

Projects of Hope Newsletter

Fall 2008

Scholarship Program News:

The Projects of Hope Scholarship Program supports 30 students who would otherwise be unable to attend school.

Casper, a Projects of Hope high school graduate, has been admitted to an accounting program in a college in Nairobi. He started this program in September!

Kevin, a Projects of Hope high school graduate, is working with Yote Yawezekana Women's Group to assist with record keeping and the implementation of their microfinance loan projects.

Local teachers at each of the schools our students attend are providing guiding, counseling, and additional tutoring to give them the extra support to get ahead and improve their education. Teachers are provided a small stipend for their collaboration and assistance. Our students have difficult and stressful life situations, including single parents, family members with AIDS, poverty, and living alone as orphans.



We have several new students who are a part of Projects of Hope. Pictured is James, one of our new students. He is #1 in his fifth grade class, sadly both his parents passed away due to AIDS. We are seeking a sponsor to support James' needs.

A Note from US Coordinator:

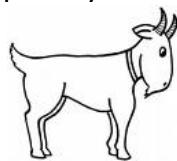
Please enjoy our fall newsletter. The kindness of people who care deeply about worldly issues of poverty, education, and healthcare is making an impact in rural Kenya one step at a time, one person at a time.

With sincere gratitude,
Shanna Branciforte

Healthcare Program News:

The women of Yote Yawezekana are widows with HIV. Many of them are experiencing the disabling effects of this illness which attacks the immune system. 7 of the women have experienced severe illness over the last several months. Projects of Hope provides free health care and medication to the women (and children) who otherwise would not have care, through a partnership with Shikokho Medical Clinic.

We are in the early stages of planning a goat-raising project to provide additional nutrition for the women and their families, as well as an income generating opportunity. Milk is often beyond the budget of families who earn less than \$1 per day.



Goat milk provides much needed protein, helps maintain weight, and provides a supplementary source of nutrition.

Student Field Trip:

Projects of Hope students will have the opportunity to visit Kisumu's Dominican Community (www.frtomskids.org) to assist with a volunteer service project. For many of them, this will be the first time they have left the village to visit a larger town. The trip will take place by November.

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Microfinance Loan News:

The women are creating their own businesses with success. Thus far, as a group, they have achieved a repayment rate of 80%. These funds are fed back into the group to fund future loans. The group will extend the success of the program by offering 3 loans to community members outside the group.

Here are some project samples: Angelina has engaged herself in the buying and selling of Maize. Fridah has established a small grocery stand. Zippeda continues to sell sugar and Beatrice is selling cereals. Jacinta put the loans into buying diesel for the maize grinding mill; she uses the profits in repaying the loan.

Alice has expanded her sewing business. She just received an order to supply 800 pieces of uniform to a school near Kisumu! She has a Sewing Shop in Malinya Market which she has named "Yote Yawezekana" and has even created a sign with the name above her store.

Alice is a true success story! She is pictured below working on her manual sewing machine.



Visit our web site for more information, to sign up for our newsletter, and to learn about online gift giving opportunities.

Annual Housing Project:

The home for Linda, Projects of Hope student, and her mother Mary is nearing completion!! They are thrilled to have a new home. Their previous home was in rough condition with rain leaking through the thatch roof creating difficult living conditions. Their new home has a tin roof and will keep them safe and warm. The home is a traditional style in Kenya with mud walls and a new tin roof.



Pictured above is a photo from May '08 of the new home in progress.

Gift Giving

As always, it is your support that creates hope and growth in the rural villages outside of Kakamega, Kenya. Please become involved in any project that has touched your heart!

Please make your gift payable to: "The Foundation for Sustainable Development" with *Projects of Hope* written in the memo portion and send to:

Projects of Hope
c/o S. Branciforte
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