



Please consider making
Global Roots your charity
of choice for 2016.

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The locally managed “food security” programs of Global Roots are fast becoming the talk of the aid-giving world. The world’s largest charity – the UN’s World Food Program – met with us earlier this year in Nairobi, and the Girl Effect (formerly Nike’s giving arm) offered to help us brand one of our new programs.

Why is our little charity so hot? It’s simple: all of our projects are managed locally with intense local and external oversight – and this has led to success in parts of the world where food aid and assistance is usually swallowed up by corrupt government officials and cash-starved aid workers.

Global Roots is known for locally grown vegetable gardens and chicken egg farms that source school lunch programs in global hot spots where most parents will send their children to school only if they can get a meal there.

Bringing nutrition to children in unstable places is only part of what we do. Our gardens also provide tranquil atmospheres for children to play, learn and grow.

Our newest program in the USA – **The Greenhouse Social** – uses school-based greenhouses to tackle the greatest problems faced by American children in the modern age: bullying/social exclusion at school, abandonment/isolation at home and a profound over-reliance on fast food for nutrition.

Maasai School Girl Protection

When we started to protect 72 Maasai girls from Female Genital Mutilation in 2010, we had no idea that we would succeed. Now the oldest of our girls are in college and we are paying their tuition.



Mary Keruta (above) graduated from high school last year and immediately found a job working at a high-end safari resort in the Maasai Mara. Mary’s success has helped us to devise a strategy for future high school graduates. Mary is now studying at a teacher’s college in Narok with Global Roots funding.



Like Mary, **Judith Tukero** (above) ran away from Female Genital Mutilation and a lifetime of slavery when she was 12. She is now 18 and is also enrolled in college.

Please email us if you would like to consider sponsoring a young Maasai girl through high school and into college:
info@globalroots.org



2016 Update

After protecting 22 orphaned children from forced Taliban conscription (with its related horrors) in 2015, we continued this year in **Badakhshan, Afghanistan** with the installation of a drip-system greenhouse right next to our already abundant vegetable gardens, chicken farm and orchards. Recently, we forged an alliance with a Woman’s Vocational Center in **Faizabad** to help the center support 150 street children.

In **Kenya**, we delivered over \$20,000 of new and gently used clothing last spring to one of the most forsaken schools in East Africa. Boeing Inc. of Seattle gifted us cargo space in a brand new plane bound for Kenya Airways. The jet would have flown empty had Global Roots’ bookkeeper and longtime volunteer Caroline Stoebuck not known about Boeing’s humanitarian initiative. It was a huge headache from start to finish, but we got the job done and clothing delivered to Kenyan children who previously wore rags to school.



The Lost Girls of War – the Search for Sasha

Our work is hard. We usually win, but sometimes the cards are stacked too high against us and we lose.

In 2017 we will continue our search for Sasha (left) – a young girl who went missing recently from the first Afghan orphanage we supported in 2010.

Our founder, Rick Montgomery, will make his third trip to Afghanistan this spring to investigate Sasha’s disappearance, develop more safeguards to protect other orphaned females and practice oversight on our new project in Faizabad.

Please let Rick know if you would like to follow his trip and say a prayer for his safe return: rick@globalroots.org



Global Child Connect

In 2017, we hope to use the small theater (left) to connect Portland-area children by taped video sessions with students served by our programs all over the world. The conversation will revolve around food!

Global Roots Brings Nutrition and Emotional Support to Children all over the World

By hook or by crook, we have found a way to defy the corruption that normally dooms the efficient delivery of food in hotspots on the planet where childhood malnutrition rates are high.

We create vibrant, locally-sourced school lunch programs directly with poor and usually remote elementary schools all over the world. We effectively bypass corrupt government channels simply because most schools have their own tax ID number and can legally accept donations without local government interference.

Once a school has set up its own bank account, Global Roots managers on the ground help create a system of transparency that always puts any given school's Parent Teacher Organization (PTA) in the forefront.



A close working relationship with the PTA assures the oversight and transparency that government programs usually lack. For whatever reason, we have found PTA committees to be an incorruptible force.

