

Nyaka Notes

A Project of STSAD, Inc./ www.nyakaschool.org (517) 402 - 2787

Nyaka's Mission - "To provide quality, free education and extracurricular activities, both formal and informal, to children who have been orphaned due to HIV/AIDS as a means to counteract pervasive hunger, poverty and systemic deprivation"

Dec 2007

Volume 6, Issue 3



Special Interest Articles:

- 2007 – A great year!
- Endowment
- In-Country Coordinator

Foundation Support News:

For the next two years, Stephen Lewis Foundation will continue to provide funds for a supply of educational materials, staff salaries, Nyaka Anti-AIDS Club and general support.

www.stephenlewisfoundation.org

We also thank GFC for continued support

www.globalfundforchildren.org

Special Upcoming Event

Our 1st Graduation is scheduled for Dec 27, 2008. Please plan to be there if you can.

Nyaka Corner - 2007 - A Great Year!

By Twesigye Jackson Kaguri

As 2007 comes to the end, I cannot help but reflect on how it has affected me personally, professionally, and spiritually. All in all, I am so thankful for all that God has done for me, Beronda and Nicolas. We are also thankful for the whole Nyaka family and what we have together accomplished. We thank you for being part of this family... the Nyaka Family.

2007 was a great year to say the least; we focused more on building strong families. We launched a grandmother's program thanks to the Stephen Lewis Foundation (www.stephenlewisfoundation.org) which has a Canadian grandmother's program. We also have continued all programs at Nyaka (www.nyakaschool.org/programs.php), which are supported by your donations.

With more and more orphans dying and so many lining up to be included in Nyaka, we could no longer turn them away. So, we opened a makeshift sister school named Kutamba (healer). In a village 48 miles from Nyaka, 60 students began Primary one and two in an old building lent to us. Carol and Rob Auld of Aspen, CO continue to raise funds to build permanent classrooms at Kutamba. We have bought 2-1/2 acres of land and also teamed with Architecture for Humanity (www.architectureforhumanity.org/about/jobs.php)

to help design and build Kutamba. Carol, Rob and their friends have made all this happen.

We also launched our endowment campaign. Currently we have \$42,000 invested; these funds made \$720 in interest in 2007. We have two named memorial funds: the Nancy Lewis Scholarship Fund established by Harriet and Dick Lewis of Great Neck, New York and the Roberta Gates and Doris Robbins Endowed Scholarship Fund established by Whitney and Cheryl Gates of Bloomington, Indiana. To establish a fund and get information about the amounts required, please contact us.

Our first graduation will be held on December 27, 2008. We have 26 students who will graduate. Nancy Collier of New York, NY has been working hard to raise individual tuition for secondary school for these children. By the end of this year we hope to have the first year of secondary school covered for all our graduates, but we will need additional years of tuition for them.

I just came back from Uganda where I visited both schools and met with our staff and volunteers. Everyone is working hard for the sake of our children. It was wonderful to see Stephen Tabaruka my nephew who I raised getting married. This reminded me that the future of our children is bright and I am so happy to be part of their lives.

Turn to page 4

Friends of Nyaka: We are a large family!

Susan Linville - Indiana Friends Nyaka

The Indiana Friends of Nyaka had a productive year in 2007. In April, our benefit concert at Bloomington Presbyterian Church featured classical pianist Nino P. Cocchiarella. We attracted a large crowd and raised nearly \$1,000 dollars for the school. In May, Brittany Linville traveled to Nyaka School and worked for a month as an intern. She became part of our Speakers' Bureau, along with Dan Tritch and Susan Linville. Presentations were given to Presbyterian groups in Columbus, IN, a church in New Mexico, the Monroe County Library and the Bloomington Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs.

The year culminated in our annual banquet at Terry's Banquet Center. David Bremer, co-president of IFN, introduced the evening's speakers with his usual inspiring greeting. We had three speakers. Dr. Mondo Kagonyera, a distinguished member of the Ugandan government for 30 years, spoke to us about the impact of AIDS on his country and the importance of Nyaka School. Brittany talked about her experiences with the students and Jackson recapped the year and thanked us for our support. We were all thrilled when Whitney Gates presented us with a second \$10,000 contribution to the Endowment Fund. In all, IFN raised \$25,000 this year for Nyaka School thanks to the generosity of our supporters. The money raised will be used for health education and medical support.

Chris Singer - New Friends of Nyaka Chapter Formed in Lansing, Michigan!

