

African Leaders of Tomorrow

Newsletter Three ,
Oct. 2012

Dear Friends,



ALOFT

AFRICAN LEADERS OF TOMORROW

As I write, it is one month since our first Victoria fundraising event. It was a great success in every way, and we raised \$10,000 to be used for school fees and school expenses for our eleven sponsored kids. All of the feedback indicates people found the event pleasant and satisfying, and let's face it, blessedly short. Some, of course, also found it materially rewarding, since they were lucky enough to win one of our twenty-one door prizes.

Other ALOFT news includes a landmark for our organization. Our first university student started classes last week. Stephen, who lost his second parent to AIDS three years ago, and who has been supported in school by ALOFT for two years and by Randal for one year before that, started on his Bachelor of Arts degree in economics at Ardhi University in Dar es Salaam.

Last year at about this time I made my second trip to Tanzania. At that time I had met only one of our sponsored children and that was Keyfa, the first student sponsored by Randal. The purpose of that trip was to get to know all the children and visit some of their schools. I also wanted to determine if there was a role for me to play there on a regular basis.

This year I go back (Nov 27-Jan 29) in the sure knowledge that there is a role alright. The kids are all in need of tutoring in English, the language of success in Tanzania. As a retired teacher and counsellor, I have to admit I had hoped never to teach children again (it's just such hard work !). But life does funny things to you sometimes, especially if you open yourself up to the real needs of the world. So I am busy preparing materials for teaching the only area I have no experience in, English as a Second Language. The children are on school holiday all of December, so it's a good time for tutoring.

There has been a new development in the area of donations. We discovered, the day before our fundraiser, that our bank had changed its policy and will now accept Pre-Authorized Debits (PAD) , and we can do 20 of these for free. This means we can set up arrangements which are the lifeblood of any charity, automatic electronic monthly withdrawals from the accounts of supporters to our account. Several people had been doing this with post-dated cheques and have already shifted to this much more convenient way of regular giving. I invite you to consider using PAD as well. Email me and I will send you the forms.

Let me, in closing, review the good reasons for giving to African Leaders of Tomorrow. We are a small grassroots organization, not a big faceless one. You can talk to us, have coffee with us. We are accessible. We have the same ability to issue tax receipts as any charity. We know our children personally and stay in touch with them. All donated money goes directly to children's school fees and school expenses. We have no offices, no employees. Our small administration expenses are covered by Randal's family. And perhaps most importantly, Randal is there in Tanzania looking after our children. When you give to ALOFT you can be sure of how your donations are being used.

Thanks so much for your support in providing opportunity to our children, the African leaders of tomorrow.

Have a look at our website if you haven't already : africanleadersoftomorrow.org

Email us at : info@africanleadersoftomorrow.org

Lyn Dunn

Board Chair