

# Give Today!

Thanks to generous donors  
your gift will be **MATCHED** for  
twice the impact.

We have never had an opportunity such as this before and hope you will consider giving. Even if you already sponsor a child - your additional funds will be put to good use for their post-secondary education. This is a vital part of our program which is essential to bringing about real change!

Donate Now

**1** your DOLLAR + **1** matching DOLLAR = **2** twice the IMPACT



Above: Dorcus shows off the letter received from her sponsors, Mike & Maureen Morgan.

Below: Purity is also happy to hear from her new sponsors Anne & Jeff Campbell. And both girls are thrilled with their new uniforms!



**AMBOSELI**  
Children's Fund

*Hello ACF friends & family,*



I'm hoping that everyone has enjoyed their summer and possibly some fun vacations now that the pandemic is mostly over.

Here at ACF, we've been busy with fundraising efforts; which if I'm to be completely honest, is one of the most difficult aspects of operating a non-profit! I do NOT enjoy asking people for money!

Our fundraising campaign began due to the generosity of donors that have offered to match any contributions up to \$10,000. **This is a RARE and FANTASTIC opportunity for ACF** and we are working hard to raise this amount.

Many thanks go to those board members and donors that have assisted with calling on local churches and businesses.

I'm pleased to report that we have received \$5100 in additional funding so far. **We still have a ways to go though to take advantage of the \$10k match and could truly use your help TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN.**

*"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*

Please share our website link below and/or this newsletter on your social media, with your friends, family, co-workers...anyone that may be moved to give to our worthwhile cause. I am available anytime if you have an individual or group/organization that would like to speak with me.

Whew! Okay, that is my best attempt at fundraising with you folks.....now on to easier subjects to tackle!

The kids had a short break in August, but have returned to their various schools until the end of the year. At that time we hope to get exam scores, new pics, letters and general news for all the sponsors. I look forward to sharing.

For those of you that may be unaware - we have students in 13 different schools spread out across the country of Kenya. It's quite a challenge for Leonard and Anne to keep track of everything;



school fees, supplies, uniforms, transportation - but they sure do a great job. I would be lost without them.

In closing, I must 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)



**Above:** Nancy and other top students go on a field trip to the slopes of Mt Kilimanjaro.

**Below:** Caleb and his classmates are happy to be back at school!



## Rose Nampaso receives the Presidents Award - Kenya (PAK).

ACF student Rose Nampaso (above, second from the left) was one of the students selected to receive this prestigious award and travel to Nairobi for the ceremony. While there, she had the opportunity to meet the Duke of Edinburgh, whose International Award Association oversees the program.

PAK is an extensive self-development program available to young people attending school in Kenya. They focus on equipping students with positive life skills to make a difference for themselves and their communities.

To be eligible, students must meet certain requirements, including grade point average and teacher recommendations. Core values taught in the program are: professionalism, integrity, consistency, teamwork and impartiality.

Rose currently has a B+ average (A's are rare in the Kenya school system) and will be taking her final secondary school exam this December. Her score will determine which university she can attend next year and the type of degree program. We wish her well and are very proud of her PAK achievement!



**Rich Fisher with Laseko**

*Please join me in welcoming our new board member from Conifer, CO*

## **Rich Fisher**

*My journey with ACF began with a chance opportunity to travel to Africa with Shari when Basia was unable to make the trip. At the time I could not have imagined that this seemingly simple bit of luck would change my view of the world and my place in it.*

In preparation for leaving I imagined the scenery and the wildlife we might encounter while there, the people, the smell of the air, the possible dangers and of course the unexpected surprises.

Once there a new reality quickly began to emerge. I found myself drawn to the kids, drawn in a way I could not have possibly predicted. I knew in advance that these were children who come from a life of poverty we

as westerners can't begin to imagine.

When we get up each morning we simply flick a switch and there's light, we turn a handle and lo and behold.... water. When we open the door to go outside we don't have to look around to see if a lion is hiding in the bush, life for us is pretty easy. None of these things are true for these kids and yet, I was struck by their smiles and happy outlook. No complaints, no whining, just a sense of wonder about us and a happy joyful outlook towards each other and their strange new guests.

