

VOH (Voices of Hope) May, 2008 Newsletter

Dear Friends of Voices of Hope:

It is with a thankful heart...that I write this Spring Newsletter.

In spite of the violence and uncertainty that my country has experienced since the first of the year, our "Voices of Hope" Project remains strong, and our young women continue to be safe and well in Kenya. Even though the Kenyan economy continues to be uncertain and the price of food, lodging and basic necessities are at an extreme high; "Voices of Hope" has been able to remain faithful in sustaining the on-going necessary support needed to keep our students in school and to insure their safety. Thank you so much for your generous response to our Emergency Fund Request. Because of YOU, (our faithful supporters), we have been able to live up to our promise of offering our young women "voices of hope".



DRILLING A BOREHOLE & STARTING CONSTRUCTION OF A SAFE HOME:

In addition to the ongoing faithfulness of our friends, sponsors, and supporters, I am also very thankful and blessed by the response that we have recently received from our philanthropic requests. After many years of believing that it will happen, and trusting that our prayers and hopes will be answered; we are finally in a position to begin the drilling of a borehole and the possible construction of a safe home for our young women in the Kajiado district of Kenya. All of the funds necessary to complete the project have not yet been raised, but we have enough funding to begin; and trust that additional funds will come in the near future. If you, or any organization to which you belong, are in a position to give; please

search your heart and know that all donations, regardless of the dollar amount are greatly appreciated.

NEED FOR WATER IN THE DISTRICT OF KAJIADO: *Finding and collecting water has always been a major problem in the district of Kajiado. A Maasai woman may walk five, ten or even twenty miles a day to collect and carry water on her back for her family. It can even take 10 hours for a single trip. With water supplied by the Voices of Hope borehole, women in the community will have more time to spend with their families and to participate in educational and employment opportunities. Community members will also be able to initiate farming and trading activities including the sale of milk in Kajiado town and neighboring boarding schools. The drilling of a borehole, will truly be a blessing to the Maasai people in my village and will bring positive change to their lives.*



RECRUITMENT, LEADERSHIP TRAINING, & SPONSORS: *I will be in Kenya for two months this summer. There is much to do while I am there. Eleven of our fourteen young women will complete their studies by September, so I will be looking for additional young women who show signs of being servant leaders to take their place. I will also be making arrangements for their schools and colleges and conducting a two week Leadership Training program for them. This training is extremely important in building their inner strength and belief in themselves. Women in the Maasai Tribe have not been encouraged to think for themselves or to believe that they can make a difference. Our training helps to build their self confidence and to nurture their natural abilities as servant leaders. We are*

also looking for additional Sponsors in order to provide more Maasai young women with "voices of hope". If you have not yet committed to being a Voices of Hope Sponsor, please consider doing so. Sponsorships can be shared by churches, clubs, and groups of friends. The cost per month is \$100, and \$ 1,200 per year.

FRIENDS OF VOICES OF HOPE: (Volunteers, Fund Raisers & Servant Leaders Needed):

Many of you have asked how you can help in our "Voices of Hope" Project. We are so thankful for your kindness and willingness to SERVE. Your compassion and desire to make a difference has encouraged us to form a much needed group of support individuals that we will refer to as "Friends of Voices of Hope". This special group of individuals will be made up of those who wish to actively support our project through fund-raising and direct service to our program. If you are interested in joining "Friends of Voices of Hope", please contact Theo Dobie (theo_dobie@yahoo.com) and she will help you to identify how your special gifts, talents, and abilities may best be utilized. For those of you who are action-oriented and looking for a project, consider organizing a "Spare Change Drive" facilitating a garage sale or

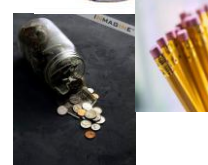


car wash, and/or hosting a "Voices of Hope" Gathering (A Party with a Purpose) at your home, church or club. I would be happy to attend your party to share stories about my Maasai Tribe and to tell you about our Voices of Hope Project. We will also bring African items that may be obtained for a donation. If you have other fund-raising ideas that you'd be willing to oversee, please let us know and we'll try to find others who are willing to assist you with your project.

VOICES OF HOPE INFORMATION SESSION (Sun., May 18th 2-4pm Columbia Basin College):



(African Boutique, Spare Change & Pencils): "Friends of Voices of Hope" will be hosting a Voices of Hope Information Session at Columbia Basin College (downstairs) Hawk Union Bldg. (2-4 pm) Sunday, May 18th. I would be so pleased if all of you could come. We will have African items available for purchase, and I will be sharing stories about my Maasai Tribe and the progress of our Project. All proceeds will go to support the Voices of Hope Project.



We also ask that you participate in our "Spare Change can CHANGE a Life" fundraiser by going through your purses, pockets, coin dishes, money jars, and even between the cushions of your sofas and chairs to bring in any "spare change" that you may find. All of the spare change will be dumped into an African basket and a special African gift will be presented to the person guessing closest to the exact weight of the basket. We will also be collecting pencils that afternoon that I will take with me to Africa this summer to give to the children of my village. So please bring pencils as well.

NEW WEBSITE, NEW ADDRESS, & NEW UMBRELLA: We now have a new website:

(<http://voicesofhope-kenya.blogspot.com>), a new mailing address (P.O. Box 6563) and are under a new umbrella (3 Rivers Community Foundation). All of these changes have come about as a result of our growth and success as a non-profit organization. After being under the umbrella of the Center for Sharing for five years, we are now ready to spread our wings and fly. (The CFS provides leadership and non-financial support to individuals during the developmental stages of starting a non-profit organization; but once they've become established, they are encouraged to become independent and step out on their own.) We will always be grateful for all that the Center for Sharing (and Cheryl Broetje and Glenn Cross) have done for Voices of Hope, and for their loyal support of our Project.



We are also very thankful for each one of you. Your kindness and generosity is vital to our organization and is very much appreciated. We truly could not do this without you. Many Blessings to you and yours!!!

With a thankful heartRachael

Please help us to reduce Newsletter mailing costs by providing us with your email on the form below or by emailing theo_dobie@yahoo.com

Feel free to contact us at any time for more information or an update on the Project.



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Voices of Hope (NEW ADDRESS)
P.O. Box 6563
Kennewick, WA 99336

BE SURE TO CHECK OUR NEW WEBSITE: <http://voicesofhope-kenya.blogspot.com>

I would like to:

(Clip & mail to: Voices of Hope*P.O. Box 6563*Kennewick, WA 99336)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Join "Friends of Voices of Hope" | <input type="checkbox"/> Help with mailing and printing costs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor a student's Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Support Voices of Hope shelter and food costs |
| Total cost per month is \$100 or \$1,200 per yr. | <input type="checkbox"/> Support construction of a Borehole/Safe Home |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support Voices of Hope with on-going operating expenses | <input type="checkbox"/> Support Voices of Hope with unforeseen expenses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Host a Voices of Hope Gathering (Party with a Purpose) | <input type="checkbox"/> Host a garage sale - A portion of Funds donated to Voices of Hope |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organize a Spare Change Drive | <input type="checkbox"/> Help to find donors and sponsors |

Make a 1X Pledge of: \$ _____ Make a monthly Pledge of: \$25 ___ \$30 ___ \$50 ___ \$100 ___ \$200 ___ \$500, Other\$ _____

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____ Email: _____