



designing a world of hope

Wiens Wanderings

June 2007

Imagine for a minute, the sound of 100 babies all ready for breakfast at the same time . . . 65 toddlers running wild in a concrete courtyard . . . A dozen washing machines running 8 hrs a day 7 days a week (on trucked-in water . . .) and then you've got a just a glimpse of what life is like at the God's Littlest Angels orphanage. The eMi Team stayed in the volunteer quarters at the baby orphanage . . . so mealtimes were definitely an adventure. The babies were seated in specially designed tables, 8 to a nanny, . . . and they were all HUNGRY at the same time. Volunteers were around to hold the babies and play with them, but the day to day care of the children is left to local nannies. The exciting thing is that most of the just under 200 children at the orphanage already have parents waiting for them . . . It just takes a couple years to get through the paperwork and get these children to their forever homes.

Right now, God's Littlest Angels has the baby house (preemie - 24 months) on one leased site, and the toddler house (2-7 year olds) on another. Last Christmas, GLA was able to purchase some land, and now the job of the Engineering Ministries International team was to design the new location to make the transition from two sites to this new one as smooth as possible. There was lots of brainstorming with the leaders of the orphanage: how to lay out the buildings and facilities (especially since the land is fairly steep and rocky), what was needed for rooms and layout within the orphanage, how to reuse water for laundry needs, what facilities were needed for intensive care (GLA has such a good reputation that many of the "difficult" cases get referred there), . . . By day 4, the team had hammered out a concept master plan for building locations and a floor plan. Then came details like a well location, water, infrastructure, road and powerlines. By Friday, the eMi team was presenting a conceptual design to a half-dozen staff plus local engineers. Everyone was amazed at how much the eMi team had finished in the week, as well as how well the design fit with the site and the directors' vision. The work is far from done - over the next couple months, the volunteers on eMi team will be finishing their portions of the detailed design. And Kevin, with the help of his interns, will be pulling all the pieces together to present a complete final report to GLA (and GLA is anxious to get started on construction).

Thanks for all your prayers for Kevin and the team while he was in Haiti. Thanks to those of you who are partnering with us financially so that we can be involved in coming alongside God's work through organizations such as GLA. THIS is why we're excited to be a part of Engineering Ministries International!

blessings,

Kevin, Michele, Talia & Kaisa

Kevin & Michele Wiens

<http://wienswanderings.wordpress.com/>



IMPORTANT DATES

June 4-18

Uganda Project Trip (Steve)

June 15-27

E. Asia Project Trip (Greg)

July 5 - 7

eMi Celebrate Hope

Conference in Wyoming

July 16-22

Okanagan Trip

July 22

Speaking at Kaleden Church



Feeding time at the Baby House



Play time at the Toddler House

Engineering Ministries Int'l

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for Kevin Wiens, eMiC (leave memo line blank).