

Reachout To Africa

Schools for Schools Program

Changing Lives – One Child at a Time

*Schools
for
Schools*



Schools for Schools Copyright © 2019

Resourced by Reachout To Africa

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without written permission from the author.

Table of Contents

Index	3
Forward	4
Introduction	5
Schools For Schools Program – What’s it about?	
Chapter 1	6
Who Needs “Hope Clubs”? Making a difference.	
Chapter 2	8
What your students need to do. (6 Steps)	
Chapter 3	9
What are “Hope Clubs” all about?	
Chapter 4	11
Financial goals and objectives.	
Chapter 5	12
Hope Club Setup Checklist	
Chapter 6	13
How do we do this – Six steps to Success	
Chapter 7	15
Conclusion	

Forward

This program has been some years in development. The original concept was initiated before 2010 by the extreme challenges I saw for myself in local African schools in the various areas where we as Reachout To Africa worked.

The resilience of the learners was amazing, the desire to succeed was palpable. The need for resources was real, from library books to text books, from calculators to pencils and paper, everything was in short supply. The basic tools for a successful school career were not available in the quantity and quality that was needed to help these vulnerable kids achieve the necessary educational outcomes. I decided that at some point in my life I was going to do my bit to help this situation and make a difference. With the help of the board of directors of Reachout To Africa and the knowledge, wisdom and experience of Heather Stephens and her team, we developed the Schools For Schools Program you will read about here.

Join us and make a difference that counts.

Nick Short CEO and Founder – Reachout To Africa

Introduction

Schools For Schools is a program of facilitation whereby Canadian students can link with local African learners to develop friendships, facilitate mutual understanding and knowledge of the circumstances in which they live and learn on a daily basis.

The program provides an opportunity to Canadian schools to get real understanding of international development and the issues and challenges facing similar aged children and youth in other regions of the world.

In this process Schools For Schools facilitates the opportunity for a Canadian school to link up with a specific school in Africa and to help raise funds and support towards the educational and welfare needs of that specific school and the learners who attend there.



Schools For Schools Program

– What’s it about?

Schools for Schools was conceived and designed to foster growing communications between students in the first world and students in the third and developing world. With the exponential growth in the use of social networks and web 2 tools this has become a viable and meaningful way of developing better communication and understanding of the wider world. It’s time to make use of these tools to highlight the realities and challenges facing similar aged students around the world, particularly Africa.

This also develops students understanding of the reality of young people’s lives in poor countries of the world. In addition, we provide opportunities for them to develop programs, activities and action days to spread the word about poverty and education in Africa and provide **HOPE** to students in the schools they connect with. They can make a difference.



Who Needs “Hope Clubs”?

Making a difference - ONE child at a time.

It’s about what you can do to make a difference on the world. The fact of the matter is that African schools need “Hope Clubs” far more than first world schools. The reality of the matter is that in most schools there is a lack of modern equipment, basic schools facilities, sometimes even walls, electricity and flushing toilets.

Hope Clubs in Africa provide Psycho/Social care to stressed students. Most of these stressed students are orphans and vulnerable children, child heads of households and kids facing very difficult living conditions at home. Hope Clubs help us identify these students and to provide material resources, access to counselors and medical assistance. Sometimes it’s just the provision of a school uniform that replaces the stigma of not having a suitable uniform to go to school in that makes all the difference in a young person’s life.

Here in Canada it’s about informing and developing students understanding of the reality of young people’s lives in poor countries of the world. In addition, we provide opportunities for them to develop programs, activities and action days to spread the word about poverty and education in Africa and provide **HOPE** to students in the schools they connect with. They can make a difference.

We engage young people in important issues facing youth around the world. We provide opportunities for local youth to develop ideas, create real projects, develop leadership skills and above all inform themselves about important world issues facing young people today. Poverty, lack of educational opportunities, poor health care, HIV/AIDs and STD's and clean water and personal balance and boundaries are issues that face hundreds of millions of young people in Africa and around the world.

Our goal is to provide an opportunity for the student population in your school in engage in meaningful learning experiences and practical communication both within your school and with your partner school in Africa. We also provide those young people with leadership skills and motivation to grow and take charge of the program as it develops in your school whilst engaging them in positive social interaction and change. Selected young people from your school may be chosen to join one of our teams travelling to Africa immediately following their graduation from High School. They will have been well prepared to join one of these teams.