Finally, the building of large greenhouses, hen houses and rabbit farms give the PTA and elementary schoolmasters what they need to galvanize the community and create a home-grown and sustainable school lunch program

The better the school lunch program, the more likely parents are to send their children back to school. This is yet one more discovery we had after we launched our first school lunch program six years ago.



Mutilation Free Minyatta (MFM)

What is the MFM Certification Program?

Global Roots is developing an anti-female genital mutilation (FGM) scorecard to assess the FGM profile of Maasai villages across Kenya. Villages which score above a certain threshold based on a number of objective criteria, e.g. number of Maasai girls enrolled in primary and secondary education, presence of alternative rite of passage programs (ARPs), etc. will receive MFM certification. Our program will be further accredited by Jakateng Ateng – a regional manager for Femnet, the African Woman’s Development and Communication Network.

What are the benefits of the MFM Certification Program?

No formal certification currently exists to recognize villages in Kenya that have outlawed the practice of FGM. With the rise of “ethical tourism” (and all of its offshoots), there is an increasing awareness of (and market for) supporting businesses, products, and excursions which have a positive impact on the people and places involved. We plan to work with major tour operators and independent guides in Kenya to recommend only MFM-certified Maasai villages as a part of their tour offerings.

This creates positive benefits for all parties involved. Tour operators want to market themselves and their packages as “ethical”; however, most don’t have the capacity or expertise to verify the FGM profile of their partner villages. Under the MFM regime, operators which include only MFM-certified villages in their packages can now claim they are ethical (at least with respect to FGM) and can even charge a slight premium to customers for this differentiation. This creates a “race to the top” whereby those villages which have made concerted efforts to abolish FGM will receive “preferential status” by tour operators because of their MFM certification and differentiate themselves as more “ethical” tourist destinations compared to their pro-FGM counterparts. As a result, these villages will have a significant economic incentive to maintain this certification over time. To reinforce this incentive, Global Roots and its partners will also provide certified villages with promotion and marketing support to help build their brand as a tourist destination.

Along with our Mutilation Free Minyatta certification program, we are also devising a new program called **Kale for Kenyans** – an initiative that goes right to the heart of the economics of FGM. Please email our director for more information: rick@globalroots.org



The Greenhouse Social – Everyone is Invited!

Lunchtime and the post-lunch recess period is a stressful time for many children in the USA. The Greenhouse Social provides a supervised and friendly environment for children who fear bullying and social exclusion to enjoy their lunch and tend to their own vegetables and plants inside our greenhouse.

The Greenhouse Social addresses what we feel are the three greatest problems faced by inner-city American children: social exclusion and bullying at school, isolation and/or abandonment at home and over-reliance on junk or fast food for nutrition.

In our estimation, the greatest problem facing children unlike so many other places in the world is not starvation. It’s not that our children *don’t* eat – it’s *what* they eat that is the problem. The Greenhouse Social will teach children about good food and send them home with recipes that they can share with their families.

If we excite our children about good food, they will in turn excite their families – especially if they come home with recipes and food kits.

Baharak Children's Garden

Badakhshan, Afghanistan

Though our vegetable gardens and fruit trees have thrived over the last four years – and the food we produce continues to help our children find loving foster families – we have always dreamed of building a greenhouse so that our food program can be a year-round operation. We are proud to announce the construction of our first drip-system greenhouse in Afghanistan (see the photos on this page).

Drawing on our experience with drip-system greenhouses in other parts of the world we encouraged our local partner to purchase a greenhouse kit and construct a greenhouse with drip lines. A technical NGO donated \$3,600 of the \$5,600 required to build the greenhouse and train our local team how to make the best use of it.