We are pleased to announce the formation of a new chapter of the Friends of Nyaka in Lansing, Michigan! The group hopes to follow in the footsteps of the Indiana Friends of Nyaka, a chapter which recently held their 4th Annual Nyaka Benefit Banquet in Bloomington, Indiana. The Indiana Friends of Nyaka have set the bar high with great fundraising and outreach efforts from co-founders David Bremer and Otto Ray, along with chapter members Karen Like, Allen Pease, Susan Linville and Brittany Linville. Check out a video from the Indiana Friends of Nyaka benefit here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BP2JWRTntaw>

The Lansing, Michigan Chapter hopes to raise awareness of Nyaka in the Greater Lansing community along with meeting some of the school's wishes and needs. Chris Singer, co-founder of the chapter, hopes to get an area school to "adopt" Nyaka and maybe develop a long-distance relationship with them. Other project ideas involve a grandmother exchange between Lansing and Nyaka and a Nyaka Kids Club Chapter. A fundraising dinner will also take place in 2008.

A first meeting is planned after the first of the new year. To get involved, please contact Chris Singer at willworkforjustice@gmail.com.

Promise Ambrose - Kampala Friends of Nyaka

For the 4th year in a row, friends of Nyaka in Kampala has raised stakes and raised money for Nyaka School. This time we were graced with Nyaka's P.6 children and Kutamba and Nyaka teachers and their spouses joined us. We had a record number of people - more than 160 men and women and their families. We were blessed to have Hon. Bahati as a guest of honor. He talked about the impact young men and women like him are having in Uganda and how he grew up as an orphan himself. Hon. Bahati has also helped his community by establishing a scholarship fund that helps children in his home area. Prof. Mondo Kagonyera talked about his trip to the Indiana Friends of Nyaka annual benefit dinner and encouraged all Ugandans to support orphaned children in the country. Promise Ambrose, the chair of Kampala Friends of Nyaka, and Emma Mugisha, chair of the Nyaka Foundation board, introduced all speakers. Jackson Kaguri thanked us all and encouraged all children and people involved to stay tuned with the vision and mission of the organization. As chair of friends of Nyaka in Kampala, Uganda, I was proud once again of Barclays Bank for a challenge grant they have given Nyaka for a second year in a row. They will match all donations raised that night. We raised 8 Million Uganda shillings. It was wonderful night full of joy and happiness.

continued on next page...

Nyaka Photo Gallery



Presentation of plaque of appreciation to Whitney Gates and the 4th Annual Indiana Friends of Nyaka Dinner



Nyaka school children in the classroom.

Friends of Nyaka Continued

Carol and Rob Auld - Aspen, CO

The Kutamba School is becoming a reality. The land has been bought and Architecture for Humanity has started a search to find someone to design the school and live on-site for 3-6 months to supervise/teach the villagers to build the school. In addition, a nurses group has agreed to travel to Nyaka and Kutamba to run 3-day mobile clinics. It is very exciting. We are so grateful to all our generous donors for their monetary support and enthusiasm for the new school. It is your generosity that is making it possible to give these children a hope for the future.

Barbara Kroberger and Clare Strenger

On Saturday, September 29, 2007, Nyaka volunteers Barbara Kroberger and Clare Strenger, welcomed Jackson Kaguri to Pennsylvania! Barbara and Clare had a very full weekend planned for Jackson. Saturday started off with a presentation to the Rotary Club of Springfield Township's two Interact Clubs. About thirty Interactors from both Phil-Mont Christian Academy and Springfield Township High School met to learn about Nyaka School and the special children there. Following this session, Clare took Jackson for a tour of the Residential Treatment Program at Carson Valley School, where she is employed as the Director of Agency Advancement. Jackson had the opportunity to speak with some of the residents and the groundwork was laid for a pen-pal project with the Nyaka students. Saturday evening, Barbara and her husband Jeff, hosted a dinner party for the many friends who supported Clare and Barbara's journey to Nyaka in March of 2007. Folks got to hear first hand how Nyaka is making a difference for so many children. On Sunday morning, Jackson addressed the Adult Education Group at Barbara's church - Trinity Episcopal in Chalfont. The Pastor and congregation have become wonderful supporters of Nyaka. Barbara and Jeff whisked Jackson back to the airport in time for his evening return flight to Michigan! Pennsylvania is ready to welcome Jackson back anytime he would like to visit.

Grannies Corner: How Nyaka School Came into My Life by Mary Ropp - Worthington, IN

"The lofty oak from a small acorn grows." - Lewis Duncombe

One morning on July 18, 2003 as I was reading my local Bloomington (IN) newspaper, an article written by Dann Denny, staff writer, caught my eye. It concerned the plight of orphans in a small village in a small country of Uganda left destitute because of the death of the parents. As AIDS swept the country, it annihilated a whole generation, leaving thousands and thousands of children, many AIDS-free themselves, but abandoned by whatever family might be left.

A gentleman had presented this story to Bloomington Rotary clubs. His name was Twesigye J. Kaguri. He had described the conditions in his home village of Nyakagyezi. He himself had lost a brother and a sister to AIDS and was supporting their four children. This amazing man was raising funds to support a school for AIDS orphans which he had started.

