

DIRECTOR'S NOTE...

Deanna Wallace, AAO Executive Director



This month I want to tell you about my **four-year-old granddaughter, Olivia**, who lives in Argyle, Texas. Last week she decided that she wanted to help "poor kids." At first she decided to take her extra toys to school and sell them to raise money, but the school had policies that wouldn't allow that. So instead she used an old shoebox, made a plea from her heart, and asked the class for donations. **That day she raised \$6.27!** I was really proud of her – not just because of her initiative, but mostly because of her generous and caring heart. It has inspired me this month to "keep on keeping on."

This month has been an especially difficult one at the Children's Center. We have not had running water for **almost 2 months** now and electricity is very scarce. Everyday we have to hire vehicles to take the launderers (and the piles of laundry) to a place to find water in which to wash. The cost for the generator fuel is exorbitant. It is hard to believe that when things are this bad in Sierra Leone, our costs actually rise, but it is true. **Please keep us in your prayers and consider ways you might be able to help raise the funds we need.**

Your support truly makes all the difference to us!

Orphaned and abandoned children in Sierra Leone need your help!

500 pledges of just ONE DOLLAR A DAY (or \$30 a month) for a year, will cover the operating expenses of the All As One Children's Center! **We currently have 186 monthly pledges of \$30, but we need 314 more!**

Please join us in helping us build a future for the children of All As One.

Email sponsorship@allasone.org for information, or sign up today at www.allasone.org/donate.php.

CHILDREN CARING ABOUT CHILDREN

THE LATEST...

Since joining the "Children Caring About Children" project almost **5 months** ago, the students and faculty of **Lakeside Elementary**, in Cincinnati, Ohio, have **donated a total of \$1224** to their fund to help the children of All As One!

The students are planning a bake sale, to raise more funds, and they continue to share the situation in Sierra Leone with their friends and family. They are truly concerned about their peers across the globe. **Thank you, Lakeside, for being the first school to join the CCAC project, and for inspiring all of us!**

www.allasone.org/ccac.php

**WEAR
and
CARE**

ALL AS ONE T-SHIRTS ARE HERE!

Purchase All As One T-shirts to benefit the Children's Center, and **WEAR** them to raise awareness about the work we are doing for the orphans and destitute children of Sierra Leone. We have a variety of sizes and fits in our **All As One Logo shirt** and our **"Who paid for your diamond?" shirt**.

All profits we receive from the sale of these shirts will go to support the All As One Children's Center.

www.goodstorm.com/stores/allasone

Invite your school to join!

This is an excellent opportunity for students to grow in character and practice generosity. If you would like an informational packet to give to your local school, or would like your classroom to join the CCAC project, contact us at:

schools@allasone.org



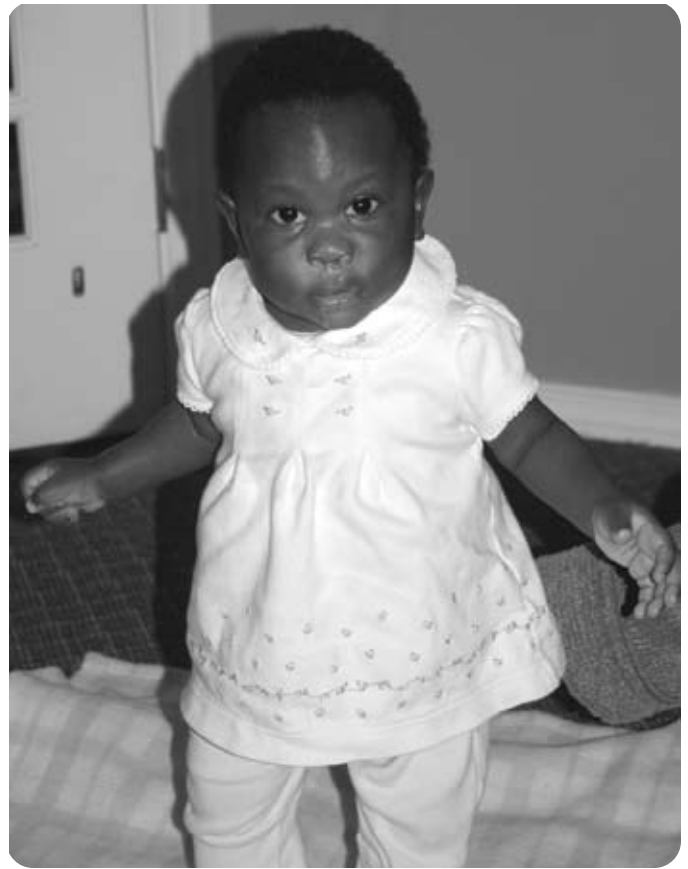
Laura Wallace, adopted from Sierra Leone, attends Cascade Christian High School, in Puyallup, WA. She recently founded a student-led group called "**Cascade Christian - Heart in Sierra Leone**" (**CCheartinSL**). There are 30-plus students currently involved with this group to raise awareness and funds for All As One. Mrs. Lori Lidyard is the teacher/advisor for the group, and is working with the students to come up with fundraising ideas. Some of the ideas being discussed are a spaghetti dinner, candy bar sales, lemonade and popcorn sales, car washes, and a model fashion show at the mall. A few of the students are also going to be donating their babysitting money and letting their babysitting families know about All As One to see if they would like to make a donation as well. **In the week since the group was formed, they have raised \$62.15!** Pictured here are some of the charter members of this terrific group of teens!

Mariama Update:

We're so happy to let you know that Mariama has now successfully completed her cleft lip and palate surgery!

The surgery was performed on April 10 and she is now recuperating and doing very well. Thank you to all of you who gave to make this surgery possible for Mariama – it has literally changed her life.

Mariama will be traveling back to Sierra Leone in May and we are making plans for her to soon be adopted by a family abroad – so this means she'll be able to get the follow-up care that she will require as she grows. Thank you again for all you've done to help Mariama over the past several months. We are pleased to show you this recent photo of Mariama (taken just two weeks after her surgery)!



PARACHUTE JUMP IN DUBAI RAISED 10,810 AED FOR ALL AS ONE

Kind hearted and brave Carla Gellard did a sponsored parachute jump on Friday 13th of this month. Carla had always wanted to do a jump, and decided that if she was going to do it, she wanted someone to benefit from her experience. Fortunately for us, she chose the children of All As One, after reading a couple of articles about the Children's Center. We can't thank her or her sponsors enough for their amazing support!

Carla, a hair-stylist at Hairworks, in Dubai, was sponsored significantly by her employers and their clients, along with many of her friends. Our thanks to Carla, Hairworks, their clients and Carla's friends for this generous donation! What a creative way to raise funds to help the children of All As One!

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO:

Mike Ryherd, Ann Daley and Majken Ryherd, for the house party and donations!

John and Betsy Lee, for the generous donation in memory of Betsy's father, **John Bolling**.

Carla Gellard, for raising funds for All As One with a sponsored parachute jump.

Laura Wallace and the other members of the "Cascade Christian - heart in Sierra Leone" group, for raising funds and awareness for All As One.

The students and faculty of Lakeside Elementary in Cincinnati, Ohio, for their ongoing support in the "Children Caring About Children" project.

Michael Deaver, with Ciara Solutions, and **Dusty Segretto**, for the generous donation of their services and time, in assisting us with the functionality and hosting of our web site.

The Selwyn School in Denton, Texas, (4-year-old Olivia's school), for showing us all that no one is too young to care about those in need.