



Pictured from left: Katie, Kyle, Patti, Lance, Leah, Eric and children Elijah and Zachary

Sponsor Highlight **Patti Richardson**

**WE HAVE BEEN SO FORTUNATE TO
HAVE THIS LADY AND HER FAMILY IN
OUR CORNER FOR THE PAST 9 YEARS!**



From left: Leonard, Patti, Nelly and Shari on the OC Coast during her visit in 2019 when she stayed with Patti's family. She says "My grandsons LOVED her!"

Patti Richardson is an integral part of Amboseli Children's Fund and we felt it was long past due that she receives some recognition for her role in our organization.

I have known Patti since 2005 when she became the bookkeeper for my business; My Doggies Daycare. She has always been a delightful lady to work with - patient, positive and faith based.

When Leonard and I first began our collaboration on ACF in 2012 Patti stepped up as one of the first sponsors. She requested an older boy for fear they might be passed over. She has never wavered in her support of our kids.



AMBOSELI
Children's Fund

Greetings friends and family! It's wonderful to connect with you now that we are finally seeing an end to the COVID shut-down. We hope that everyone has stayed healthy and are now enjoying more of their regular activities.



Sadly, Kenya still struggles with the virus and less than 1% of their population has been vaccinated. Below is an article that was published which describes the challenges a third world country faces in a pandemic.

Leonard tells me many of the Maasai have fallen sick but lack the funds to seek medical care. Fortunately no deaths have occurred in our region of Amboseli National Park. Our children remain well and have returned to school after a short break in May.

Two of our students; Faith and Dory are excited to be moving on to secondary school. We hope to secure positions at Navaisha Girls Schools where we already have some older students who can assist them as needed.

The boys are holding their own; most of them earning high marks even though they were not able to do any distance learning last year.

We did have two rather frightening experiences; a snake bite (further details below) and one of the students ran away after learning he had slipped in his exams.

Leonard explained to me that our kids take their schooling very seriously and Elvis apparently felt too ashamed to face his parents or Leonard.

What resulted was a massive effort by all to locate him. Leonard rented motorbikes for several men and they scoured the vast terrain and scattered villages. After 6 days they finally discovered him, making his way on foot to Nairobi. Rather than scolding him, we assured him of our continued love and support. We view his marks as a temporary setback and with renewed spirit he has returned to school.

Many of you have asked for an update on Nelly and Cynthia. I am pleased to report that both scored extremely high on their national

In addition, Patti has graciously donated her time to do all the financials required each year to keep us on track. Not an easy task when all the receipts are in Kenya shillings and accompanied by my scribbled explanations!

Patti is a native to Southern California, and went to school in Santa Ana and Costa Mesa. She says she barely graduated high school, yet today she is the Controller for a Real Estate Investment firm in Irvine! She loves her position and is taking continued Ed classes at UCI for a Certificate in Accounting.

Married to Lance for 33 years they have 2 children; Kyle and Leah. Kyle got married in February of 2020 just before the pandemic. Leah was married 8 years ago and has two kids, Elijah, 7 and Zachary 5.

"Those boys are the light of my life", Patti says. Patti is also an animal lover and rescued a little terrier mix named Willa Mae. Between playing with her grandsons, walking the pup and doing yoga she stays very busy.

All of us involved in the operations of ACF want to extend our thanks and appreciation for this wonderful, giving lady. THANK YOU Patti, for all you do on behalf of those less fortunate!

exams; which was a month long process! They have earned their Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education which allows them to apply for college here in the states.

