



# The Gweimen Centre Newsletter

A Self Sufficiency Center for Widows and Orphans of HIV/AIDS

Summer 2017

## The Ministry of Gweimen

By Mary Sytsma  
June 2017

The work of the Gweimen Centre in a small village in Nigeria can seem insignificant to some, especially in the face of so much tragedy and hardship. Yet, the work matters, and to some it is a matter of life and death.

Recently, the Executive Director, Dr. Beatrice Kadangs, and some of the staff went to local villages to do outreach and education. The nurse gave health talks to more than 200 widows, also conducting medical tests and administering medication.

One young widow came to one of these outreach meetings. She had experienced so much loss – four of her six children had died. Her husband was dead. She had malaria, typhoid fever, depression and other emotional issues. Her two living children, ages 9 and 1, were malnourished and suffered from water borne illnesses. Her situation was desperate.

The Gweimen nurse started to help them, visiting often, administering medications, and bringing food. That woman is now improving every day. She is cooking and caring for her children again. She is singing and praising God for the miraculous intervention of the Gweimen Centre and its staff.

As a result there is much rejoicing in the entire village and surrounding area. This incredible turn around in her life is one

*“Learn to do right. Seek justice. Encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless. Plead the case of the widow.” (Isaiah 1:17)*

that illustrates in a powerful way the work of Gweimen. It also will increase the number of people who will come for help. And God will receive the glory.

### **Dollar for Dollar – A Matching Gift Opportunity**

An anonymous supporter of the work of Gweimen will match dollar for dollar every gift that YOU give to the Gweimen Centre **between now and August 1.**

It's simple really. A gift to support one child now supports two. A gift that might feed a child for a day will now feed that child for two. Any gift that would send a child to school for a day will now send that child for two days.

Any gift amount will go directly to the work of the Gweimen Centre.

#### **To Donate:**

Give online at

[www.gweimencentre.org](http://www.gweimencentre.org)

or mail your check to:

**Gweimen Centre  
PO Box 1517  
Wheaton IL 60187**

## Save the Date for the Annual Gweimen Auction

A Silent & Live Auction to help HIV positive Nigerian widows, orphans, and vulnerable children

**When:** Friday, October 13, 2017 7:00 p.m.

**Where:** Crossroads Community Church  
1N100 Gary Ave  
Carol Stream, IL 60188

If you would be willing to donate an item to the auction, please contact the Board at [dmsyts@comcast.net](mailto:dmsyts@comcast.net).

### Thank you!

The US Board wants to thank the Timothy Christian School Sixth Graders who have been supporting partners of the children at the Gweimen Centre for several years. This year's class recently raised \$650 for the children in Nigeria. The funds will be used to feed the orphans and pay school fees. Praise God!

### Fundraising Efforts

The staff in Nigeria is contacting, mobilizing, and recruiting new local partners and donors. Because of the economic downturn in Nigeria, this is a difficult and ongoing process, requiring travel on sometimes dangerous roads and much investment of time. Please pray for safety for the staff and for open doors.



### The Daily Work

More than 40 children show up everyday after school for lunch and after school programs. Women come for vocational training on a daily basis, learning baking and sewing and other income generation skills. Several widows have started their own businesses as a result. Because of a recent donation of medications, the nurse is conducting regular visits to local communities.

**Board Membership:** If you would be interested in serving on the Gweimen Board, please contact Mary Sytsma at [dmsyts@comcast.net](mailto:dmsyts@comcast.net)

**The Gweimen Centre is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization**

Board Members: Greg Bendle, Rick Johnson (Secretary), Mary Sytsma (President), Rachel Vanderhill, and Steve Van Zee (Treasurer)