

Change a Life — Create a Brighter Future

By sponsoring a student at Peace House Secondary School, you provide a young Tanzanian student an opportunity to create a better life for him or herself, their family, and their community. Your sponsored student will write to you at least twice a year, helping them develop their English writing skills and you will have the opportunity to write letters back to your student.

Learn more about our sponsorship program at www.peacehouseafrica.org!

Please join us in this life-changing mission by becoming a Student Sponsor.



PEACE HOUSE SEC SCHOOL,
P.O BOX 13386,
ARUSHA TANZANIA
7th NOV 2009

Dear Peace House Africa Donor

My name is Neema Rogathe I come from makumira village I have 16 years old my tribe is chagga I study at peace House secondary school. I am form two student I hope you are fine like me.

The purpose of this letter is to say thanks for your support. Thank you for being generous, thoughtful and so true. Because before I come at peace House I did n't know english and how to study but now I know every thing. I was living as an orphan, who previously had no future but since I joining Peace House I know have hope for my life.

Because of your support I have got a dream in future life you are the one who has made and will make my dream fulfilled. I expect to become a accountant after my studies.

lastly I would like to thank you again for your contribution and God bless you in every thing you will be doing.

Your sincerely
Neema Rogathe.



PEACE HOUSE AFRICA

6581 City West Parkway
Eden Prairie, MN 55344 USA
952-465-0050
www.peacehouseafrica.org

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HOPKINS, MN
PERMIT NO. 1253



PEACE HOUSE AFRICA

NEWS

Winter 2010

Eric & Elias:

Finding Hope After Tragedy

Eric and Elias Mbaga share everything.

As twins, they shared a womb. They share a passion for drawing and basketball. And until 2005, they shared the love of their two parents.

In 2005, Eric and Elias' father died of AIDS. Their mother would die just a short time later. Now the twins shared the grief that comes with profound loss and the fear of a very uncertain future.

When the boys were visited by administrators from Peace House Secondary School (PHS), they were designated as "very seriously vulnerable." Their mother was then very ill and there was no extended family member able to take them in. They'd always known that the road ahead would be a difficult one. Now they faced the prospect that they would be traveling this road alone.

In 2008, the boys learned that they had been selected to join PHS.

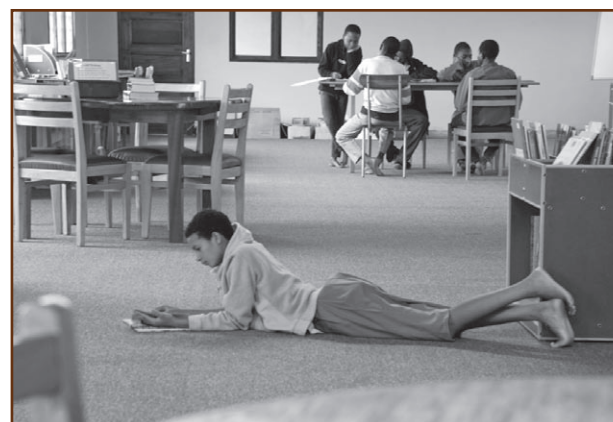
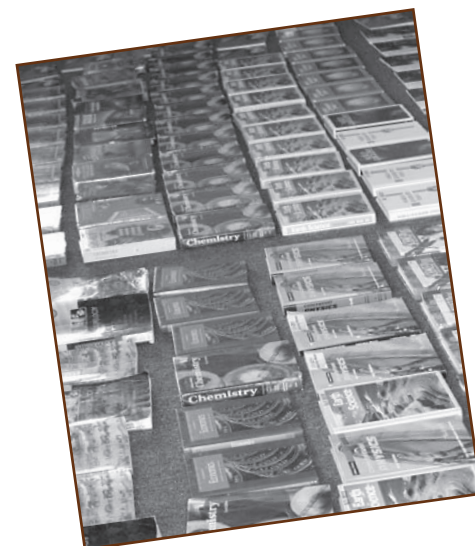
Elias is in the Construction Club. Eric joined the Cooking Club and is planning to campaign for student government next year. Both boys are very well liked and are good participants in class and after school activities.

Ask them what the future now holds, and each boy will paint a much different picture than they would have just a short time ago. Eric wishes to become an HIV/AIDS educator to help others avoid the fate of his mother and father. Elias would like to be a doctor in order to offer people relief from their suffering.

