

Nurturing Minds NEWS

Change Our World,
Educate A Girl

Nurturing Minds Newsletter
Volume 1, Issue 2, Jun. 2009



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Student Highlight: Semeni M.

My name is Semeni M. I am 15 years old. My father is dead and my mother suffers from high blood pressure. I really need to help my family from poverty because we don't have any source of income. I come from Dar es Salaam and my tribe is Zaramo. I have one sister who is 10 years old. We both stopped school in 2006 due to the death of our father. When I was staying at home, I used to help my mother with domestic work. I heard from the village chairman about a school known as Sega that helps girls. I am very happy to be in Sega because my goal is to be educated. Since joining Sega, my dream is to get a job and help my family.



Interview with Sega's headmistress, Astridah Katalyeba



[Q] How are the Sega girls doing?

They are really doing fine. I see them trying to balance the challenges ahead of them, and sometimes getting pulled down by their family problems, but I always tell them "look ahead." They only miss school when they are really sick. This shows that they really want to get somewhere.

[Q] What makes you the most proud?

That I am able to help girls who previously had lost hope of receiving any kind of education or getting out of poverty. It really makes me feel proud that one day these girls will look back and say had it not been for the Sega School; they would not be where they are in life. We pulled them out of the doldrums that they had despaired in, and that really makes me proud. Now they have hope, whereas before they had no hope.

[Q] What's your own educational background?

I graduated with a degree in edu

cation and have been teaching for over 30 years now.

[Q] Anything you want to share with donors in the US?

I appreciate that they did the right thing at the right time. There are many NGOs doing a lot, but no one else has picked out primary school drop outs. This really touched me, as they are forgotten about. This is really something very good and useful in our society and we have so many needy girls in our society. You can imagine how many there are who need to be pulled out of this desperation of just waiting to grow up and get married.

Nurturing Minds is on Facebook and Twitter!

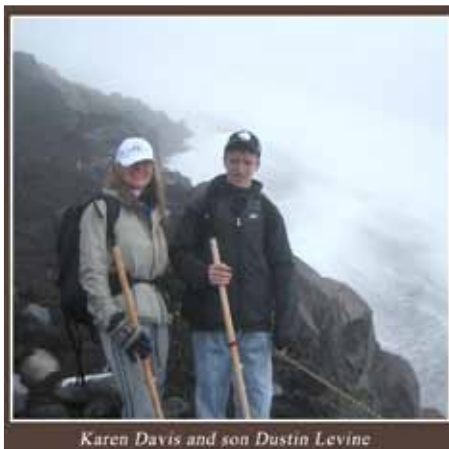
Did you know that you could follow what we are up to on Facebook and Twitter? We regularly update our activities on these sites and strongly encourage all of our supporters to join our on-line groups and help us expand our social networking efforts.



facebook


Mt. Kilimanjaro Climb Update

Karen Davis and her 15 year old son Dustin Levine are preparing for their Kilimanjaro (19, 340 feet) climb in August. During the research phase of the trip, the mother/son team learned about Tanzania's extreme poverty and decided to turn their trip into a fundraiser for the Segs Girls School and donate 100% of all funds raised to the building campaign.



Karen Davis and son Dustin Levine

To follow Karen and Dustin's trip or to make a donation, log onto www.ingageinc.com/about-us/pas-sion-for-a-cause. Throughout the

trip, Karen and Dustin will write a blog and post photos of their adventure. 


PE Uniforms!



Segs girls receive new PE uniforms donated by MillsWear of San Francisco.


Construction Update



We have completed the walls for the main building and are adding roofing sheets, including several translucent panels in key places to ensure plenty of natural sunlight in the classrooms and dormitory. An eight meter high water tower will provide ample pressure for student showers and irrigation for our vegetable garden. We are close to completing a simple dining/kitchen "banda" (poles with a thatched roof) to serve as the student dining hall. 


Student Sponsorship Program Update

Since starting our student sponsorship program several months ago, 12 of our girls have been partnered with donors to receive a year of education. This is a terrific program for groups/families desiring to have a direct and global connection with a young girl.

We still have 16 students that need sponsorship, including Semeni M. highlighted above. For \$720 a year, a Nurturing Minds Sponsorship provides a safe classroom, teachers, transportation, books and recreational equipment. Sponsors receive quarterly correspondence/updates from their student. If you are interested in participating in this very vital program, please contact Christine Hammarskjold, Sponsorship Coordinator, at crh@usscseating.com or 610.960.3968. 

US Embassy Grant

In May 2009, the US Embassy in Dar es Salaam awarded a grant of 22,500,000 Tanzanian Shillings (equivalent to \$17,000) to help us start an organic vegetable garden through the purchase of a solar pump and irrigation equipment.

Through this project, the Segs students will produce vegetables for the school, and give away the remainder to needy households in their communities. 

Board of Directors Meeting



Nurturing Minds is a US-based (501) (c) (3) non-profit organization. EIN # 20-8870624

All donations to Nurturing Minds are tax deductible.

The official registration and financial information of Nurturing Minds may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State Bureau of Charitable Organizations by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1(800)732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.