



Project Kenya 2010

Helping African women & children impacted by HIV/AIDS

I am going back, in August 2010.....

Asante Sana, Thank You to all my family, friends and co-workers for your generosity towards the women and children of the Ecumenical Centre.

The women are so very grateful for our help. Some of them have started their own business, some are waiting for funds to become available while others are busy at the centre making jewelry or providing home care to other sick members.

On August 13th, I am taking a few friends on a trip of a lifetime.

This year I am seeking donations for The Revolving Fund and to buy water tanks and a few more dairy goats.

While in Kenya we will spend time with women at the Centre, visit some of their homes and participate in a one day free medical clinic for the Ecumenical Centre

community and neighbors.

In addition, we will have a party for the children in Ward 6B at Jomo Kenyatta hospital.

We will then travel to Voi township and experience a safari at the Tsavo National Park .

On August 21st, We will participate in a one day free medical clinic with Dr Victor Kireti and volunteers. We will assist with the dropping odds non-medical tasks.

I am so excited; I will finally go on a safari and my friends will have their own life changing experiences.

Why don't you come with us?

Please contact me for more details.

E-mail: flojo99@rogers.com

Telephone: (416) 391-5648.

**Help
save the world
one woman
at a time**

**Please give today,
it will make
a difference
tomorrow**

**Find your reason,
the purpose He
has given you to
achieve, and do it
faithfully.**

**You'll likely find it
to be more than
gratifying.**

**Service is the
rent you pay for
living.**

...Malaack Rock

**Help empower
one woman
at a time**

Dairy Goat and Rabbit Projects.....

Dairy Goats Esther advises that the 108 families drinking fresh goat's milk are so much healthier.

Recently, Dr Kireti visited the Centre and met some of the women who are taking the milk and some who are not.

He noticed there was a big difference between the two sets of women.

Unfortunately, the goats are not making babies quickly to share with those 42 women who are still on the waiting list.

Victor advised that we should try to raise funds to buy more dairy goats to help these women. Please contact me if you would like to make a donation towards the purchase of a goat (\$200).

Rabbits The families who received rabbits

as part of the rabbit project are doing good business. Each rabbit produces approx six babies every few months. As usual, the first babies are returned to the centre and redistributed to other members.

AIDS Conference Esther received a sponsorship from the Int'l AIDS Foundation and will be attending the AIDS Conference in Vienna in July 2010.

At the conference, she will do a presentation on the Dairy Goat and the African Microwave project.

Esther usually takes lots of jewelry to sell in the International Marketplace. The money from the sales will fund another project for the Centre.

The education and empowering of the women continues!

The Ecumenical Centre Revolving Fund.....



So far 12 of the women have borrowed money to start their own business.

Because the funds in the kitty were limited, the leaders approved loans to the women in the 5 groups, who were the most desperate.

Here are some of the innovative things the women have done with their money borrowed:

- buy a roll of material; made tablecloths to sell



- buy 4 chicken layers; selling 4 eggs every day
- buy a sack of mangoes; now hawking them
- open small Kiosks to sell underwear, seedlings, rice, school uniforms and hardware
- the son of one of the women, borrowed money to get his driver's license for his new job

The money is already being repaid with interest; this goes right back into the kitty.

Applications are being reviewed and will be approved so when more donations are received, there will be no delay in allocating the money.

Please contact me if you would like to make a donation to The Revolving Fund.



Day Care Centre for the children.....

Some of the women with their own business do not have anyone to take care of their children while they are out working.

These children are too young to be in school and too young to be left alone at home.

Some mothers are forced to carry their babies on their backs when out doing business, while others may leave them with grandmothers or an older sibling who is forced to drop out of school to care for them.

At the age of 7, children in Kenya attend Government funded schools. However, before they are admitted into these schools, the children are required to take a basic skills test.

Because the mothers are so busy trying to earn a living or fetching drinking water, there is no time to teach the children even these few basics skills. Unfortunately,

some of the children fail the test and are refused entry into school.

As a result, these children never attend school and start working at a very young age to help support the family.

Esther, a High School teacher, will open a Daycare Centre upon completion of the new building.

January 2011 is the projected opening date.

The women of the Ecumenical Centre will also volunteer at the Day Care Centre.



Project Drinking Water, Tanks.....

Water, water, everywhere, and then its all gone!!



After the long rainy season, some of the women are still struggling to get clean drinking water for their families.

