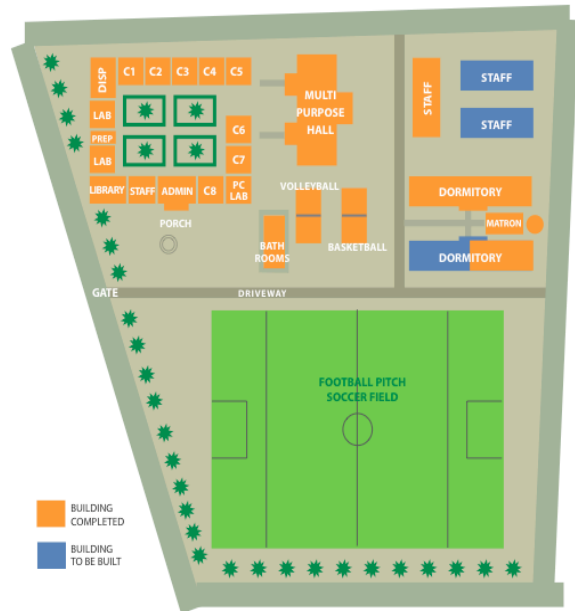


Dear Builders of St Francis Girls,

Yes, we are almost there! This past year has seen the completion of the last 3 classrooms, the dispensary (infirmary) and half of the second dorm. Remaining to be constructed are the other half of that dorm and 2 more blocks for teachers, each housing 3 teacher families.

Fund raising for building this school began in October, 2005 and construction began in June, 2006. Is this an amazing story or what!

Currently we have 133 students, 21 in the original class, now in Form 3, 45 in Form 2, and 67 in Form 3. When the new school year opens in January 2010, we hope to welcome a new class of 80, making us a complete 4-year high school!



We have 13 girls who are sponsored, as well as 13 boys at Archbishop Ndingi Boys High School. When construction is complete we can concentrate on providing many more scholarships---both for high school, and for college or university for the best of our Form 4's, the first of whom will graduate in November 2010.

This is an on-going project, in which we hope to serve many more of the poorest of the poor children. That has always been our mission.

Although the school is the main focus of Kenya Help, our donors have also provided support for Mji Wa Neema orphanage in Fr. Kiriti's parish. This year we paid school fees for 3 boys. In January there will be 1 more boy and 4 girls who are ready for high school.

In addition, Kenya Help has received contributions to fund an emergency food program in Fr. Kiriti's parish. As you no doubt know, Kenya is in its 3rd year of drought. Crops have failed

and there are no safety nets, like food closets or food stamps. Although the government has some programs, reliability is questionable. Kenya Help can guarantee that 100% of donations actually go to the intended programs, be they completing the school, providing scholarships, supporting orphans or supporting the poor and hungry.

Three of us went to Naivasha this past summer. Judy Murphy, retired social worker from Portland and a high school friend of Margo's, was there for 5 weeks. She collaborated with Jecinta, parish social worker, as they finalized the purchase of land to be given to 8 grandmothers to help them raise children whose parents have died. Most of the money for this was raised in Portland. Judy and Jecinta wrote a grant proposal to Catholic Relief Services (CRS) for a feeding program at a school serving poor children in Naivasha and to establish a pre-school with a feeding program. We are hopeful that CRS will fund this program.

Kay Williams, another long-time friend of Margo's, was there for 2 ½ weeks. She taught an English class for a teacher who was out for a conference, but mostly she was with Judy and Jecinta in the slums of Naivasha, learning about the needs and problems people, often single moms, face every day, as well as using her excellent writing skills with the CRS proposal.

Margo was there for 9 weeks, co-teaching math classes, tutoring children in Mji Wa Neema in the evening, meeting with a group of single moms who have banded together in an effort to support themselves, and continuing a long association with Life Bloom Services International. With graphing calculators generously donated by a teacher friend, she offered a workshop to math teachers showing the great features of these calculators. The math teachers LOVED those calculators!

Many people have loved the note cards we have with drawings by Calestor Kizito. They are still available, and can be viewed on our new website, www.kenyahelp.us. In addition, in the Nakuru market Margo met an artist with great drawings. We have a new set of 10 cards, at \$20. Here are four of the ten drawings. All are on the website.



We thank you so much for your support and hope that you will be able to help us continue these projects. The need will not end with the completion of the school. I'm enclosing a list of ways you can help.

With our gratitude and best wishes for the coming holidays.

Margo McAuliffe and the Kenya Help Board of Directors.