Baharak Children's Garden Expenses for 2016

Description	Duration	Unit	Cost/Unit	Total Cost	%
BCG Manager	6	month	\$300	\$1,800	
BCG Worker	6	month	\$150	\$900	33.0%
BCG Worker	4	month	\$150	\$600	
Rent	6	month	\$300	\$1,800	18.0%
Fuel Cost	5	month	\$250	\$1,250	12.5%
Food Cost	6	month	\$200	1,200	12.0%
Tools/Equipment	1	month	\$450	\$450	4.5%
Greenhouse Cost	1	set	\$2,000	\$2,000	20.0%
Total			\$3,800	\$10,000	100%

Faizabad Expansion

After a three-month search, our local partner Janagha Jaheed has found a local community center to partner with in Faizabad. So far, \$3,500 has been donated to the Faizabad Shelter for Women and a second amount of \$6,500 will be wired in mid-November after we receive a Memorandum of Understanding from the shelter's management. The shelter takes care of 150 children, mostly orphaned female girls. The shelter doubles as a vocational school where older women learn how to tailor, weave, cook and make jewelry. Proceeds from the sale of the products help to finance the shelter.

We intend to begin construction of a Faizabad Children's Garden in early 2017!



The Sightless Children of Tibet



Five years ago, a young Tibetan woman named Kyila (far right) reached out to Patrick Firouzian of Global Roots to fund her dream: the first boarding school for sightless Tibetan children.

Born without sight, Kyila defied social tradition by sneaking out of her house to play with sighted children. It is generally accepted in Tibet that blind children are demons and should not be allowed outside of their homes. Kyila didn't listen!

Fortunately, Kyila's brother (middle) introduced her to an amazing NGO called Braille Without Borders (BWB) when she was 12 and Kyila immediately began to shine.

Kyila charted a new course for sightless Tibetans when she became the first to attempt a climb up Everest and the first to study abroad. After graduating from the Tottenham School of English, Kyila managed BWB in Lhasa before accepting a scholarship to study social entrepreneurship in India.

Kyila returned to Lhasa again in her early 20s with all of the skills she would need to launch her dream. Global Roots supported Kyila from the beginning with cash grants totaling \$45,000 and other in-kind support exceeding \$100,000. We are now raising funds to erect one of our food-growing greenhouses in front of Kyila's new boarding school.

Kyila was recently funded by Global Roots to travel to Shanghai where she dictated her life story to our founder, Rick Montgomery. We are now raising the funds we need to help Kyila tell story to the world.



Our Active Programs

Click below for further information on our website.

End Female Genital Mutilation in Kenya

Our branding strategy “Mutilation Free Minyatta” will help young Maasai rise up against FGM. With help from the Girl Effect (a Nike-funded global philanthropy) we will provide assistance to any Maasai village (or Minyatta in Maasai) that agrees to embark on a policy of zero tolerance against FGM.

[Click for more information](#)

Protect Orphaned Children in Afghanistan

Our long-running project in the war-torn province of Badakhshan protects over 20 orphaned children from the threat of abduction and forced conscription. A new program in nearby Faizabad provides sustenance to a women’s community center that cares for more than 150 street children.

[Click for more information](#)

The Matulani Children’s Garden

This is our flagship food security project in East Africa. We built our first greenhouse six years ago in the Kenyan town of Mtito Andei and have since added a hen house and rabbit farm.

[Click for more information](#)

Help Our Local Partner in Tibet Rescue More Blind Children from Domestic Isolation

All sightless children have the right to live freely and learn to read!

[Click for more information](#)

Help Micro-finance Floating Vegetable Gardens in Cambodia

Our floating nutritional gardens help Cambodian fishing families offer more balanced diets to their children on Tonle Sap Lake.

[Click for more information](#)

The Greenhouse Social: Combating Bullying and Social Exclusion in the USA

End an over-reliance on fast food and get families cooking together at night!

[Click for more information](#)

Donor Due Diligence

Global Roots has achieved the highest rating possible (five stars) at Guidestar – the global watchdog of grassroots charity.

We are an IRS-approved 501(c)(3) charity in the USA. Our 2015 990 and other financial documents are available on our [Financial Data Page](#).

Note: 88% of all donations in 2015 were spent on projects – not central administration.

[Please click here to make a tax-deductible donation by credit card](#)



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