

# Mercy Ministry News

Grace Mills River | April 2022

## Greetings from the GMR Diaconate!

### **Black Mountain Home for Children**

Thanks to your generous year end giving, we were able to provide a significant donation of approximately \$40,000 to support the work of the Black Mountain Home. We began

our work with them last Fall through your gracious response in filling a donation trailer in our parking lot for their thrift store.

This ministry works with children who have experienced abuse, neglect, and other traumas. These children know what it's like to feel afraid, hungry, and alone. Worse than thinking no one loves them, many believe they will never be loved because of their painful pasts. The Black Mountain Home is grateful to their ministry partners at Grace Mills River for helping provide children with the physical, emotional, academic, and spiritual support they need to heal, grow, and thrive.

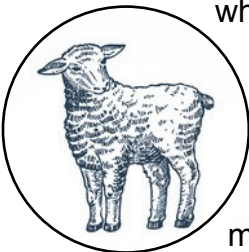


From newborns to college-age and beyond, the children entrusted to their care have what every child deserves -- safe, warm homes, full tummies, and people they can trust to take care of them. Most importantly, they have an opportunity to learn about God's unconditional love for them. Thank you for loving, praying for, and supporting the children at Black Mountain Home. For more information or to schedule a tour of their facilities, visit [BlackMountainHome.org](http://BlackMountainHome.org), or call Kristen Terlitsky at (828) 686-3451

### **The Shepherding Ministry Needs You!**

Grace is blessed to have a unique ministry enabling members to connect with each other in their local area, called the Shepherding Ministry. We have openings for laypersons to serve as flock advocates in several of our parishes, each of

which are headed by an elder. Here are the responsibilities of flock advocates:



- Pray regularly and get to know members of their flock (8-10 families in a flock).
- Intentionally reach out by email or phone with flock members several times throughout the year.
- Connect regularly with their Parish Elder and help people be aware of other ministries at Grace, as needed.
- Communicate any membership status changes in their flock to their Parish Elder.

We provide training and have a designated team to provide ongoing support to our flock advocates and elders. Would you pray about helping in this important responsibility in our church family as we seek persons to serve? Please contact Rick Hebert for more information at [rick.hebert44@gmail.com](mailto:rick.hebert44@gmail.com).

## Honduras Fountain Of Life

Jesus continues to touch the hearts of team members and of our dear friends in Honduras. The ladies ministry winter team just returned. This is their 11th year to go to serve the 50 ladies that are in leadership of the orphanage, clinic, school and church. We are humbled that God has allowed us to have this relationship now for more than 17 years. They are no longer just poor people somewhere else, but they are our friends. It's all about Jesus and the relationships.



On the right is a picture of the women of our team singing "The Blessing" over the Honduran ladies.

For more information on HFOL, please visit their [website](#).

## Knickers For New Life

[Knickers for New Life](#) now partners with six Christian schools in rural Uganda and brings health, hygiene, and opportunity to over 3200 children - especially the girl-child. Thank you, GMR for your prayers, encouragement, volunteer help, and financial support.

Uganda had the world's longest pandemic lock-down, almost two full years. KFNL schools were allowed to continue our health & hygiene programs throughout the lockdown. Mosquito repellent soap and sanitary pads were regularly distributed via home visits. As schools have reopened we have been astounded to see that every school has grown in enrollment (many Uganda schools have not reopened or have shrunk.)



*2021 Special Project:* Kamuli House for girls now houses 38 girls at high risk of dropping out of school. It provides safety and the opportunity to pursue education to reach their personal potential.

*2022 Special Project:* Brilliant School Primary Classroom Building Brilliant School is our youngest school but is already making a name for itself in a very remote, impoverished area. They are in clear need of proper classrooms and KFNL will be working to fund the project.

### Prayer requests

- For health and wisdom for all KFNL leaders in Uganda as they reopen and work with children who have had no schooling for two years.
- That the children would make tremendous progress academically.
- For financial provision as inflation hits in Uganda and the US.
- For a doctor or nurse to go with us to Uganda in early 2023.



Save the date! **April 20-27** Black Mountain Home for Children will have a thrift store donation trailer in the parking lot of GMR. You can help children in need by donating gently used clothing, household items, kitchenware, books, art, furniture, etc.