



DREAM SPONSORS, INC.

Making Dreams Come True for African Orphans and At-risk Youth

Highlights of Our Successful and Life Changing Trip to Kenya

A Letter from Dream Sponsors President & Founder

Issue 4: June 2010

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June 2010 marks the 4th year since the birth of Dream Sponsors! In celebration, I wanted to share some of the highlights related to our rewarding journey to Kenya this past April/ May. First, I sincerely thank our travel team, who contributed their own funds, dedicated their time, and continued to give of themselves throughout our three-week adventure.

Our team included Board Members Fiston Kahindo, Lexy Sanguinetti, Tom Neumann and volunteers Pam Grove, Sean Sanguinetti, Katie Scaglione and Christina Louis. We flew out of Miami on the first day that flights resumed through London following the volcanic eruption that threatened to cancel our trip. Special thanks to Linda Roberts of Escapes Unlimited Travel Company for her assistance during that time of unusual "turbulence"!

On the ground in Kenya we had the wonderful support of the Cardovillis family and their friends who assisted with our lodging, ground transportation, air travel, safety and much more. We are sincerely grateful to them for their kindness and hospitality. We are also very thankful to the Otuma family, our Kenyan Advisory Committee and Ebusiloli School Headmaster, Mr. Anjichi for hosting us while in Bunyore, and Jim Cummings of Kijana Educational Empowerment Initiative for his support. We also thank the Tom Neumann Agency and Beth and Allen Eyestone for their generous monetary contribution that assisted with specific travel-related expenses.

Mere words cannot express the range of emotions experienced while touring the slums, village homes and schools of our sponsored children. The sincere expression of gratitude through language, dance and poetry; the resilience, and the indescribable degree of poverty these children somehow manage to thrive in, literally brought tears to our eyes. The magnitude of the dire needs of so many children was sincerely overwhelming...beyond belief. The teachers and head masters we visited also expressed their appreciation for our dedication and willingness to help these children.

We extend special thanks to all of those who collaborated on finding and obtaining resources for Ryan, a sponsored child who was very close to the end of his life due to a severe congenital heart condition, (read more about this on Page 3).

During our journey we made new contacts who we hope to collaborate with in the future to expand our program and meet the extensive needs of the children. We were honored to present our project mission to the Karen Rotary Club in Nairobi and sincerely enjoyed their fellowship. We also met the president of Maseno Rotary Club and enjoyed learning more about the needs of this rural area. We were honored to meet Dr. Joshua Imbandu, who provided extensive insight into the many medical issues experienced by the orphan population and shared creative, state-of-the-art ideas on future programs designed to provide holistic healthcare.

During the home visits, we provided a formal qualitative assessment questionnaire to the sponsored child, caretaker and project volunteer liaison, and now have data to demonstrate that the support provided is positively benefiting these children. We can say with confidence that the generous donations of the sponsors is making a significant difference in their lives and giving them a true chance to fulfill their dreams of a successful future.

I thank you all for making 'our dream' to make a real difference in Kenya come true!

With sincere appreciation and blessings,

Carla B. Neumann, MS, LMFT

CELEBRATE WITH US!!!
Hooray! Hooray! Dream Sponsors is celebrating its 4th birthday!
There's no party, There's no clown There's no cake, but there's no frown!
We save our funds instead, and do our best to make sure our kids stay well fed
You're invited to help us celebrate And here's the best way you can participate... please take some time to donate.
See back for details

Sponsored Children Give Thanks and Continue to Shine



Dream Sponsors Board members and volunteers who traveled from the U.S., pose for a picture with the Nairobi-based children and their caretakers at Uhuru Park, downtown Nairobi.

Nairobi, Kenya — Several Board Members and volunteers of Dream Sponsors gathered with sponsored orphans and their caretakers at Uhuru Park on Sunday, May 1, 2010. The caretakers of each child expressed their appreciation to members of the team for the hard work and support offered, while attesting to the positive progress and advancements each child has made since receiving assistance. Kind words of appreciation were expressed in English and Swahili, while several children proudly shared their most recent school progress reports that reflected good results. The children and their caretakers also presented the Dream Sponsors team with a clock in the shape of the map of Kenya, as a token of their sincere appreciation.

Diana's aunt and caretaker explained to the group, that when she first brought Diana to live with her, she used to shake and seemed fearful. With the untimely death of both her parents, Diana was not attending school regularly and fell significantly behind academically. Now she is smiling more, making eye contact and improving in her school work. On another positive note, Bryan's caretaker also commented that she used to worry so much about him, never sure how she would manage to feed him, she said, "now he is doing so well in school and on his way to fulfilling his dream to become a pilot one day."



Diana (center) smiles and gathers with her school mates when Dream Sponsors officials visited her at school this past May.



Bryan (who wants to become a pilot) outside his one room home in Nairobi.

Dream Sponsors Team Networks Across the Globe to Help Save a Young Boy's Life

In November 2009, Dream Sponsors learned that Ryan, a sponsored child, suffering from a congenital heart defect since birth, was in dire need of open heart surgery. Ryan's health was severely compromised; fainting frequently, suffering shortness of breath and often too weak to go to school. Board members were overcome with despair as it was apparent that the sponsorship program, which provides for basic needs, did not have the fiscal capacity to fund the medical intervention needed for him to stay alive.

Dream Sponsors Board members decided that they would do whatever necessary to find other resources to assist, despite limitations. The team moved into action networking locally and overseas with friends, colleagues and even strangers to find help for Ryan. Board members also spoke with anyone willing to listen about Ryan's case until, one compassionate listener, Lauren Lester, provided priceless referrals that gave the team hope. Countless emails and phone calls later, the power of international networking finally led to a global fundraising effort. Months had gone by and well-wishers continued to pray that Ryan would hold onand he did! This past March, Ryan finally obtained open heart surgery to repair the (TOF) Tetralogy of Fallot and other heart issues. Ryan is recovering very well and returns to school this month.

