

*Hello ACF friends & family,*

What an exciting whirlwind of activity we've had these past few months. I'm eager to share as we are truly empowering our students and their communities!



Most of you know I travelled back to Kenya in August. Terri Quinn and Rich Fisher accompanied me - both are sponsors who graciously volunteered their time and expertise to assist us with the workshops.

After arriving in Nairobi, we brought in the older students and exposed them to a world they had never experienced. So many cars, people, tall buildings, businesses of every sort; electricity and running water everywhere - they were amazed! We took field trips to Strathmore University, the Nairobi Technical Institute and the Medical Center. Our workshops were designed to prepare them for what is to come in their educational journey. The current university students helped with giving classes and sage advice.

After this we traveled to Kiserian and attended the grand opening ceremony of an amazing multi-generational community center. [Super Eagles Academy](#) and [GSSA](#) combined forces to make this center a reality and we learned so much from them. We look forward to building a collaborative relationship and working together on future projects.

From there, we moved on to Kimana - just outside Amboseli National Park. Over the new few weeks we brought in three separate groups of students (based on age/grade) and conducted a host of workshops. These sessions were designed to introduce them to the exciting realms of S.T.E.M (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), the various fields of medicine, and the ever-evolving world of computer sciences and smartphone technology. Again, our purpose is to expose these students to tools and knowledge they simply don't receive in the Kenya school system.

Of course there were a few hiccups - our rooms were





no longer available for us in Kiserian - then we actually got kicked out of our rooms in Kimana! No hot water, no conference room, no wifi unless we conducted classes *outside* of the lodge....and the list goes on. Flexibility is always the key when travelling and fortunately Leonard is a wizard at solving these problems!

At the end of our trip we were successful in finally getting our three older boys enrolled - two at Mt. Kenya University and one at Thika Technical Training Institute. (Be sure to read the letter from Isaac, Katoo and Elvis below). Let me just say - their process is *nothing* like ours. But we persevered and ACF now has 7 students in higher education with two graduating at the end of this year.

Upon my return home, we swiftly organized information packets for our sponsors, accompanied by a heartfelt video showcasing the highlights of our trip. Then it was off to Colorado for a presentation to The Church at Woodmoor and a meeting with our many CO sponsors.

Having high hopes, we added 10 new children to our program and I'm ABSOLUTELY thrilled to report that each one now has a sponsor! For everyone that joined our ACF family, we say "WELCOME" and I look forward to getting to know each of you in the future. (Please see sidebar below).

In the next few months I will be working on a strategic plan with input from our board. I'm so very pleased with the impact we are having in the Amboseli area - but we truly need to take the time to determine where we want to be overall in 5 to 10 years. Keep adding kids? Build a community center? Quality vs. quantity? Your thoughts and suggestions are welcome and I will be sharing ideas as well.

In closing, I say again...**THANKS TO ALL OF YOU** for choosing to support our efforts. Together, we are making a difference in so many lives - it's amazing! We wish you and your loved ones good health and happiness this coming Fall season.

*Shari Young*  
949-350-3516

[www.AmboseliChildrensFund.org](http://www.AmboseliChildrensFund.org)

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***"Never doubt that a small group of***



*thoughtful, committed citizens can  
change the world, indeed,  
it is the only thing that ever has"*  
~Margaret Mead



## Three more ACF students in higher education programs; Isaac, Elvis and Katoo

*Dear ACF sponsors,*

*We hope this letter finds you well. It's been a month since we arrived at university, and the experience so far has been a whirlwind of excitement and new beginnings. We thought we'd share a bit about what life has been like for each of us as we settle into this new chapter.*

From Isaac

*Mt. Kenya University - Bachelor of Procurement*

Coming to university was both thrilling and nerve-racking. My first week was full of meeting so many new people—some of whom I've already started to form close bonds with. Classes have been more intense than I imagined, but I'm getting the hang of balancing the workload with my social life. I joined a couple of clubs, including the business club, which has been an awesome way to meet like-minded people and sharpen my communication skills. The independence is empowering and I love what I am doing so far.

From Katoo

*Mt. Kenya University - Bachelor of Business & Finance*

I've really enjoyed the first few weeks here. The campus is massive, and it took some time to get used to navigating my way to lectures and seminars. My favorite class so far is Financial Accounting—it's challenging, but I'm loving every minute of it. In my spare time, I've been playing football (you call it soccer) and getting involved with other school activities. I've made a few friends which has been a lot of fun. The freedom is great, but I'm still learning how to stay organized with all my assignments and responsibilities.

From Elvis

*Thika Technical Training Institute - Craft Certificate in Horticulture Level 5 (Agriculture)*

This first month has been both overwhelming and exciting. I'm enjoying my Agriculture classes, and the professors are so knowledgeable. It's been a bit of a rollercoaster trying to juggle my academic workload with the many social activities on campus. I joined a few study groups, which has made things a lot easier, and I've already learned so much from my peers. I'm lucky that both Katoo and Isaac are responsible and so far living together has made us great friends and we never get bored! Overall, the first month has been a fantastic start to what we hope will be an unforgettable journey. We've all faced some challenges but are slowly finding our rhythm. We'll keep you updated as we continue to navigate life here at university! Most importantly thank you to our sponsors for making all this possible. May the Lord God bless you.

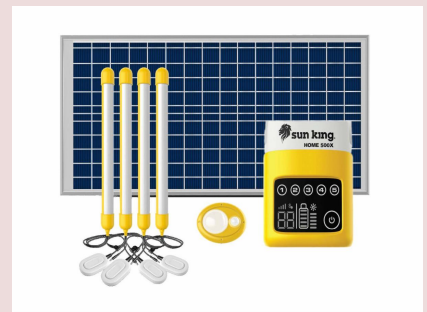
*With love,*

*Elvis, Katoo and Isaac*





# Give The Gift of Solar!



*Bring light to our kids and their families this upcoming holiday season.*

We asked Nelly what is the best gift we could give our students this year for Christmas and unequivocally she replied "light". Not many of us stop to remember that a Maasai home is made of mud and sticks. They have no electricity, running water or modern equipment. They cook over an open flame which may bring light, but it also fills their home with smoke.

With the addition of a solar kit (a panel, a battery and three lights) our families will be able to move the fire outside for cooking and still have light in the evenings along with a station for our older students to charge their cell phones and tablets.

Schoolchildren can get their work done at night. Reading is now an option. This isn't just about light; it's about igniting hope and possibility!

ACF is gearing up for our most ambitious campaign yet, and with your support, we can make this dream a reality. **For just \$230 USD, you can help change lives, but remember, every contribution - big or small - makes a significant impact.** Let's shine a light on a brighter future together - give today!



ACF Solar Panel Campaign



Welcome New Sponsors!

## TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION

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

[AmboseliChildrensFund.org](http://AmboseliChildrensFund.org)



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## OUR STUDENTS SEND THEIR THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

*From left: Benson, Isaac & Godson; Caleb, Benson & Emmy; Dori & Nancy*



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