

Village Volunteers Quarterly

Volume 02

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A Note from Founder and Executive Director, Shana Greene

Hello all,
Having just submitted a concept application to fund Feed Villages Demonstration Farms in five Kenyan partner villages, I am excited and feel confident as we await a request for a full grant proposal. My hope is that this grant will lead to food security and a foundation upon which the villagers can continue to build for the future together.

The plan is for one farmer from each village to attend the Grow Biointensive Agricultural Center of Kenya (G-BIACK) in Thika. After three weeks of intensive study, the farmers will graduate as Regional Supervising Trainers in biointensive organic farming methods, restoring soil fertility, seed saving, agro-forestry, farm management and water harvesting. Each trainer will return to their village demonstration farm to educate community members and school children. Three times a year each Regional Trainer will receive a visiting Master Trainer for ongoing workshops. The food produced on the demonstration farms provide for school and orphan home feeding programs. Seeds will be grown for biodiversity and seed saving practices. The seedlings will be used to restore tree cover to the villages.



Contact me to learn more!

Best wishes,

Shana

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The Butterfly Project, a teaching/nursing college scholarship fund for women supported by VV

WIN A TRIP! HOST A PARTY!

GLOBAL



IT TAKES A VILLAGE PARTY

Host an ***It Takes a Village Party!*** in August or September for a chance to be entered into our Grand Prize Drawing for a round-trip airline ticket to Kenya or Ghana. Share food, drink and camaraderie with family and friends during this global, grassroots event and have fun fundraising to help VV support life-changing initiatives like:

- **The Butterfly Project:** a teaching/nursing college scholarship fund for women
- **Ceramic Water Filters:** low-cost ceramic water filters and public health training
- **Education and Orphan Support:** tuition, books, school fees and additional support for orphans and vulnerable children
- **Environmental Youth Action Corps:** conservation, natural resource protection, and public health training for youth
- **Feed Villages Demonstration Farms:** organic demonstration gardens and tree nurseries that train farmers and donate food to schools and orphan homes
- **Kick it with Kenya:** public health education and leadership training for youth through soccer tournaments
- **Micro-Credit Programs:** small business training and loan program

SIGN UP FOR YOUR PARTY PLANNING KIT TODAY!

<http://villageparty.village-volunteers.org>

For more information, contact villageparty@villagevolunteers.org.

For prize point system and drawing rules, see page 4.



Online Resources:



Get Connected!

twitter
@VVolunteers

Village Volunteers is Twittering!
Visit our profile and tweet us
(in 140 characters or less, of course.)
[Twitter.com/VVolunteers](https://twitter.com/VVolunteers)

facebook

Join our new and improved
[Facebook Page!](#)
Follow the link and click "become a fan" to get our latest breaking news.
To all Facebook Group members, we will discontinue that page shortly.
Make the switch and see the improved functionality!

Linked in

Are you LinkedIn? [Join our group!](#)

ELSEWHERE ON THE WEB

Our Volunteer Social Network
VillageVolunteers.ning.com

Volunteer Journals
VillageVolunteers.blogspot.com

Website
VillageVolunteers.org



OUR PARTNERSHIPS: A CELEBRATION

AFRICA

The success of Village Volunteers relies heavily on the success of our partners. In celebration of our highly valued and integral relationships, we would like to share with you the ways in which we work together. It takes donors, organizers and people on the ground to implement change. According to our program directors in Ghana and Kenya, where we have been partnering for the longest time, we collectively have a great deal to be proud of. Learn more about these programs at VillageVolunteers.org.

RYVANZ-MIA ORPHANAGE, GHANA Program Director: Venunye Djentuh

Mama Esi, having lost her own father, and her children having lost their father, began caring for orphaned children in Kpando, Ghana in August 2006. Combining limited personal funds with those raised by selling homemade pastries, she and her children converted their home into Ryvanz-Mia Orphanage. Venunye Djentuh, a teacher by trade who grew to love the children, took on the role of Program Director and officially registered the orphanage as a non-profit organization with the Ghanaian government.



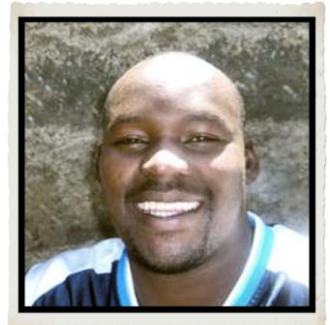
Venunye, Mama Esi's son says of the relationship with Village Volunteers, "Since we became partners, we have received continuous volunteers and donations. The hospitality fund goes a long way to feed, clothe and educate the orphans. The number of orphans rose from 6 to 13 within a year... Kids who were sleeping on mats on the floor saw themselves on bunk beds with mosquito nets, new school uniforms and consistent payments of school fees and school supplies. Life became normal for the children."

By joining forces, water filtration systems are now in place for drinking water, an organic garden has been cultivated to feed the children, and eight out of thirteen orphans attend Delta Preparatory School thanks to the support of Village Volunteers alumni.