They have to walk miles to the wells and then carry large containers of water on their heads back to their homes.

While some families have access to running water, the authorities only turn on the water once a week. Most of the women do not have large containers to store a week's supply of drinking water.

The women did some research and presented the following proposal to Esther and then to myself.

They asked me not to buy them any foodstuff when I visit in August. Instead they would like me help them buy water tanks for their homes.

They researched these plastic water tanks. Each

tank holds 1,000 liters and costs 6,000 shillings each (approx \$77.00).

They asked the Centre to put some of the money from the sale of jewelry into a water tank fund. The women, the centre and the money received from donors will go into this water tank fund and we will buy tanks when I visit in August.

To date, 40 women have registered to buy their tank and are already contributing between 100 and 400 shillings every month.

Some of the other women cannot afford to contribute anything yet.

The leaders of the 5 groups have agreed that in order for the women to be empowered, they must pay for their tanks; no one gets a free tank.

Each woman must find a way to start saving towards paying for her own tank; even if it takes her 2 years to pay it all off.

The women hope that with our help, everyone will have a tank for the next rainy season.

We hope to use our combined expertise to negotiate a reasonable discount for the tanks.

Please contact me if you would like to make a donation to the water tank fund.

Dr Victor Kireti's "extended family"

After several e-mails, Victor and I finally met in February in Toronto.

During one of our many conversations, Victor mentioned the children who "live" at the hospital after having surgery.

Some of these children are orphans waiting to be placed in homes, while others are children whose parents cannot afford the hospital bills.

The children also need medical care after leaving the hospital; the parents cannot afford to provide this care.

Of course, after hearing some of the stories, I felt compelled to do something



to brighten their stay in Ward 6B.

So, we will throw a party for them

I already bought the party hats, tablecloths, loot bags, etc.

I found a warehouse selling off children's books and have 2 boxes packed and waiting to be shipped.

While in Kenya, we will set up a mini library for them.

They also need a TV and DVD player.

Please call or e-mail me if you would like to make a donation to these children.

We are accepting donations of games, books, movies, small sized toys, money, etc.

Please help us give these children a day to remember for the rest of their lives.

The Ecumenical Centre's new home, nearing completion



If you live in Canada and would like to make a donation to The Ecumenical Centre, please contact me

Floreen Forde

Phone: 416-391-5648

E-mail: flojo99@rogers.com

www.flosjewelleryandgifts.org

If you live in Canada and would like to make a donation directly to The Ecumenical Centre

Please wire to:

Name of Bank: Barclays Bank of Kenya, Ngong Branch

Account Name: Ecumenical Day Care & Support Women Project

Account Number: 1044153

Swift Code: BARCKENX

Kindly email Esther with the details of the wire at eswan0132@yahoo.com

The Ecumenical Centre's new home.....

The Ecumenical Centre had a crisis. The room they rented was cramped; they tried to rent a second room but could not afford the 20,000 shillings per month rent.

So they decided to put up their own building. With that decision made, Esther and Daniel sold their family property, took the money and started the new building in front of their own home.

When the money ran out, they took out a loan with the bank.

The building is almost completed, but the rooms are empty and the money is almost gone.

They still need an indoor toilet, an outdoor toilet, a large water tank, furniture, kitchen cupboards, etc.

They are seeking donations to complete the building and move out of the rental by August 1st 2010.

Kenya 2010 Itinerary.....

Aug 13th: leave Toronto and New York via Emirates Airlines

Aug 14th: everyone arrive in Dubai; spend the night in Dubai

Aug 15th: arrive in Nairobi

Aug 16th: visit to Centre & sightseeing

Aug 17th: free medical clinic in Ngong

Aug 19th/20th: safari park

Aug 21st: free medical clinic in Voi

Aug 22nd/23rd: visit to Tanzania

Aug 24th: party for kids

Aug 25th/26th: visit to Centre & community

Aug 27th: shopping & depart Nairobi

Aug 28th: arrive Toronto and New York

Aug 29th: start planning next year's trip.....

If you live in the USA and would like to make a donation to The Ecumenical Centre, please contact

Linda Wilson

Phone: 410-371-8405

E-mail: Lwilson-crf@earthlink.net

www.caringforkidsofkenya.org

Or send your donation to:

The Ecumenical Centre

c/o Caring For Kids of Kenya

P.O. Box142

Monkton, MD

21111

Your contribution is fully tax-deductible

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