

September 24, 2012

Dear Rich and Mindy,

*L'Shanah Tovah.*

At this profound time between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, and reflecting on the past year filled with so much sadness, please know that the spirit and voice of Talia continue to inspire us. We are all the better for what she did in her life, and her legacy is now guiding us to support the wonderful Talia Agler Girls Shelter.

I just returned yesterday from a brief visit to Kenya. This past Saturday, Jamey Butcher, our SVP for East Africa, Leah Storer, manager in the East Africa unit, and I visited the Talia Agler Girls Shelter outside of Nairobi.

We were guided in our visit by Edith Murogo, the executive director and founder of the Centre for Domestic Training and Development and now the Talia Agler Girls Shelter.

Edith explained how when she created the Shelter, in January of this year, she had to register the Shelter as a Kenyan non-profit organization. When she heard the news of Talia's passing, she immediately asked the Board to approve naming the Shelter in honor of Talia. They agreed, and so the Shelter is legally and officially registered as the Talia Agler Girls Shelter.

At the Shelter, Edith and a group of four dedicated women are helping about 15 girls, aged from 13-18, recover and move on from traumatic and abusive situations. Two of the girls are young, unwed mothers, victims of rape. The girls come from Ethiopia, South Sudan, Uganda, and the Democratic Republic of Congo, as well as Kenya.

At the Shelter, one immediately feels the safety and security in which the girls live, and the loving and caring provided by Edith's team and by the girls towards one another. They receive schooling and life skills training, learning in both English and Swahili.

The challenges for these girls are significant, including overcoming their trauma, learning new skills to become self-sufficient, and eventually re-integrating into their own or a new community.

Yet thanks to the Talia Agler Girls Shelter, there is hope and love for these girls. We are all so proud to contribute to the well-being and a positive future for these girls.

Edith thanked you both, and all of Talia's friends and family, who have given so generously to the Shelter. Leah brought several large bags of clothes donated by Chemonics staff.

We were all moved by Edith's extraordinary leadership, passion, and compassion and love for the girls in the Shelter. During our visit she spoke in glowing terms of how dedicated and caring Talia was to the women in the Centre.

Jamey took photos and videos, and we will putting them together into a brief video story about the Shelter. We hope this will help people see how much good their donations have done already, and encourage people to give more. We'll include information about where and how donations can be made. We hope to be able to share this video with you in the next few weeks.

Please know that Talia's family at Chemonics thinks of her often, and now shares their love for her through the Talia Agler Girls Shelter.

Talia's lasting memory is a blessing to us all.

Again, my warmest wishes to you both and your family for a year of health, peace, and tranquility.

Warmest regards, Richard

Richard N. Dreiman, President | Chief Executive Officer, Chemonics International