Did you know:

- ✓ It is estimated there are between 143 million and 210 million orphans worldwide (recent UNICEF report.)
- ✓ The current population of the Canada is approximately 34 million... to give you an idea of the enormity of the numbers... (The current population of Russia is 141 million)
- ✓ Every day 5,760 more children become orphans
- ✓ 2,102,400 more children become orphans every year in Africa alone
- ✓ Every 15 seconds, another child in Africa becomes an AIDS orphan
- ✓ There are an estimated 14 million AIDS orphans in Sub-Saharan Africa (a number higher than the total of every under-eighteen year old in Canada, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and Ireland combined)
- ✓ 8 out of 10 children orphaned by AIDS lives in sub-Saharan Africa
- ✓ Approximately 250,000 children are adopted annually, but... each year 14,505,000 children grow up as orphans and age out of the system by age sixteen
- ✓ Each day 38,493 orphans age out
- ✓ Every 2.2 seconds another orphan ages out with no family to belong to and no place to call home.



2

Teacher Supervisor - what your students need to do. (6 Steps)

1. Take the first few steps to making a difference
2. Commit to establishing a “Hope Club” in your school and participate in its programs
3. Get informed and get organized, attend the free preprogram training and get classroom resources
4. Get fun and focused informational and educational programs going in your school (and raise money for your designated partner school in Africa)
5. Communicate with students at your partner school via twitter, blogs, You Tube and Facebook
6. Get inspired to make a difference

Reachout to Africa’s Schools For Schools division and its local coordinators are committed to work with you through the entire year to complete your “Hope Club” projects and fully engage your school community. We’re with you all the way as you engage and impact the issues and challenges facing your developing world today. You’ll find more information and resources later pages in this brochure.

Your Schools For Schools Hope Club coordinator

At the outset we at Reachout to Africa value your time and effort in facilitating your schools involvement in the International Schools For Schools program. To assist you in this process, Reachout to Africa has appointed a local Hope Club coordinator who is dedicated to helping your school’s Hope Club reach its objectives.

This coordinator is someone in your region who has travelled to Southern Africa in the past and is passionate about the schools for schools program and the impact this program has on local communities in Africa. They are your live connection to real learners in a country in Africa. They represent the best of our volunteers and have a real heart for Orphans and Vulnerable Children.

These coordinators offer resources, advice and real experience in overseas programs. They will share their actual experiences while working in South Africa and Swaziland. They are training to help identify issues, deal with challenges, show you how to celebrate both your schools achievements and those of your partner schools in Africa. They are available to visit your school form time to time and can assist in program development and leadership development.

Your coordinator will keep in regular touch with your club leadership throughout the year and will provide regular updates and program information from Africa. It will help significantly if you could keep them informed about the programs and activities in your school. If you have any issues or problems to deal with, be sure give your coordinator a call or drop them an e-mail and they will be happy to help you in any way they can.

We will get an opportunity to meet you and your Hope Club team at the preprogram training session hosted by Reachout To Africa in your school. If before that event you need more information you are welcome to contact us at nick.short@reachout2africa.org with any questions and we’ll connect you with your Schools coordinator.



What are “Hope Clubs” all about?

How do they help and what’s expected.

Reachout to Africa provides resources and programs free of charge and the program is open to any school whose students feel they would like to participate in and develop a humanitarian program in the international development arena. Reachout to Africa will provide informative resources to both classroom teachers and the students. The goal is to foster international communications and assistance aid between students across the globe. By inspiring students in their schools and surrounding communities and providing web 2 resources to facilitate this communication both here in Canada and in our target countries, Schools For Schools “Hope Clubs” will make a significant contribution and foster international exchange of ideas and development.

"We cannot all do great things but we can do small things with great love."

(Mother Teresa of Calcutta)

Hope Club members will be encouraged to develop local programs and events which will bring focus to the plight of students in African countries. You, the teacher/sponsor, will provide guidance and support to your schools “Hope Club” activities and governance.

Reachout to Africa and the Schools For Schools Program expectations are:

- ✓ An preprogram training and information session with interested students
- ✓ Events and activities to bring focus and resources to support a “Hope Club” in a target country school (Est. \$2000 per annum)
- ✓ A half yearly report on your schools “Hope Club” activities

Teachers

There are benefits in the Schools For Schools program for your students and schools

- ✓ Free classroom resources
- ✓ Relevant materials on social justice and history
- ✓ Networking with local teachers and connections to classroom teachers in target countries
- ✓ New ideas and opportunities for lesson plans and discussion groups

And for your schools students

- ✓ Access to individuals with real on-the-ground experience in international development
- ✓ An opportunity to link up with like-minded students
- ✓ To engage in social networking with underprivileged students in foreign countries
- ✓ To feel like you're making a difference in real people's lives
- ✓ To have your voice heard on really important issues



Financial goals and objectives to make a difference

This area would require some discussion with the Canadian Students who wish to participate in the Hope Club. Schools For Schools will provide some guidance on specific needs of your partners school in Africa

We value every dollar and ensure that every cent will go towards your partner school.

