



ACTS MINISTRY – Burkina Faso

“Providing love and hope for mother and child”

News from Burkina

Realities in Burkina Faso

- 45% of the population earns about \$1 a day
- 12% literacy rate – lower among women
- Human Development Index ranks Burkina Faso 175 out of 177 countries
- 1 out of 5 infants die before their 5th birthday
- Life expectancy for women is 47 years
- Secondary school enrolment is 8%

ACTS restores dignity to the poor



Florence told officials and guests her story and explained how ACTS helps orphans and widows

“We could not attend school because our parents could not pay for our studies. We came to the ACTS Center and now we are learning sewing and carpentry. Widows learn skills such as soap production, dyeing cloth and weaving. We are fed everyday and we receive Bible teaching and good counselling and the staff prays for us. We are thankful to the people working for ACTS Ministry because they are angels sent by the Lord to save as the poor orphans of the village of Saonré.”

This is part of the speech of Florence Nikièma, an orphan in the ACTS program in Saonré, during the Literacy Graduation ceremony held June 21.

Florence and other orphans like her are gaining confidence and skills that will give them a future as

they mature. When the orphans are ready to leave the ACTS Center and take their place in adult society, they will have solid Biblical principles to guide them.



Group of orphans sang for guests at the June 21 celebration

Many friends of ACTS gathered in Saonré for the annual ceremony. Government officials, TV and radio reporters from Ouagadougou and friends all came to view the growth of ACTS programs.

For the widows and orphans who are recipients of the ACTS programs it was a time of rejoicing. The entire village took part.



The top 5 widows in the graduating class of the ACTS literacy program received bicycles for their excellent academic achievement

Nearly 200 widows have decided to take steps to improve their life. They join ACTS program and learn about the love of Jesus Christ as that is the basis for all the other assistance and skill building activities. Village women are the least educated in Burkina Faso.

ACTS offers micro-enterprise to widows

ACTS begins by teaching women how to read. Then they are given classes in caring for home and children. They are given their choice of micro-enterprise opportunities—such as sewing, cloth dyeing, batik, drying of fruit and vegetables and soap making and animal production.

One of the widows in the program, Suzanne Ouédraogo, a young woman with two small children, gave her testimony. *“ACTS is like a basket of provision fallen from the sky for me and my two children. I have hope again. I now feel useful thanks to what I have learned. I received credits to begin my small enterprise. Now I bring in a profit.”*



Widows learn how to dye cloth as a micro-enterprise project

Claire Nassa is a widow of forty years old. She has several children of which three are very small. She chose to learn how to dye cloth for her micro-enterprise business. Claire says, *“Since I started to attend the Center, the future has opened up for me and my children. I was given credits to open a workshop to sell beautiful cloth.”*

Every day more widows and orphans ask to be enrolled in the ACTS Ministry program. There are many more village women and orphans in desperate need. With your help, ACTS will reach more widows and orphans with the Good News of the Gospel.



Orphans enrolled in the ACTS carpentry classes

Prayer Requests

- Thank the Lord for the funds provided for building of a home for more orphans. Please pray that the Lord protect the orphans in Saonré, Wisga and other villages from malaria as this is the rainy season.
- In August volunteers will come to help with construction work at the ACTS Center. Pray for the safety of all the volunteers. Thank the Lord for their willingness to help.
- Pray for the Lord to provide funding for construction and outfitting of the ACTS Medical and Dental Center and Chapel.
- Pray for funding for two wells—one at the site of the Medical and Dental Center and one in the village of Wisga.

Thank you for partnering with ACTS Ministry. Your prayers and gifts make a real difference in the lives of the poor.

Yours in Christ,

Joanna Ilboudo
Executive Director
Burkina Faso

Sharyl J. Sieh
President
USA

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In Burkina Faso ACTS Ministry is a registered NGO (non-governmental agency).

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