When I agreed to go on this new adventure I had no reason to believe I would get involved in any other way than to simply show up for our departing flight. I couldn't have been more wrong. Within the first couple of days I began to fall in love with these kids, you really can't help but be overwhelmed by their laughter and gentle nature. Before the end of the first week I knew that my time and thoughts about Africa and these kids would not end with the flight home.

I sponsor a young girl named Nancy, she is as cute as a button, with a smile that can melt your heart, as it did mine. I will be her sponsor for as long as she's in school, including University (I hope). We met the first week we were there and when Shari told me she had no sponsor, well, game over. I was in for the long haul - however long and for wherever it might lead, I'll be there for her in any way I can. We talk and correspond when it's possible but the truth is I miss her and wish it were possible to be together from time to time but it's obviously not easy.

The other part of the story and a big part of why I've taken on this responsibility, is the way Shari runs ACF. The Integrity of ACF was vital to my participation. All funds collected are used for the education and benefit of the kids, period. The funds to travel to Africa do not come from sponsors or donors. All overhead costs are paid for by Shari, not by collected funds. Another equally important part of the program for me is Leonard. Having Leonard in Africa to manage the day-to-day affairs is critical to the programs success, and his dedication to it for me was a very important part of my signing on to ACF.

You often hear it said that one person can change the world. Well, that may be true but what may be more true and just as important is that one person can help to change one small part of it for the better. You can't grow a field of corn with one seed.... but it's a start.



**Cynthia & Anne in their Maasai clothing**

### Cynthia places 2nd in her Business & IT program

Cynthia LaShaine is one of our eldest students and now attends Jomo Kenyatta University. She has always strived to do her best and we are quite proud of her recent achievement - placing 2nd in her degree program with a grade of B+. Cynthia has also been accepted into the Presidential Club, which provides a variety of activities to encourage personal and professional growth. She is the only child in her village to receive a post secondary education and has already brought about change. She has spoken at length to the elders in her community about the danger of female circumcision (FGM) and the right of every young woman to choose her husband. Cynthia tells us that her siblings and companions will not be forced into an early marriage or FGM. Please take a moment and meet this promising young women....

**WATCH VIDEO**

# TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION

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

**Click here to sponsor a child or give to our Scholarship Fund today**

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



**AMBOSELI Children's Fund**

Please help us spread the word...

*Post and share this newsletter with your friends and family!*



## William Ruto's rise from chicken seller to Kenya's president-elect

*Leonard sent this article to me after the recent August election in Kenya. He is thrilled to see Ruto, a devout Christian, win the presidency - but says Kenya faces some of the same*

challenges of possible election fraud as does the U.S.

I think you will find his background interesting and perhaps inspiring. Our eldest student Milton has political aspirations - we may be seeing his photo in a news article some day!



BBC News: William Ruto - who has been declared the winner of Kenya's heavily disputed presidential election - had a childhood that epitomizes the lives of many poor Kenyans. He went to primary school barefoot, wearing his first pair of shoes at the age of 15. He also sold chicken and groundnuts by the roadside in rural areas of the Rift Valley.

So it came as no surprise that he portrayed himself as the champion of the poor as he vied for the presidency in the 9 August election, with a promise to grow the economy. The official rate of unemployment among those aged between 18 and 34 years is nearly 40%, and the economy is not creating enough jobs to absorb the 800,000 young people joining the workforce every year. He therefore coined the phrase "Hustler nation" to refer to the young people struggling to make ends meet.

Mr Ruto has promised a bottom-up approach to the economy, saying it will benefit the poor who are bearing the brunt of the cost of living crisis that has hit the world following the coronavirus pandemic and the war in Ukraine.

This was the 55-year-old's first attempt at the presidency, and he confounded his critics by achieving victory - though in a stunning development, the majority of members of the electoral commission have rejected the result amid claims of rigging and scuffles at the election center in the capital, Nairobi.

However, the chairman of the commission, Wafula Chebukati, said the election was free and fair, as he declared Mr Ruto the winner with 50.5% of the vote.

## OUR STUDENTS SEND THEIR THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

*From left: Katoo & Luyiana, Nelly, Seleina*



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