

# Engineering Ministries International (EMI)

EMI DR Congo 5462

Gary Violette

**Location:** Muanda - a town of 50,000 located in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), a country on the west coast of Africa.

**Ministry:** Shelter of Hope

**Supported by:** Whispering Eagle Ministries, Colorado Springs, CO

**Overall Project Scope:** Provide home, church, and school for 300 orphans on 25 acres owned by the Shelter of Hope. The children will be in homes with house parents so that they can grow up in a family atmosphere with a maximum of 12 children per house.

**Scope for this EMI trip:** Survey local construction sites to determine vernacular means, methods, and materials, and, along with input from the local ministry, provide a site master plan and design of first home to be built. Final design drawings will be completed by late September. The buildings will be constructed by local people in Muanda. Future EMI trips may be scheduled to complete more work on this project.

**Some Highlights:** We met the Shelter of Hope Board: a highly motivated, 'can do' group committed to helping orphans in Muanda. They are mostly, but not all, from a local church in Muanda. The local government is also behind the project.

EMI assembled a great team with good leadership and knowledgeable, willing, and flexible participants working under sometimes less than ideal circumstances. (For example, designing by flashlight until midnight because there was no power.)

We also had the privilege of having two people with us from Whispering Eagle Ministries. They lived in Muanda years ago and were able to give us a much better understanding of its history over the last few decades.

**Travel:** Left home - Friday, 30May08, 12:30PM (EST), Bradley Airport, Hartford, CT  
Hartford - Washington, DC - London - Nairobi - Kinshasa (1 night) - Muanda  
Arrived - Monday, 2Jun08, 12PM (local time), Muanda, DRC

Left Muanda - Monday, 9Jun08, 1:00PM (local time)  
Muanda - Kinshasa (1 night) - Nairobi - London - Washington, DC - Hartford  
Arrived home: Wednesday, 11Jun08, 7:00PM (EST)



(photo taken on the Shelter of Hope property)