



morethanme
F O U N D A T I O N

MORE THAN ME UPDATE

VOLUME 1 / ISSUE 3

SEPTEMBER–
OCTOBER 2010

Bringing opportunity to children in developing countries through education while raising global awareness in the USA



James sports a favorite t-shirt

Student Profile

ALMOST 12 AND READY TO ENTER THE THIRD GRADE if he passes his entrance exam, James stands out among other children as streetwise and fiercely independent but determined and kindhearted. One day in downtown Monrovia, he noticed a woman with a mental illness sitting unclothed in the dirt in front of a popular shop. He took off his dirty, ripped shirt—one of the only ones he owned—and walked over to the woman and handed it to her. James is tough; his dad died in the war and his mom is gone. He is being raised by his grandmother, who struggles to find food for the family. Like all grandparents, she desires her grandson to be somebody one day. We do too. ➤

Note from the Founder

HI EVERYONE! I MADE IT BACK TO LIBERIA safely on August 20th. I'm staying with friends here in Monrovia for the next month as we work to help 25 new kids get to school this fall. Check out our **Facebook** page to keep up with stories from the field and learn about the children your money and time has helped support. I will send updates as much as possible but the Internet is extremely unreliable here during the rainy season. ➤

Blog Announcement

MORE THAN ME HAS JOINED the blogging world! With our talented editor, Jacob Patterson-Stein, and our fantastic blog team, we are excited about using the blog to keep our More than Me community frequently updated. To follow news about our students and projects or to connect with us, share a story or voice your opinion, visit our blog online at www.morethanme.org/blog.

If you are interested in writing for our blog or have an interesting idea for a story, please email jacob@morethanme.org. ➤

Global Education Facts

15 The percent reduction in US government education aid to Liberia for fiscal year 2011. **SOURCE: USAID**

50 The percentage of educated mothers likely to immunize their children compared to mothers with no schooling. **SOURCE: WORLD BANK**

7 million The number of additional children—many of them girls—who entered school when school fees were abolished in Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya alone.

SOURCE: OXFAM

47 million The number of children in developing countries who will receive no schooling by 2015.

SOURCE: THE UNITED NATIONS

1 billion The approximate number of people who entered the 21st century unable to read a book or sign their names. **SOURCE: UNICEF** ➤

morethanme.org

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More than Me team members (left to right) Jacob Patterson-Stein, Katie Meyler, Aram Ter-Minassian, Matt Fortier, John McKenzie, Stephanie Hood, and Margot MacDonald at the spring fundraiser

Volunteer Needs

MORE THAN ME IS ACTIVELY SEEKING VOLUNTEERS. We would love to have anyone, anywhere volunteer in any way but are especially in need of HTML coders, WordPress blog designers/coders, web and graphic designers, and grant writers/communications folks. Also, we are always looking for interested individuals to host fundraisers in their own communities. There are no limits to what we can accomplish as we move to double the amount of students More than Me puts in school next year. If interested in volunteering in any way, email Stephanie Hood at stephanie@morethanme.org and let her know what you're most interested in. ➤

MORE THAN ME MERCHANDISE



Interested in buying a More than Me American Apparel t-shirt or eco-tote bag to help support our current project in Liberia? Visit morethanme.org/store

What We Are Up To

THE LAST THREE MONTHS HAVE BEEN INCREDIBLE for More than Me. By the time you read this newsletter, we will have a total of 30 children attending school because of the work More than Me has been doing and our belief that education is a right for the world's children.

We are excited about introducing a children's profile area of our website, where we will be sharing stories, artwork and images about the amazing children receiving More than Me educational support. Look for it in the coming months.

Above all, we thank each of you for helping us make a difference in the life of a child. Your support has come to us in a variety of ways—financial, moral, volunteer—and has made all the difference. Send us a message at www.morethanme.org/about-us; your actions and words are felt! ➤

GlobalGiving Feature

LAST MONTH GLOBALGIVING FEATURED MORE THAN ME on its blog, discussing the founding of More than Me and how we work together to inspire change (as well as a video starring two of our own, Katie and Stephanie). To check out the blog, visit our GlobalGiving page at www.globalgiving.org/projects/iberia-scholarships/updates. ➤

Team Member Spotlight

Graphic designer and community builder **BRYAN KEEVER** is thrilled to be involved with an organization with such amazing heart, hope and determination.



Bryan Keever

A freelance print and web designer by trade, a photographer by habit, and a resident of the DC area for 10 years before moving to San Francisco this year, he is driven by a love of cultures (local and abroad), the rhythms and interactions of everyday life, and the stories that evolve from there. He continues to strive in contributing to the prosperity and promotion of More than Me in ways that inform, motivate, and inspire. ➤

Keep up to date with what's happening with More than Me through our events page on our website: morethanme.org/newsroom

Donate to More than Me!

\$200.00 Full tuition for one school year
\$100.00 School supplies for 10 children for one year

\$50.00 Uniforms for 3 children
\$25.00 Shoes for 2 children
morethanme.org/donate