Eric and Elias Mbaga share everything. And while the pain and fear



they experienced together will forever be a part of who they are, at PHS they have found a home where the loneliness they shared has been replaced by the love and support of a caring staff and friendly classmates. At Peace House, the twins now share something they never permitted themselves to feel — Eric and Elias Mbaga now share hope.



Kirchner Learning Center at Peace House Secondary School



Follow us at
www.twitter.com/PeaceHouse



Become a fan on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/peacehouseafrica

New Students Have Arrived!

Early in January 2010, 110 new students arrived at Peace House Secondary School (PHS). Wide-eyed and eager to learn, these students are part of the third class to begin their studies at PHS.

Now, more than ever, we need your support to ensure that these new students, and the hundreds of other orphaned children supported by Peace House Africa, have the chance for a future filled with promise.

Go to www.peacehouseafrica.org and click "Donate Now" or send in your remittance envelope!



NOTES

Shelley Jacobson
Executive Director
Peace House Africa

Recently, I noticed a poster on the wall that read: *A vision without a task is but a dream. A task without a vision is drudgery. A vision and a task is the hope of the world.* And I thought—that's us—that's Peace House Africa.

We are so lucky at Peace House to have a mission and core values that are time tested and timeless, a vision that education is the answer to eradicating poverty, students waiting and wanting to join us, so many dedicated volunteers and partners in the journey, so many people invested in Peace House already and, I believe, an almost infinite pool of people just waiting to be asked to invest.

This morning as I watched TV they were talking about the Winter Olympics. I remembered the many spectacular opening ceremonies of the Olympics and thought of Peace House and our roles—we are the carriers and keepers of a flame. Held high, it is a great light that can be carried by many hands working together. It is passed easily from one hand to another, is challenged but not defeated by wind or cold or darkness, and seems to shine brighter. It is a reflection of the past, an illumination of the present and lights the path to the future.

You—we, together— have committed ourselves to guaranteeing that there will always be a flame and people helping to carry it to new places and new heights.

We are excited about the potential to do more to provide an education and hope to even more AIDS orphans. I hope that our dream will become your dream and that the vision of a world where the students at Peace House Secondary School grow strong, compassionate, and empowered, becomes your vision too.

Thank you—for what you do— and the extraordinary things you will do.

Unique Fundraising:

One Family Inspires a Community

When Kami Guarino and two of her children were thinking of creative ways to raise funds for their first visit to PHS in Tanzania, little did they know their simple idea would quickly hatch into a community-uniting effort.

Throughout June and July of 2008, Abbe (12) and Danny (10) hosted a lemonade stand and "Tanzanian Snack Bar" near the local swimming pool in Homestead, Colorado. It didn't take long before word spread and many others in the neighborhood eagerly jumped in to help out and contribute too.

As Kami relates, "It was truly powerful. Once we shared our mission

the entire community became involved, especially the kids. It was completely grassroots and an easy way to spread the word. The power of community was unbelievable." Their efforts raised nearly \$3,000.

This simple fund-raising idea grew to involve many kids and clearly had a lasting impact. As Kami shares, "It was such an empowering way to create passion in kids. They really felt good about what they were doing, and when people see a good cause, they donate".

In August 2008 the Guarinos, along with friends, totes 10 duffel bags of soccer gear, t-shirts and dozens of flip-flops half way around the world to the

amazement and delight of the students at PHS. The immediate and powerful connection marked an exciting beginning to their 11-day visit that would ultimately surprise, teach, and inspire everyone involved.



Help Wanted

Volunteer(s) needed 5-8 hours per week for data entry and general clerical work at the Peace House Africa office in Eden Prairie.

Internships also available in the areas of development and communications.

Interested? Contact Shelley at shelley@peacehouseafrica.org or call 952-465-0050, ext. 1.



A Learning Experience:

PHS Headmistress Making a Difference



Theopista (Theo) Seuya's recent visit to the U.S. in November focused on a variety of school and university visits to learn more about education systems and observe leadership methods. Her non-stop journey included first-time visits to Denver and Dallas, as well as many events and presentations within Minnesota, including the Colors of Hope Gala. Many connections were formed and friendships renewed.

Beginning her fourth year as Headmistress of Peace House Secondary School (PHS), Theo used each opportunity to gather ideas adaptable to the PHS environment to better equip teachers and volunteers. This

included innovative ways to set up classrooms, student-teacher ratios and the important role of the social relationships and personal interaction between teachers and students.

Although the emphasis at PHS is on quality learning, all teachers and volunteers play a critical secondary parental role as nurturer. As Theo relates, "If kids feel secure and encouraged, they develop confidence and trust. Learning comes easiest in a trusting environment and with confidence they will make good decisions in life."

