

**A big thank you to those of you who used our Lent prayer resources – we hope you found them helpful and informative. Welcome, also, to a number of new readers since the last issue of Prayer E-News.**

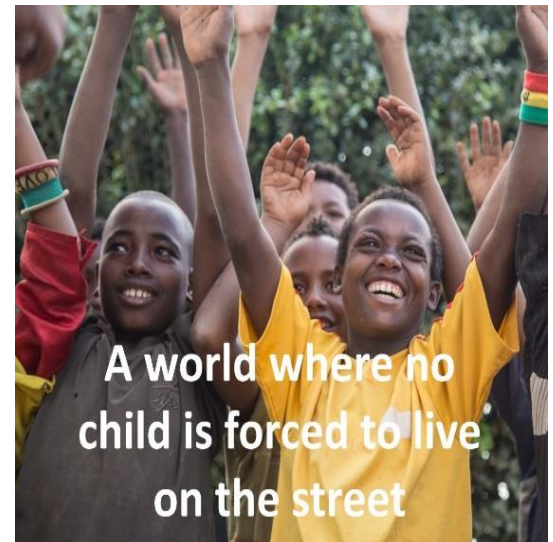
Prayer is the backbone of what we do and we are so grateful to you for committing to be part of that.

In this issue, we bring you up to date with Hamid\*\* a boy from our Tudabujja Transition Centre in Uganda . (We first introduced you to Hamid in the Christmas prayer letter.)

Retrak's Annual report for 2016 is now available and Sir Peter Fahy, Retrak's CEO, reflects on a year of growth and challenge and asks us to pray for Retrak in 2017.

Maggie Crewes, Retrak's International Programs Director is just back from a visit to Malawi and Maggie shares some points for prayer.

Every blessing – Mike Chesterton – Retrak's Church Partnerships Manager.



### Hamid is home - Uganda

Many of you will remember Hamid (Prayer E-News Dec 16 and week 2 of our Lent resource). Retrak social workers have managed to work with both of his uncles and their families and after several dialogues and counselling sessions, Hamid was resettled into his uncle's home earlier this year. Retrak have been making regular visits to the family to help with parenting skills and further counselling and support. Social workers report that Hamid is very happy and his cousins were very happy to see him back. Hamid has settled back into school and is in 'primary five'. Retrak's social worker Jackie says he is well behaved and enjoying school. He hopes to do well and then to become a doctor.



#### **Please pray:**

- for Hamid and his family - that he will continue to settle well and feel loved and cared for; that the rebuilding of good strong relationships with family will continue; for healing, both physically and mentally in the relationship and for Hamid personally as he recovers from the traumas of the past few years.
- for the staff at Tudabujja. They are an amazing bunch of folks who are so passionate about, and dedicated to transforming the lives of these boys by sharing the love of Jesus with them in very practical ways.
- for resources to continue and expand our work at Tudabujja and our

other centers. We are daily being asked to work with new children and often don't have the capacity or resources to care for them. \*\*Child's name and picture changed to protect their identity

### 2016 – A year of growth and challenge.

Sir Peter Fahy writes "Children have always been, and will continue to be, at the centre of all Retrak's work. But in recent years, we have broadened our approach to include more family and community work. Our outreach work and our transition centres provide the safe places that children need. But as a colleague in Ethiopia said, 'this is a container underneath a pouring tap'. If we are to achieve our vision of a world where no child is forced to live on the street, we must turn off the tap by stopping the flow of children starting the journey to the street at its source.

I am proud that in 2016, thanks to your support, Retrak have worked with more than 25,000 beneficiaries and have successfully reintegrated over 1,000 children back into a loving family and community setting. I am also delighted with the impact of our work strengthening vulnerable families and communities. This work has prevented many more thousands of children ever experiencing the trauma of life on the streets.

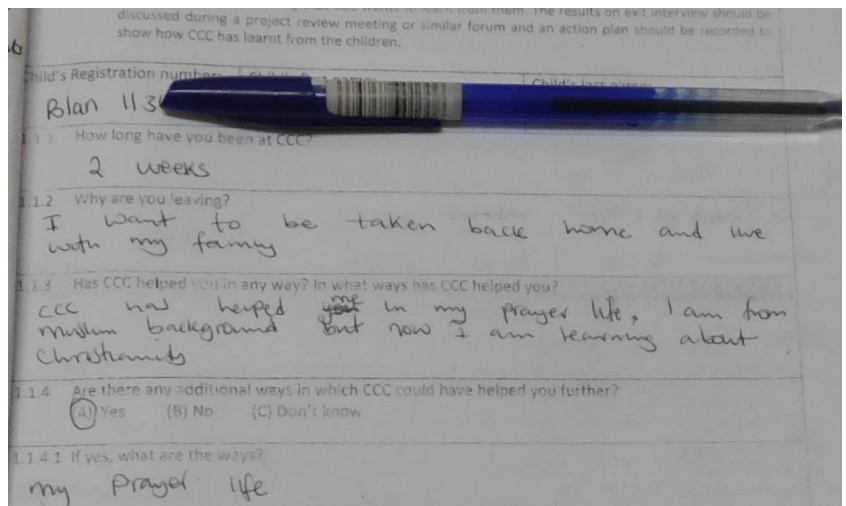
Thank you for the contribution you have made, as valuable Retrak supporters, to Retrak's success in 2016." To read Retrak's 2016-2017 annual report, please click [here](#).

### Please pray:

- Thanking God for his faithfulness in guiding our steps and providing the resource we have needed to achieve so much in 2016; Also, give thanks for all Retrak's dedicated, passionate and amazing staff who put such energy and commitment into making all this happen.
- For continued wisdom for Retrak's board and executive team as they steer the organisation over the next 12 months.
- For strength, health, and resilience for the thousands of children we meet day by day as we journey towards a world where no child is forced to live on the streets.

### Malawi.

Maggie Crewes, Retrak's International Programmes Director recently made a monitoring visit to Malawi. "My eye caught a couple of revealing answers as I leafed through some of the exit interviews that the children fill in at the end of their time in the centres write's Maggie. "One young 14-year-old girl, previously caught up in an abusive domestic work situation in her extended family before running away to the street, wrote, "I come from a Muslim background but during my time here I have learned about Christianity" and when asked what has changed most for her she answered, "my spiritual life". Another young lad gave a very insightful reflection in that "now I know WHY to pray." Such an encouragement to see the Christian witness our staff can be as they take up opportunities with children to teach and encourage them in the faith, whilst at the same time they work with them to find a new life and hope away from the street."



### Please pray:

- For these two young people – and for many more like them – that what they seen of Jesus displayed in the work of our staff will continue to be an influence in their lives.
- For the staff at Chisomo Children's Centre – Retrak's partner in Malawi, that they will have wisdom to know how to be good examples for every area of their life.
- For Maggie as she brings leadership and support, including spiritually, to the wonderful people we work with around the world.

***Thank you so much for the part you play in realizing our vision of "A world where no child is forced to live on the street". It is a bold vision but with God's grace, Retrak's proven model of care, and your support, it's a reality we are already moving towards.***

