



# Nieuwsbrief Hilde van der Draai

*Assist South Sudan In Strengthening Teachers in Christ*

September 2014.



Dear people,

Finally I have written a new newsletter for you. The last months went very fast!

The news about South Sudan is concerning people all over the world. I feel blessed to be able to share with you some stories of hope from this nation!

It's hopeful to see students being transformed and to see them developing a passion to educate children in this nation.

At the end of this year 25 students will graduate from our education— diploma-program. In July we enjoyed to see them teaching with quality in the primary schools. They surprised us with their creativity. One of the students who hardly spoke a word three years ago, isn't that shy anymore and was nominated as the best teacher during this teaching practice!

Our programs are growing and we are expecting more growth next year, not only in the full-time training, but we also hope to grow in our program for the teachers who are already teaching in the primary schools. We are hoping to reach out to three new regions, where it is peaceful, where there are many school and not enough trained teachers. Five of our students (see picture) who will graduate this year, will become our colleagues next year. They will be part of this new program and will become lecturers and supervisors. During the holidays we will teach and strengthen the teachers in the new regions.

We are still looking for financial support for transportcosts, meals and educationmaterials. We are also looking for good laptops for our five new colleagues. Every donation is welcome!

## Grateful!

\* Thank God for everything He does in the lives of our students. He is the only One who is able to transform them!

\* Thank God for all the people here in ECC who are working hard for the students and above all for God's Glory!

## Prayer:

\* Pray for health, for myself, for my colleagues and for students. Malaria is one of the consistent diseases here.

\* Pray for the new programmes that we hope to start in 2015. Pray for good connections and for enough financial support.

\* Pray for the preparations of the graduation party.

\* Pray for South Sudan. For the suffering families of our students and for the students who couldn't come to ECC due to the situation. We all pray for peace!

## Simon is going to graduate!

Simon will receive his diploma in December and that is a miracle! He couldn't come to ECC at the beginning of this year. His life was in danger, due to his tribal background. He had to hide in the bush, where he had to change his position every 5 hours to ensure that patrolling teams could not find him. After 7 days he took the risk to come out of the bush and went to Juba. There he hid himself in a UN-camp. When he entered the camp he saw that people were depressed and passive. This was a frustrating scene for him, so he decided to apply for a job. With the money he earned with this first job he rescued his own children and was able to pay for their transport to go to Uganda. He applied for another job in the camp and during his interview he showed his results of the courses he had attended in our training. The organisation was impressed and gave him a job as teacher-supervisor! While he was working, he realized what he had learned in ECC and discovered how useful the training was for him. He was able to guide teachers to teach in a child-friendly way and he was able to use the materials/games donated by organisations. In May he decided to come to the college and to complete his studies. The college provided transport for him, he has worked hard and has already done all the courses he had missed. This year he will graduate and I am looking forward to follow his life-story. He is going to make a difference!

## Mothers will become teachers!

Women are unique in our education program. We have 83 full-time students of which only 11 are female. Realizing that only 1 out of 200 girls in South Sudan complete primary education, it is very special that 'our ladies' have completed secondary school and now continue their studies with us. Five of our ladies are mothers, they live together with their children in this campus. During the day a baby-sitters takes care of the children, while the mothers are concentrating in class. We are grateful to have the mothers in our department and believe that they will become great teachers!



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Teams**

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