friends. Both come from humble backgrounds. Mothers are waste-pickers; fathers are daily-wage laborers. Both received a lot of encouragement from the NGO, The Unforgotten. Shilpa and Priya along with Mrunalini Pendse who is in-charge of the NGO's Pune office, received training from French volunteers in camera handling and video shooting. Together, they also made a short film on UNFF's work in Pune. They soon began getting “offers” for video shooting of events happening in their slum neighborhood. Both intend to pursue a career in film-making in future.

Unforgotten in the News: “Slum Children Turning Into Videographers”, Article appearing in Sakal, March 3, 2014. Many thanks again to the volunteer French Filmmaking crew of Alain and Michelle! They trained our Pune, India staff how to make documentaries, and their efforts caught the attention of a Marathi newspaper. Following is the article translated from Marathi into English:

Pune – Their mothers work as waste-pickers, as domestic servants or local seamstresses, while their fathers are casual laborers; these are the sources of livelihood for their families. But the parents aspire

And for those of you who would like to read the article in the original Marathi:

<http://www.esakal.com/Tiny.aspx?K=Q5BOa>



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First day of School in King Tom Bomeh, Freetown, Sierra Leone

We've made tremendous progress at our project sites in Sierra Leone. On March 4, 2014, we officially began our school sessions! Pictured are the 10 girls in our program at the King Tome Bomeh. These girls had never set foot inside a classroom before. Many thanks to the tireless efforts of our Projects Manager Sheku Seymour-Wilson, and our teachers Alimatu Jusu and Francis Sesay. EVERYTHING you see here was made possible by your support: schoolroom, desks, chairs, blackboard, uniforms and teachers!



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*Working towards the
UN Millennium Development Goals*

*Providing clean food and water, shelter, schooling
and a future to mothers and children living in
extreme poverty*