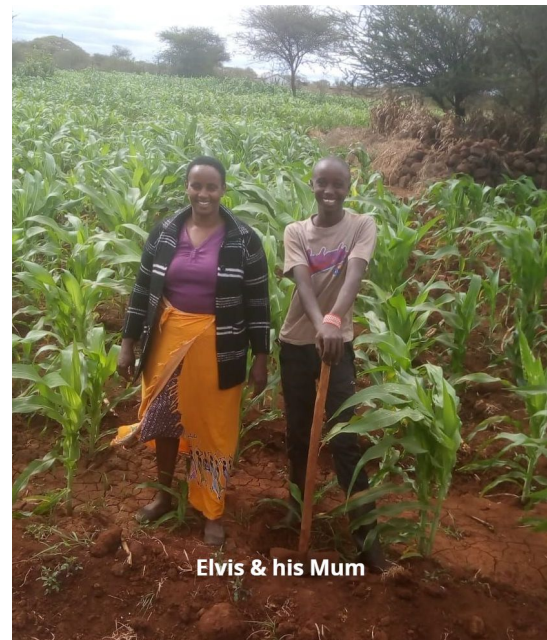
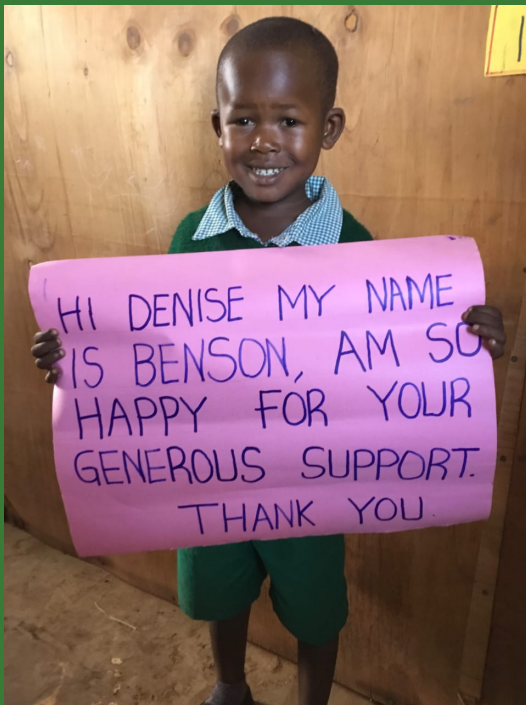
Our current plan/hope is to have them attend Estrella Mountain Community college in AZ while living with me - which saves us on expenses. After 2 years, they may complete their education in Kenya or perhaps be able to find scholarships here in the U.S.

It is our intention that these young ladies be able to assist Leonard and counsel our younger students as they progress. Right now, Leonard does most of the leg work in Kenya. Managing placements, tuition payments, purchases, transportation and lodging for 25 students is a lot for one person to handle. Cynthia and Nelly both look forward to the day when they can lend a helping hand!

Again, we want to thank you for your continued support and generosity. YOUR contributions make such an impact; not only in the life of our students but those of their families and of future generations.

With sincere gratitude and wishes of good health and well-being,

Shari Young
Co-Director



Elvis & his Mum

How You Can Help

**TRANSFORMING
LIVES THROUGH**



AmboseliChildrensFund.org

EDUCATION

Giving hope and a world of possibilities to Maasai children in extreme need.



Kenyan health minister says country is now days away from running out of Covid-19 vaccines

Published in May By Bethlehem Feleke, Larry Madowo and Saskya Vandoorne, CNN

Nairobi, Kenya

Kenya is now just days away from running out of Covid-19 vaccines with only about 100,000 AstraZeneca doses left, the country's health minister Mutahi Kagwe told CNN Wednesday.

The health ministry will take back doses from regions where uptake has been slow and redistribute them to begin the process of second jabs by the first week of June.

Kenya is expecting an additional 150,000 doses from neighboring countries like the Democratic Republic of Congo where there is no capacity to administer doses before they expire in June.

