



March Report 2021

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TKPS—Steps Toward “Normal”

Dear Friends,

It's been a long time living under the shadow of Covid 19 but it does feel like we are heading into “spring,” not only in the natural but in the season of pandemic life.

Treasured Kids School has been diligently working toward helping the students and families in the slums of Kosovo. The massive food distribution in May of 2020 was a life saver literally, for families in the slums. On two other occasions food packs were distributed in the following months. You responded with great generosity to provide this much needed relief .

Schools began again in October of 2020 for certain classes. The classes which write national exams for promotion to the next levels of education returned first—Primary 7 and Secondary 4 and 6. They were required to board at the school they attended so there was no back and forth to their homes to limit the spreading of the virus. TKPS utilized the choir home to board some children to comply with that requirement.

Even though classes were halted last year the expenses of the schools continued due to contracts with teachers and staff as well as utility costs. Because of your faithfulness with your sponsorship gifts TKPS is now positioned to continue educating the children. Teachers have been retained and operations are ready as classes resume again. Several other classes were added to the schedule this year and by the end of this month, all classes should be back in session.

We have also begun receiving letters and pictures from the students to their sponsors. Many of you will have already received a letter and or a picture. We are hoping to get more to send to those of you who have not yet received one.

We have had a team ready and prepped to travel to

Uganda since last spring. That trip obviously had to be postponed. We tried to travel to Uganda in November 2020 with that team but it was not yet the right time for a trip. And even now we have had to push the travel date off again, from this spring until later this year. The team has been incredibly gracious and flexible. Some have had to step off the team due to the uncertainty of travel time. All have expressed a desire to still go to Uganda at a later time. Our target right now is this summer or this coming November. We are praying.

To say it has been difficult for the children and families of Kosovo is an understatement. With the lack of movement and social activity comes the struggle with social issues. Domestic abuse, drug and alcohol abuse, teenage pregnancies, depression and even suicide are things that escalated in Kosovo. There will be ongoing need for the love of God to be infused into the children and families. When our team finally is able to travel, loving the children and parents will be a big part of our ministry.

If you know of anyone who would be able and interested in sponsoring a child please direct them to us or give us their names. We are more than happy to follow up. We have lost sponsors due to the effects of the pandemic crisis. People have lost jobs and income. The result is there are about 50 children who have lost their support. Maybe you could consider sponsoring another child. Let us know if that is the case and we would love to connect you with a child who is in need and wants to go to school.

As always, thank you for your continued love, support and prayer for SMPI. We can only do what we do because of your donations.

Love and Blessings!
Ross and Jennifer

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