I was touched by the plight of these children as he described it, and so I sent a modest check. He was kind enough to reply and thank me. And thus our correspondence grew as I sent a monthly contribution.

The school was built and staffed and has now expanded, due to Jackson's untiring efforts. He has been wonderfully thoughtful in sending me pictures of the children, samples of their work and news of the activities and happenings. A great obstacle overcome is the testing of the children for AIDS, which was unheard of before. All of this began from one man, Jackson Kaguri, and his wife Beronda, who saw the need and went into action.

I reside in a small Midwestern town—I am 95 years "young"—and I enjoy living vicariously through the progress of Nyaka AIDS Orphans School in far-off Africa.

"Progress is the activity of today and the assurance of tomorrow." - Ralph Waldo Emerson

Nyaka Corner by T. Jackson Kaguri (continued from Page 1)

The work we do would not be possible without you. Volunteers all over the country in 39 States and many parts of the world continue to organize themselves and raise money. Indiana Friends of Nyaka was the first chapter ever formed with a purpose to love and care for the children at Nyaka. Kampala Friends of Nyaka was the second one. Now, Michigan Friends of Nyaka is underway. Members in Pennsylvania, Colorado, Southern California are also discussing forming chapters. If you would like to do the same in your community, please let us know.

Thank you. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! The best is yet to come!

Nyaka Endowment - Why make a contribution?

Imagine making a contribution that leaves a legacy to Nyaka School for generations to come. This lasting impact can easily be made through the establishment of an endowment. Considered one of the most advantageous sources of funding, our endowment will enable Nyaka to support excellent students, teachers and programs by providing a steady, consistent and permanent source of income. This steady stream of funding provides the assurance Nyaka needs to provide the best education possible for all deserving orphaned children.

You can contribute to Nyaka's endowment by:

1. Cash or checks indicating an allocation code or a name of an endowment
2. You can give any funds in your retirement account IRA, 401(k) OR 401(b)
3. You can give gifts of stock
4. You can give a charitable bequest or even part of your estate

For more information contact Jackson Kaguri at tjk@nyakaschool.org or Clint Fish cfish@1stamericantrust.com

Make a Year-End Gift to Nyaka or Kutamba



AIDS. ORPHANS. SCHOOL
 "For our children's sake"
www.nyakaschool.org

I wish to donate ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1,000 ☐ other: \$ _____

- ☐ Personal Check (payable to STSAD, Inc. NYAKA Aids Orphans School)
- ☐ Credit Card payments accepted via PayPal
- ☐ I have enclosed the matching gift form provided by my employer.
- ☐ I wish to make a gift of stock. Please contact me.
- ☐ I would like to include NYAKA in my estate plans. Please contact me.
- ☐ I make this gift in honor of:

- ☐ I make this gift in memory of:

- ☐ I wish to remain anonymous

Send acknowledgment of my gift to:

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Thank you for your thoughtful contribution. All gifts are tax-deductible.

Updated information requested: Please send the following info the Nyaka address (address on next page) or to Jackson at tjk@nyakaschool.org

Name: _____
 (Please indicate how you would like your name(s) to be listed in donor acknowledgement publications.)

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail Address: _____ Phone: _____

Nyaka AIDS Orphan School

P.O. Box 339
East Lansing, MI
48826

Phone:
(517) 402-2787
tjk@nyakaschool.org

We depend upon the
kindness and
support of
individuals like you.
Please send tax-
deductible donations
to Nyaka School
(STSAD) at
P.O. Box 339
East Lansing, MI
48826

*For our
children's sake*

We're on the Web!

*See us at
www.nyakaschool.org*

From all board members and board of advisors

A special thank you to all of you who have made gifts in
memory of your loved ones. We thank you. The
memories of our loved ones will live forever.

*Merry Christmas and Happy
New Year from each of us
and the staff and students at
Nyaka and Kutamba!!!*

Recent and Upcoming Events Calendar

November 2, 2007 - 4th Annual Nyaka Dinner - Bloomington, IN
Nov., 21, 2007 - Dec. 1, 2007 - Nyaka and Kutamba site visits
November 30, 2007 - Annual Nyaka Dinner - Kampala, Uganda
December 1, 2007 - World AIDS Day
December 10, 2007 - World Human Rights Day
December 21, 2007 - Woodland, CA
December 28, 2007 - Aspen, CO

Note: If you'd like to arrange a presentation by a Nyaka Ambassador or would like more information about Nyaka please contact Jackson at tjk@nyakaschool.org or (517) 402-2787 for more details.

The Nyaka School/STSAD, Inc.
P.O. Box 339
East Lansing, MI 48826