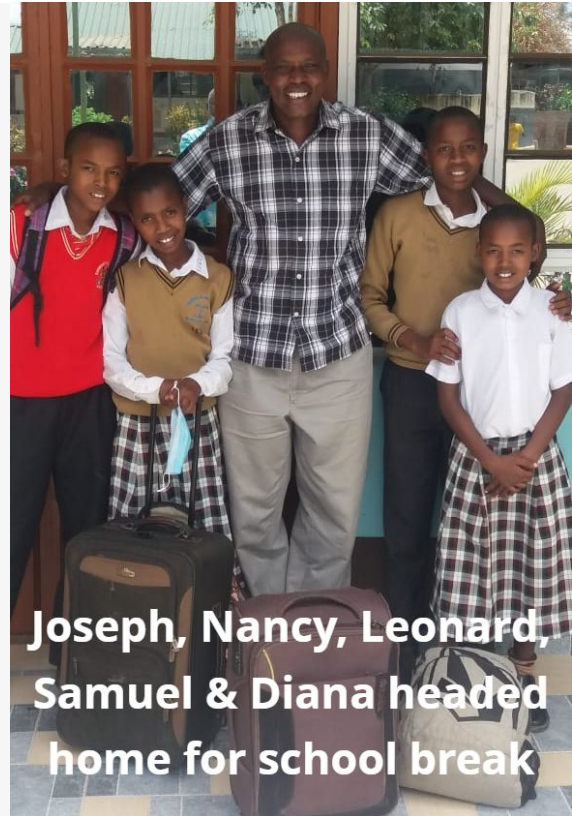
"We are still vaccinating, but we are at the tip, we need vaccines like yesterday," Kagwe said.

The AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine is unlikely to remain the "vaccine of choice for the African continent" after ongoing delays in shipments because of the situation in India has left several African countries strapped with shortages, the health minister said.

Less than 2% of Kenya's population of more than 52 million have had their first shot, according to Our World in Data.

Many African countries like Kenya had relied heavily on vaccines from the global vaccine sharing initiative, COVAX, which largely depended on vaccine supplies from the Serum Institute of India (SII)- the world's largest vaccine manufacturer.

A vicious second wave in India led to an export restriction by the country. The SII said



Joseph, Nancy, Leonard, Samuel & Diana headed home for school break

LEONARD SAVES THE DAY!

Last month, something occurred while the children were home on school break that put quite a scare into all of us. Fortunately, Leonard stepped in and handled the situation with aplomb. Following is his initial communication with me....

Shari, hope that all is good on your side?

Same here with me. All kids were doing good and safe in their respective homes.

But just to let you know that one of kids was bitten by a snake while looking after his parents cows and the boy is JOSEPH SANINGO.

They tied a rope around his leg to stop the venom from spreading but had no means to get any medical help for him.

Lucky I was at home when the parents call me about the incident and I did quickest as possible rent a motor scooter and took him to the Mission Hospital for treatment.

Tuesday that they will be unable to ship vaccines until the end of 2021.

"It is very likely that we are going to discuss and agree on Johnson & Johnson. First it is being produced here in Africa and secondly, there is an arrangement for a number of doses that are going to come to (the) Africa platform" Kagwe said.

"What we are asking COVAX is that let's use this money that was originally designed to go to India, to pay for Johnson & Johnson or Pfizer, or whatever is available."

The minister said vaccine nationalism around the world has eroded Covid-19 vaccine supply chains and left poorer countries like Kenya with shortages.

"As a continent, we must stop believing that there is anybody out there who is a Good Samaritan, a biblical Samaritan who is just about to come and help us. It's everyone for himself or for herself," said Kagwe, "going into the future, the local production, local manufacturing of pharmaceutical commodities and products is an absolute must."

Leaders across the globe have decried the inequity of vaccine nationalism in light of Africa having only carried out fewer than 1% of the global vaccinations, according to the WHO.

On Tuesday, French president Emmanuel Macron said the setup was "unfair and inefficient" and called for patents on vaccines to be lifted so countries in Africa could manufacture them locally.

Kenya has ordered 30 million vaccines from Johnson & Johnson. The health minister hopes the majority of the adult population will be vaccinated by next year, urging, "the sooner we have our 30 million doses, the sooner we finish."

So today it's the second day in the hospital and the boy is doing good. When we were admitted in the hospital the doctor said that the treatment will take between 5-7 days depending daily doctor follow up.

So Shari please do not worry about Joseph because it's already showing good sign after first treatment in one day. I will keep updating to you.

I'm happy to report that after spending 6 days in the hospital Joseph returned home safe and sound to very grateful parents.

THANK YOU Leonard for all that you do for our kids!



Joseph in hospital



BACK TO SCHOOL PHOTO'S

Our kids are thrilled to be back in school and looking good in their new uniforms!



AmboseliChildrensFund.com

Transforming lives through education

949.350.3516