Special thanks to Najma Zaveri and her mother Hayati Anjarwalla, who worked diligently to raise funds in Kenya; Susan Gachathi, Cardiac Program Coordinator and the team at Mater Hospital; Lisa Yacoub of Chain of Hope UK; Dr. Lance Lester, M.D., Dr. Richard Perryman, M.D., Lauren & Larissa Lester; Rob Raylman of Rotary Gift of Life; Dr. Bryan Funari; The Masterson Family; Marilyn James of Children and Charity International; very special thanks to Dr. Hani Hennein, and his team who successfully performed the surgery. Ryan's life was saved due to the compassion, kindness, persistence and dedication of this team of humanitarians, who united to share their skills and resources with him.



Ryan (left) smiles along with his brother Basil only a month after Ryan's open- heart surgery.

“ You came into our lives and made us whole again...

Thank you all the Dream Sponsors crew for your tireless efforts to find a lasting solution to Ryan's heart condition.

Thank you for giving me back my brother.”

The following speech was written and read by Basil (pictured above right) on behalf of all the Nairobi beneficiaries, on May 1, 2010

“I take this opportunity on behalf of all Nairobi beneficiaries of Dream Sponsors, Inc., to say “thank you.” You came into our lives and made us whole again. We don't worry about our next meal, our school fees and school requirements. How could we ever thank you? Only God will reward you for your kind-hearted generosity.

Having you in our lives is a big blessing especially for me. I used to worry very much about my brother Ryan. I was very scared because of his heart condition. Oh, how I prayed that he would be healed. Thank you, Carla, for all the hard work you went through in finding help to Ryan's condition. Thank you all the Dream Sponsors crew for your tireless efforts to find a lasting solution to Ryan's heart condition. Thank you for giving me back my brother.

Now he can walk all the way with me without making steps to rest. His hands, fingers, lips are now pink and not blue. Thank you so much...you came into our lives and gave us reason to smile again, no words could ever express how we feel, but I just want you to know how grateful we are. May the Almighty God give you good health & a long life so that you may see us achieve our dreams.

Long live Dream Sponsors and God Bless you abundantly!”

**Dream Sponsors Inc.
Making Dreams
Come True For
African Orphans and
At-risk Youth**



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Dream Sponsors, Inc. is a registered 501 (c) 3, tax-exempt, non-profit organization based in Wellington, Florida, USA, serving needy orphan youth in Kenya, Africa. Dream Sponsors is committed to creating networks of support through meaningful sponsorships designed to assist the youth with the emotional, financial and logical means to transform their dreams into reality.

TO MAKE A DONATION, PLEASE CUT OUT & FILL IN THIS FORM

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE (AND MAIL) TO:

DREAM SPONSORS INC.
12777 WEST FOREST HILL BLVD
SUITE 1501
WELLINGTON, FL 33414

First Name _____ **Last Name** _____

Address _____

Town/City _____ **State** _____ **Zip Code** _____

Email _____

Amount I would like to donate: _____

(If you want to make a donation by credit card, please call 561-795-2223)

Volunteers Travel to Africa for Their First Time with Dream Sponsors

Pam Grove and Katie Scaglione are strong women with big hearts. When they were asked to accompany Dream Sponsors officials on a volunteer mission to Kenya this past April, the two Wellington, Florida residents jumped at the opportunity with no hesitation and immediately committed to assisting the team while there. The two ladies funded their own travels, packed their bags, tearfully left their loved ones behind and traveled to Africa for the first time to visit and cater for the sponsored children.

all at the same time; but, because of the help Dream Sponsors is providing I never saw hopelessness. The children and their families are happier, healthier and eager to succeed. They love and want to go to school. All the things we in America take for granted, they treasure. They want to fulfill their dreams, and that's what it's all about, fulfilling dreams. I am very thankful and proud to have had this opportunity to travel to Kenya with Dream Sponsors to see the true difference we are making in the lives of so many wonderful people."



Katie (left) and Pam in Nairobi after visiting Mater Hospital

Most people who travel to Kenya have one thing on their minds: a safari... just like the ones seen on TV. But Katie and Pam had more than a safari on their minds. They were willing to travel to the sprawling slums of Nairobi and the rural Western region of Bunyore, to interact with the orphans sponsored.

Katie and Pam not only visited the home and school of each child in the program but also assisted the Dream Sponsors team with shopping for supplies, visited Ryan in the hospital (see feature on page 3) as well as participated in various networking meetings with Dream Sponsors officials. Pam had this to say about her trip, "people ask me time and time again, "so how was your trip to Africa?" I sit back and think with a smile on my face and say "it was an amazing adventure, it was the trip of a lifetime, it was a life changing experience!" No words can express the things that I saw or the feelings that I felt during my trip. The children we sponsor, have so little and yet they are so thankful. I saw great poverty, happiness and gratitude

Katie said, "the trip was unforgettable; my most memorable experience was while visiting Piliiah, Elizabeth, Herman and Habel in Bunyore, a rural section of Kenya. At night, there was no electricity and I really got to see the impact this non-profit organization makes by giving the kids



The sponsored children in Bunyore having fun with their schoolmates

lamps for homework, mosquito nets for their beds, shoes and all the necessities we take for granted. During our stay, the children put on a moving performance with songs about how thankful they are and how they will continue to pursue their dreams despite all the struggles they endure. While watching these orphans, it really showed what a difference Dream Sponsors is making in their lives. Playing games and chatting with them was the highlight because their spirit and positive energy is just unbelievable." Katie and Pam continue to volunteer locally with Dream Sponsors in Wellington.