Christian Children's Fund

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Weaving the Safety Net – Engaging Children and Youth in the Fight Against HIV/AIDS in Kenya

Richmond Va – June 2, 2008 -Christian Children's Fund (CCF) is hosting a HIV/AIDS session about a program that engages children and youth in the fight against HIV/AIDS in Kenya.

Rose Kerubo, from CCF Kenya's staff and Program Coordinator for the *Weaving the Safety Net* project, one of CCF's largest programs serving children affected by or vulnerable to HIV infection, will share highlights from the program noon Tuesday at CCF, 2821 Emerywood Parkway.

"Most programs focus on the physical, but these children go through a lot of trauma, stress and fear," Kerubo said. "They watch as their family members die and they are then often ripped from their families."

Weaving the Safety Net consequently focuses on psychosocial issues and child protection issues in addition to addressing the physical needs of children. "There is daily nurturing of the child," Kerubo said. "It's all about spending time with the child."

Having reached more than 40,000 children in three years, the community-based HIV-AIDS programs in Kenya focus on nurturing and providing life skills for children and youth. The program will continue through 2010.

Note: The noon session is open to the media. Please RSVP to me at 756-8987. If you would like a one-on-one interview with Rose Kerubo, we can arrange some time immediately following her session.

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Christian Children's Fund (CCF) is a global force for children, helping the world's poorest and most vulnerable survive and thrive in order to reach their full potential. One of the world's oldest and most respected international child development organizations, CCF works in 31 countries and assists approximately 13.2 million children and family members worldwide, regardless of race, creed or origin.

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