In addition to education, the kids receive on-going guidance with life and coping skills, sports and recreation opportunities, devotion and prayer, social time, quiet time and service activities that focus on giving back to the community.

Theo's role continues to expand and

grow at PHS. A typical day starts with a schedule, but rarely follows one, as Theo meets the daily challenges of serving the wellbeing of hundreds of young students. She's determined to not only oversee their learning experience but also ensure that basic life needs are met and every one has eaten and is safe. "That's when I really have peace", shares Theo.

While education remains the primary focus at PHS, there are countless factors adding stress, hardship and distraction to daily life. Theo shares that prayers and encouragement from volunteers, friends, Peace House Africa board and staff and her family make a big difference. Theo relates, "As I continue to grow in my role, my attitude and perception of life has changed and given me a heart of thanksgiving and contentment."

Oh, What a Night!

Colors of Hope 2009 was an evening filled with hope and promise. In November, over 500 supporters of Peace House Africa gathered at The Depot in Minneapolis to celebrate the work of the past year and raise funds to continue the mission of Peace House.

The evening featured entertainment by several local artists as well as a speech by guest of honor, Theopista Seuya, Peace House Secondary School Headmistress.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this event a success!



PEACE HOUSE DRUM

This past fall, students at Peace House Secondary School created their first ever STUDENT NEWSLETTER, Peace House Drum. Below is an article about life on campus. See the entire first edition of Peace House Drum, including some great photos, on our website!

School Life

by Bahati Lemayani, PHS Student

Life at Peace House Secondary is so good. At PHS there are good teachers, many books, good shelter, and good buildings. On top of that, there are variety of after school activities such as swimming, sewing, football, netball, volleyball, rugby and so forth. We also have electricity, water, a nice environment and a garden for cultivating various crops such as maize, beans and bananas. Rabbits and sheep are also kept on campus.

I like studying hard since the environment does allow me to do so. I also do sewing as my extra-curricular activity and enjoy it. The students here respect each other. We live as one family in peace, love and unity.

I enjoy the well arranged weekly school time - studying from Monday to Friday. Personal study time and group discussion are at night. Weekend programs include hosting games, sports outings, workshops, formal and informal talks with the staff and so forth. I see myself growing holistically through all these experiences.

Students at PHS work hard so that we can persevere and reach our goals. We thank our teachers and staff who stand by our side to help us reach our goals.



PHA's New Addition!

We are pleased to announce that Katherine Poindexter has joined the Peace House Africa staff as Director of Development. Katherine is a highly skilled financial and fundraising executive with excellent communication and leadership skills. Through her experience working with many nonprofits, as a contributor, a volunteer, and in managing their funds, Katherine understands the challenges of nonprofits today. "I'd like to leave this world in a better place than I found it, and educating all our children is key to changing the world," said Katherine.

Contact Katherine at katherine@peacehouseafrica.org or by calling 952-465-0050, ext 2.

Please join us in welcoming Katherine to PHA!

100 HOLES FOR HOPE

JUNE 1, 2010
Bearpath Golf & Country Club

Help AIDS orphans (and earn bragging rights) by golfing 100 holes in one day!

Sound crazy?
It is...but it can be done!

Golf 100 holes in ONE DAY and raise funds for the students at PHS.

To learn more about this great event, contact:

Marc Papineau
952-393-7585
mpapineau@comcast.net



PEACE HOUSE AFRICA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dana House, Chair
Dan Dryer, Treasurer
Susan Augustine
Ron Carlson
Tom Hansen
Michelle Jahn
Marc Papineau
Dain Rodwell

US STAFF

Shelley Jacobson, Executive Director
Katherine Poindexter, Director of Development
Kate Krebs, Communications Director
Elaina Reinke, Operations Manager/
Volunteer Coordinator

TANZANIA LEADERSHIP STAFF

Jeff Hollister, PHS Director
Clive Ashton, Tanzania Representative
Bodil Ashton, TZ Education Specialist
Angelista Tarimo, TZ Education Advisor
Fragrance Moyo, TZ Scholarship Admin
Theopista Seuya, PHS Headmistress
Andre DeBeer, PHS Site Manager
Tait Davidson, Volunteer Coordinator/
Social Worker
Ernest Makena, Finance & Admin. Mgr.
Monica Daniel, Social Worker

Our Mission

In the spirit of giving hope, Peace House Africa is creating a brighter future for Africa's AIDS orphans, vulnerable children and their communities through nurturing care, dynamic education, technology research and business development.