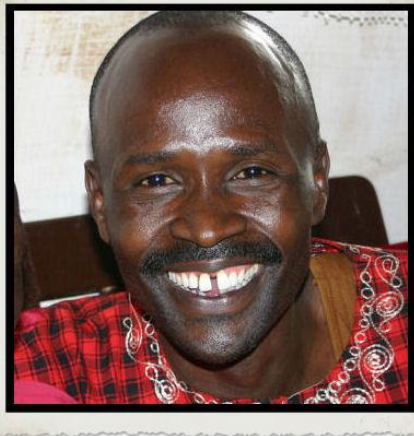
Venunye extends an invitation to volunteer along with this bit of advice, "I encourage you to ease into the pace of the community, love the slow and contemplative aspects of it; and it will only enrich your experience! Come volunteer at Ryvanz Mia Orphanage ... meet Mama Esi and the children. Help us to build a library room with a computer or support a child. You are welcome."

DAGO VILLAGE, KENYA Program Director: Patrick Adoyo

Dago Village has an orphanage, a school and a tight knit village community. Patrick Adoyo, son of program directors Pamela and Duncan, says, "Village Volunteers has been a very inspiring change provider. Having known of Shana since the year 2004, I never gave up on wanting to work with her."
(Continued on page 3.)



NAMUNYAK MAASAI WELFARE, KENYA



**Program Director:
Emmanuel Leina Tasur**

Hello Friends,

On behalf of Namunyak Maasai Welfare (NMW), I wish to convey my gratitude to the partnership that we've had with Village Volunteers.

We have been blessed with grants and fund raising assistance from VV and a large array of volunteers from diverse backgrounds who have impacted our community immeasurably. Milking Cows' project for widows, bikes for young people, bee-hives for youth groups, Cottonwood and other grants through VV enable us to do many environmentally sound programs and donations assist to build the Sirua Aulo Academy. It has been a chance to create prosperity for our communities.

We treasure every volunteer sent our way. In each one of them is a seed of long-lasting friendship. We get to learn and to share our experiences. This experience alone is monumental.

Any assistance towards sustaining VV and NMW in partnership is welcomed.

Emmanuel

The orphanage was constructed in 2002 and now houses 20 girls with 16 more on the way. According to Patrick, growth was slow until 2007, when they partnered with Village Volunteers. Since then, a feeding program, new kitchen, medical support, solar lighting and an organic farm have all been implemented.

At the school, Dago has only 8 teachers teaching a total of 350 children. Volunteers have helped substitute for the understaffed teachers and brought uniforms, sports equipment and supplies. According to Patrick, "Most volunteers who come get attached to children and have opted to send them to private schools. We wish more children will be sponsored."

In the community, new programs such as Youth Mentor Group, Environmental Youth Action Corp, and agricultural training have been established. "We hope more trainings... will help bring more developments in the agricultural sector." ☘



SOCCER + EDUCATION = EMPOWERED YOUTH KENYA

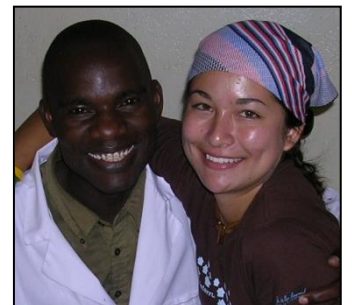
Kenyan youth face critical issues every day. HIV/AIDS, malaria, TB, sanitation, substance abuse are just a few examples. Kick it with Kenya, the second annual week-long conference, will take place in Dago Village this year, educating participants on these issues while leading soccer practice and tournament games.

During the month of August, you can volunteer for the Kick it with Kenya Tournament. Donations are needed to buy uniforms, provide food and clean water for the participants and to provide a mobile medical clinic for testing and health checks for children under five. With help from supporters like you, Village Volunteers hopes to expand this program, holding tournaments in other regions next year.



To learn more, email info@villagevolunteers.org or apply at VillageVolunteers.org.

Michele Fuji, two time Village Volunteer alum from Washington State, organized Kick it with Kenya in 2008 with Kenyan medical professional, Charles Wambulwa. Her constant engagement offers strong support through promotion, fundraising and organization. ☘



Umoja ni nguvu

A Swahili proverb meaning
“Unity is Strength”



In these difficult financial times, Village Volunteers is facing operational challenges. With even a small donation

toward administration costs, our small, dedicated staff can continue to develop and support village programs in Kenya, Ghana, India and Nepal. Please consider a donation today.

VillageVolunteers.org

Manage Your VVQ Subscription

VVQ Subscription Management

(<http://www.village-volunteers.org/mail/newsletter/user/login.php>)

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SIGN UP FOR YOUR PARTY PLANNING KIT TODAY!

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For more information, contact villageparty@villagevolunteers.org.

Win a Trip to Kenya or Ghana Prize Point System & Rules

Host* an *It Takes a Village Party!* and earn points to be entered into our Grand Prize Drawing for a round-trip airline ticket to Kenya or Ghana (or the equivalent value)!



How do I qualify?

You are eligible for one drawing entry for every 40 points you earn. You can earn points in three ways:

1. **10 points for every \$100 you raise** (or equivalent in other currencies)
2. **10 points for every party host you recruit**
3. **100% match for all points earned by your recruited hosts**

There is no limit to the number of drawing entries you can have.

Donations must be received by the Village Volunteers office by October 15, 2009, in order to qualify for the drawing.

How will I know if I won?

The drawing will take place on October 30, 2009 at the Village Volunteers headquarters in Seattle, Washington, USA. The winner will be notified by phone or email and announced in our e-newsletter, Village Volunteers Quarterly.

Thanks for supporting sustainable solutions in villages around the world!

** Village Volunteers employees, direct family of employees, and Board members are excluded from the drawing.*

