

AID SUDAN 2007 OVERVIEW

SUDAN WORK

2007 Mission Trips at a Glance

If you ask an Aid Sudan mission team member to describe their favorite moment in Sudan, you will likely get a variety of answers. No mission trip is alike – each has a different set of goals and experiences. However, every mission team concentrates on the growth of each team member as they experience the plight of those in southern Sudan and the spreading of God’s Word through Chronological Bible Storying.



In 2007, Aid Sudan took four teams to southern Sudan ministering in the villages of Kulu, Juba, Biong, Padak, Bor and Nasir.

The March trip to Juba and Kulu was unlike any Aid Sudan had ever taken before. Hosted and accompanied by Sapana Abuyi, the Executive Director of the Sudan Inland Development Foundation (SIDF) and a key Aid Sudan partner in our famine relief campaign, the team conducted research at a radio station in Juba, met with a Bible translation organization, visited an orphanage and distributed famine relief supplies (referenced in Special Projects) in Kulu, all thanks to funds raised from Aid Sudan supporters.

In July, Aid Sudan took two teams to accomplish different tasks that were specifically geared to the needs of the particular village. Through a partnership with Living Water, the team in Padak repaired three wells serving over 4,000 people. The team also conducted pastor training, working with approximately 20 pastors on how to effectively share God’s Word.

The other team headed to Biong to conduct health and hygiene training, teacher training and pastor training. A nurse on the team made public health and hygiene presentations to students and teachers while other team members worked with teachers on classroom issues and teaching techniques. In addition, the team made assessments of adult training underway at a newly-opened technical school in Makolcuei.

In December, a small team from Aid Sudan accompanied Moses Project missionaries Agook and Jengmer as they began their ministry in their home communities of Bor and Nasir. On this trip, 75 pastors were trained in Bor and 25 in Nasir. On Sunday morning the team worshiped together with around 1300 Sudanese in Bor and on the next Sunday nearly 700 in Nasir.

Overall, the mission teams in 2007 repaired three wells in Padak, distributed medical supplies to Kulu, Padak, and Biong and delivered school supplies in Kulu, Padak, Biong and Bor. Survey work was also done in Bor and Nasir to determine special projects needs to be implemented in 2008.

MOSES PROJECT

First Class Kicks-Off Ministry in Sudan



For the first time in 20 years, Emmanuel Agook Kon Kuol and Peter Jengmer Yat set foot in their home villages of southern Sudan, reuniting with family and friends they were separated from during the brutal Civil War. Executive Director Peter Swann and Moses Project Director David Humphrey witnessed this moment on the banks of the Nile River – the same river where long ago baby Moses was sent to live among the Egyptians in order to one day free his people from Pharaoh and fulfill God's plan for the Israelites.

The Moses Project has long been a conviction for Aid Sudan as we **believe the answer to southern Sudan's challenges waits outside its borders, though not with outsiders.** Just as Moses lived among foreigners only to be called by God to return and save his own people, this program seeks southern Sudanese in the U.S. with a heart and calling to return to their own people and native land. They know the language and culture, can handle the living conditions and are best primed to impact their people.

In September 2007, Aid Sudan launched The Moses Project and welcomed three dedicated southern Sudanese into the program – **Emmanuel Agook Kon Kuol, Peter Jengmer Yat** and James Maker Manyang. Missionaries are asked to make a three-year commitment, alternating time between training in the U.S. and work in southern Sudan.

In December 2007, Agook and Jengmer returned to southern Sudan for their first phase of work – surveying the physical and spiritual climate in their home village and surrounding communities. We continue to pray that Maker is able to get the necessary citizenship papers so that he too can return to Sudan for ministry. To date, Aid Sudan has raised \$103,710 for The Moses Project missionaries towards our overall \$195,000 August 2008 goal. As Agook and Jengmer recently returned to Houston for additional training, we look forward to seeing how God moves in the hearts of southern Sudanese both in the U.S. and in Sudan during 2008!



SPECIAL PROJECT

Kulu Emergency Relief – Campaign & Delivery

On May 19, 2006, a tragedy unfolded in a small village in southern Sudan. After holding off attacks day after day, the Jur people finally succumbed to the overwhelming force of a neighboring tribe. As the raiding tribe entered, they burned much of the village, including many homes and the Bible School formerly led by Executive Director Peter Swann and his wife. Only



the beginning of the attacks, the destructive tribe soon hit other villages stealing personal property, burning huts, raping women and destroying valuable crops. Some friends escaped miraculously with their lives; tragically, others didn't. Fleeing the violence, **106,000 of the approximately 200,000 Jur people became internally displaced** and took shelter in neighboring communities.

Moved to respond to the needs of this relatively unknown people, Aid Sudan grieved

with the people and then took action, launching the **Kulu Emergency Project** to raise funds for food and supplies to the displaced, hungry southern Sudanese. With the help of many supportive individuals and organizations, we raised over \$60,000 and in March 2007 delivered 50 tons of maize, 10 tons of groundnut (peanut) seeds and 5 tons of salt to the people of Mvolo County. Each family received 50 kg of maize and 10 kg of shelled groundnuts for planting so that both immediate and future hunger needs could be fulfilled.