Reachout To Africa is a Canadian Registered Charity. Schools For Schools is a division of Reachout To Africa.



Hope Club Setup Checklist

In order to get going you need to work through this checklist. This will ensure that you cover all the bases and are an effective club in your school.

- ☑ Get together with likeminded students in your school
- ☑ Seek out an interested teacher willing to sponsor you Hope Club within your school
- ☑ Get the schools principals permission to establish a Hope Club in your school
- ☑ Organize yourselves into a committee and allocate functions and responsibilities
- ☑ Announce you club and invite members
- ☑ Organize preprogram training and information session by your Schools For Schools R2A Coordinator
- ☑ Meet you partner school Hope Club committee
- ☑ Plan your action program, events, stunts and fundraisers (arrange for school to hold funds raised for disbursement)
- ☑ Provide reports back to your sponsoring teachers and to your R2A Coordinator
- ☑ Engage in ongoing web 2 communications with to partner school students via Facebook, Twitter, Blogs and You Tube videos. They will be doing the same thing with you.
- ☑ Celebrate every achievement
- ☑ Invite grade 12 students to consider going to Africa to work in the Reachout To Africa program when they graduate.

“It always seems impossible until it’s done.”

(Nelson Mandela)



How do we do this – Six steps to Success.

Schools For Schools has broken the “Hope Club” process down into Six steps to help to get going and stay on track and to ensure success during your school year.

Step 1: Take the first few steps to making a difference

Many students have an interest in world affairs and the challenges facing students in many countries in today’s global situation. You will have some in your school and our Schools for Schools program offers them an opportunity to be informed, become engaged and to take action to make a difference in international aid and development. We want to make the Hope Club a fully functional and effective student body organization within your school. All it needs is the commitment of students to set this up and to maintain an ongoing regular relationship with their partner school in Africa.

Step 2:

Commit to establishing a “Hope Club” in your school and participate in its programs.

Students: Get it together, get your friends on side and get a teacher to sponsor your club and commit themselves to your success. Be trained and starting putting together your ideas for an action plan of social awareness, fundraising and communications in your school for the coming year.

Step 3:

Get informed and get organized, attend the free preprogram training and get classroom resources.

Be motivated to make a difference in the lives of students in Africa. Commit to attend the free training session provided to you and your team by Reachout To Africa. Hear the stories and experiences of other young people who have been to Africa in the recent past. Get you map of Africa and locate your school on Google earth. Learn about the issues and daily challenges facing young students trying to get educated in Africa.

Step 4:

Get fun and focused informational and educational programs going in your school (and raise money for your designated partner school in Africa)

Set up a kick-off event, follow up with regular monthly information and fundraising activities designed to help those schools in need in Africa. Events including unique, odd, unusual, funny, programs, film nights featuring African produced films, African days, discussion seminars with guest speakers, African music, drama and drumming events to name a few. Report back to your Schools For Schools Program Coordinator on a regular basis. They’ll check in with you from time to time anyway.

Resources:

- A) Your “Schools For Schools” program Coordinator
- B) Lesson Plans
- C) Inspirational Speakers, seminar presenters and book recommendations
- D) Program development assistance
- E) Inspirational and challenging films, videos and music/musicians
- F) Social media tools and guidance – Join Schools for Schools on Facebook, you tube, etc.
- G) Direct communications with fellow students a continent away

Your School's Goal:

Action days and events can be big or small, fundraising or not, it's up to you.

Reachout To Africa and Schools For Schools would like to see your school raise a minimum of \$2000 during the school year. This amount will all go to your partner school in Africa. Reachout To Africa cover any administration costs of maintain this program. So 100% of funds to your partner school in Africa. This money will go towards the costs of running the club in Africa, food on weekends, programs materials, sports equipment, Psycho/Social care program and materials, training of leaders, planting a vegetable garden, etc.

Step 5: Communicate with students at your partner school via twitter, blogs, You Tube and Facebook
Get to know your friends in Africa, hook up with them on Facebook or Skype, your clubs blog, twitter or set up your own club webpage. We will help you get this done. Upload videos of your club members sharing their thoughts, your crazy club events and activities; share them with your partner schools in Africa. There's a lot you can do to get up and running really fast.

Step 6:

Get inspired to make a difference

Share the vision, lead others to become involved, Learn to lead a team of volunteers and social activists getting clued in to make a difference in the world today. Young people reaching out to young people are the way to change the system and make the world a better, more peaceful place.



We at Reachout To Africa and Schools For Schools appreciate the opportunity to share this exciting new program with your tstaff and students. We look forward to working together with you to develop an interesting and worthwhile program of International Development in your school.

For more information please contact:

Nick Short

nick.short@reachout2africa.org

or call (604) 307-1069