

Hands at Work in Africa

Blogging and Confidentiality

Teams, Short Term Volunteers & Visitors

*Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute.
Speak up and judge fairly: defend the rights of the poor and needy. Proverbs 31:8-9*

While serving with Hands at Work in Africa you will meet many people who will touch your lives and who's stories you will want to tell. Well we challenge and encourage you to tell these stories; we have a few guidelines we ask you to follow in order to protect the people we are serving.

Telling Stories

Nearly every visitor and volunteer can tell you a personal story of someone they know in Africa. Many times these stories are heart wrenching and bring the reader to tears. Stories of loss, stories of desperation, and stories of need are as common as the stories of hope. There have been times when stories about children orphaned by AIDS have been written when the children themselves have not been told why a parent has died. Imagine as a child, who already has lost one or both parents, sometimes at an extremely young age, hearing from another child in the community who has seen the story that your parents died of AIDS. Stories of HIV positive volunteers doing amazing work through the community based organizations, who themselves have not shared their status with their own families. The stigma and stress these individuals go through is enough without adding unnecessary stress to their lives. For this reason we ask you to be very cautious of the information you are sharing and where. As a further precaution we ask that you CHANGE THE NAME of any and all children and care workers you are sharing about.

Blogging

When posting stories to your team or personal blog please include the following disclaimer:

The contents of this blog represent the sole views and opinions of the author, not of Hands at Work or any other groups or persons

Remember when posting to a blog or other web based media, nearly all information on the web can be viewed by anyone in the general public.

Photos

Sharing photos on Facebook and other social media outlets is a great way to give people a better understanding of the things you have seen in Africa. Again we would just ask you to CHANGE THE NAME of any child or care worker in your photos as well as be cautious of any personal details that may go with it.