

## **Pokot Now Update:**

We just got back from three days in the Pokot. Some missionary friends, Bill and Patricia Cornell, took us down in their four door pickup. They heard that we were going to make the trip on a matatu (public transport), so they volunteered to take us. It was a great trip without any car trouble! They camped with us on the mountain side in Leyo.



**(Walking to the first village)**

While we were there, we went to each of the three villages where the boreholes will be drilled, from money donated by Organics 4 Orphans(O4O) and matching funds from the Governor of West Pokot. Rick had written a contract to be signed by the village elders stating that this would now be their borehole, and they would be responsible for the maintenance of it.



**(With Pastor Benson camping near our hut)**

The contract says that every family that uses the borehole will give one goat to make a herd that will be branded for this project. Once a year, someone from Kitale will come to work on the well, and this could cost about 14 goats. This is a whole new concept, and we are praying for its success.

I believe that God gave us wisdom about this because many wells have been drilled and only lasted for a short time, then they complain to those who drilled it and want it fixed.



**(Village of Kodera)**

We had great meetings with each of these villages, and all of the elders agreed and “signed”. One elder got up and thanked us and said that they have been discussing ways to keep the borehole from damage, so they were grateful for the rules.

There were also more rules: no children playing on the pump, not pumping water for the animals, and locking the pump at night. Previously, churches have been started in these three areas, so I know God has helped them to see the need and agree.



**(Village of Kois)**

O4O has agreed to teach farming and drip irrigation if each of these three villages will provide one acre of land around the well. They will also provide barbed wire to fence it off from animals, if the people will clear it, dig holes, and put up posts.

Yesterday we had an appointment with the Governor of West Pokot, and the contract has been signed! Once the money is wired from both parties, we will begin drilling.





**(Village of Katilisia)**

We both have suffered with parasites. We took the same medicine, and Mary was over it in 10 days, but Rick is still feeling it. He has been having these symptoms for almost two months! Now he has begun another medicine. Please continue praying for him. It is very draining. It sure makes us feel for all those in Pokot who have this regularly without medicine, soft beds, or toilets!



**New Hut**



**Present Hut**

This is a very nice “hut” we saw near Kitale. A thatched roof really is the coolest way to go. We’ve contacted the man who built this, and we would like to build one like it in Pokot! We plan to screen in the porch that goes about half way around. First we are putting up a good fence around our land in Pokot, and then we’re planning on starting a home like this in February.

Thank you for all of your love and sacrifice for us and the Pokot people. Maybe some of you can come visit when we have a better place for you to stay.

Love from Rick and Mary