In addition to emergency food and supplies, the mission teams brought hope in the form of friendship, prayer and an eagerness to share encouragement from God's Word. As hope returned to the community, so did the residents. **Over 90 percent of the displaced people have returned to their villages** of origin and the grateful chief of Kulu told Aid Sudan that the **food saved over 2,000 lives!**

U.S. WORK

Local Office Highlights

DALLAS – In 2003, Lost Boy Peter Alier moved to Dallas after spending 11 years in a refugee camp in Kenya. Soon after he arrived, he met Dallas Director Russell Jonas and his wife, Kathy, and lived with them while he worked hard and set his sights on going to college. As Peter will tell you, God put in his heart a desire to help people and his goal was to enter the medical field. This year, he moved from Dallas to the University of Texas in San Antonio to pursue RN certification. Peter is the first one in his family to attend high school and college.



Through Russell's guidance, the Dallas office provides pastoral counseling to local Sudanese as they weigh decisions about work, school, family issues, relationships and finances. The office also offers hands-on computer training and assistance to Sudanese families as specific needs arise.

HOUSTON – For Houston Director David Humphrey, there was one event in 2007 that depicted God's faithfulness to the southern Sudanese. Without a doubt, the celebration of the Sudanese Community Church's tax-exempt status characterized the strong, grateful hearts of the local Sudanese. The congregation thanked EVERYONE who ever helped them – whether big or small. Honoring a diverse group of supporters, the service was a testament to the many hearts God had moved to walk alongside the southern Sudanese.

Aid Sudan worked with volunteers in the Houston area to offer home cooking classes, teach computer classes and deliver computers, home furnishings, electronics, appliances and clothing to Sudanese in need of these necessities. In a partnership with Houston's First Baptist Church, Aid Sudan distributed clothing and other goods while sharing the Word of God through Chronological Bible Storying to over 130 Sudanese.

NASHVILLE – Now a year old and led by Leigh Ann Cates, the Nashville office works with the third largest southern Sudanese community in the United States. As Leigh Ann reflects on 2007, she remembers how a simple trip to the Nashville Zoo with a group of Sudanese women and children was one of her fondest memories. For the Sudanese, it was their first time visiting a zoo – discovering and learning about animals, riding the carousel and seeing, for the first time, some animals they would have seen in their own country before the Civil War.

Several life skills programs were offered in the Nashville area including cooking and nutrition classes serving approximately 80 Sudanese and personal finance classes taught by members of Brentwood Baptist church educating over 20 Sudanese.

Bringing together Sudanese and Americans, the first annual Sudanese-American festival was held in the spring. Over 60 people came together for a day of fun, food and fellowship while they were entertained by Americans and Sudanese who brought some of their traditional music to share with one another and were inspired by stories from Executive Director Peter Swann.

Aid Sudan's Uganda Office ***Kerry Henderson Named Sudan Country Director***

Maintaining relationships and connections in Sudan is crucial to work in the country. We cannot even begin to describe the logistical challenges encountered trying to gain access to the bush of southern Sudan. With the need for an office in East Africa fast becoming a necessity, we are so excited that God has answered the need with the addition of Kerry and Neltia Henderson to the Aid Sudan family! A former missionary to Tanzania, Kerry felt the call to return to Africa with Aid Sudan as



our Sudan Country Director. Kerry, Neltia and their three boys, Drayton, Isom and McCain, relocated to Uganda in January to become Aid Sudan's eyes and ears in Africa. Kerry will be our main contact for missionaries in Sudan, will oversee all special projects in Sudan and will host and lead mission teams that come from the States.

New Team Members

Not only has God answered the need in Uganda, but he has also answered many staff needs at home.

In January, we added Christi Hardin as **Director of Public Relations & Moses Project Coordinator**. After participating in a mission trip with Aid Sudan in November 2006, she knew that was only the beginning of her work with the southern Sudanese. Her job entails articulating the stories and needs of the southern Sudanese and relaying them to Aid Sudan's support network through the website, newsletters and various promotional materials.

With The Moses Project launch approaching, Aid Sudan needed someone who would be devoted to the missionaries and their work in Sudan. That someone was David Humphrey. As **Director of the Moses Project and Houston Director**, he works alongside the southern Sudanese church in Houston and with our Moses Project missionaries – Abook, Jengmer and Maker.

Jessica Ray joined the Aid Sudan team on a part-time basis in September 2007 after being called to Houston in 2006 to lead worship with her husband David at Tallowood Baptist Church. In her role as **Administrative Assistant & Director of Houston Events**, she manages the details necessary to maintaining day-to-day organization and utilizes her extensive event planning experience in coordinating Houston events.

To fulfill the education piece of the Genesis Project, God brought Barbara Crossman to the Aid Sudan team as **Director of Education** at the close of 2007. The founder of Sudan Relief and Development, Barbara has been working with the Sudanese since 2002. Barbara will work to develop teacher training in Sudan, establish schools in Sudan and work with the Moses Project missionaries on various education initiatives.