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Good Hope Trust Peace Project Proposal

The sad truth is that every hour there is at least one child left orphaned as their parents' die of HIV/AIDS. Every country, every region and every village in Africa has a heart breaking story to tell about this loss. Tanzania is amongst these countries and in particular, Kibosho Village located in Kilimanjaro whereby those dying of HIV/AIDS are said to have either been bewitched which shows how unaware people are about the causes, the spread and the prevention methods of HIV thus lack any kind of medical assistance. HIV/AIDS has not only increased the number of uncared for orphans but has also led to the development of different social-economic conflicts. The future of this uneducated population of HIV/AIDS orphans is uncertain thus encouraging the circle of poverty and can directly or indirectly impact peace at family, communal and even the world at large. It is in channeling the changes that this social conflict/ tragedy brings towards positive developments in the society by preparing HIV/AIDS orphans to face the world on their own through provision of education, helping people with HIV/AIDS live more positively and creating more awareness on HIV/AIDS in Kibosho village. This will help break the circle of poverty thus reducing the chances of raising children who turn to violence to obtain their physiological needs.

ABOUT GOOD HOPE TRUST

It is the only existing initiative in Kibosho village made possible by Josephine Machuwa - a Tanzanian lady who gave up what was a perfect life in the city and moved to Kibosho village (her place of birth) to help HIV/AIDS orphans. Something that started off as Josephine's small house turned into a place where old women and their grandchildren (orphaned by HIV/AIDS) run for refuge. Currently there are different projects that have been started through donations from different individuals to ensure sustainability as far as the provision of physiological needs for the children is concerned; there is more information on the attached CD.

MY AIM IN SUGGESTING SUPPORT FOR GOOD HOPE TRUST

I am hoping by helping this local initiative it will spark more individuals in building prospects for peace in the world by focusing on alleviating the social- economic conflicts in their local communities; in this case alleviating poverty and impacts of AIDS in communities in Tanzania. As far as peace is concerned, this project is rather a preventive measure, by educating these underprivileged orphans and giving hope to the HIV/ AIDS patients it will reduce the chances of these respective groups of people involving themselves in violence/crimes as a means of obtaining their physiological needs. The better the lives of people at the local level (villages) the lower the chances for political riots and civil wars thus creating room for a more peaceful world.

HOW GOOD HOPE FITS INTO THIS AIM

Good Hope believes that it is through individual initiatives at level as low as the family that the NGOs, CBO and the government can manage to tackle issues that hinder peace in the world. There is a tremendous need to tackle the root causes of different social- economic conflicts that have been ignored for such a long time such as poverty and HIV/AIDS to reduce conflicts/civil wars for the world to become more peaceful. Good hope has already started tackling poverty by providing food and shelter to few orphans in the village

In our world today, the focus has been on the war against terrorism to the extent that we forget that the root of terrorists activities are the social, cultural and economic injustices that exists in our societies today that tend push people to the edge forcing them to turn to violence as a way to obtain their dignity back. Thus solving the social-economic conflicts in poverty stricken villages like Kibosho may be a building block for world peace. Good Hope also goes further to raise awareness to the community on the impact of unprotected sex, and also conquers the fear and discrimination that goes with if one is open about their status. Also it offers moral and physical support to villagers to enable them access VCT clinics and follow-up treatments. The most attention-grabbing initiative that Josephine has taken is how she has managed to encourage more people to not only get tested but also managed to involve some of the HIV/AIDS patients in different local HIV/AIDS awareness program such as talks on living with HIV/AIDS despite the stigma associated with being HIV positive.

REASON FOR PROPOSING

The reason I propose this project is that, so far HIV/AIDS patients from the village have to go to the city of Kilimanjaro to obtain VIRs and counseling services that are provided by the government with no charge. Transportation costs to this facility are around 1dollar yet many people from Kibosho village and many other villages in the country don't even make \$1 per day. This has made it impossible for most if not all of the HIV/AIDS victims from the village to obtain this free necessity from the government. The government can only support a facility in the city and not in the small villages but has agreed to provide a counselor, a doctor and VIRs to the village provided that there is a facility (building) where these services can be provided. Good Hope has a piece of land that could be used to build this facility but does not have any finances to support the construction. If Good Hope got the 10,000 dollars it will use it for the construction and hopefully before the end of 2007, Kibosho villagers will be able to get these services in the village.

Construction required and approximate estimates are:¹

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| 1. Counseling room and side testing room | US\$ 1,500 |
| 2. Doctors Room with an attached storage room | US\$ 2,500 |
| 3. Patients waiting room and podia | US\$ 2,000 |
| 4. Furnishing the rooms with chairs, tables, refrigerator | US\$ 1,000 |
| 5. Transportation for the project | US\$ 2,000 |
| 6. Refinancing the piggery and chicken project | US\$ 1,000 |

I would also like for any remaining money to be used to refinance some of sustainability projects such as the piggery project (was started but failed due to lack money) so as to ensure its existence in the upcoming years as it is run by individual donations.

I have specifically chosen Good Hope because of level of innovation and self dedication of the founder, Josephine Machuwa. She started the orphanage by selling her own personal belongings

¹ I GOT THE ESTIMATES FROM TALKING TO THE JOSEPHINE MACHUWA WHO SUGGESTED THE AMOUNTS.

which is a rare thing to happen in a poverty stricken country like Tanzania. She started operating on volunteer basis and swears to keep it that way as her source of life satisfaction is in tackling the social problems brought by AIDS as opposed to money. Also I am originally from the same village and have been spending all my Christmas holidays in the village so I have first hand experience with the situation in the village.

MY ROLE IN THE PROJECT:

This project will be a great opportunity for me to give back to my community after all that has been given to me as a UWC student and Davis Scholar. Since the project focuses more on the construction of the facility, something that will require professionals, I personally will spend my summer in the orphanage running education and discussion sessions on sexual health and HIV/AIDS for young girls. I have a very strong educational background on Sexually Transmitted Diseases and I would like to share it with other girls who do not have any means of getting such information. I would also like to use this time to discuss other social – economic conflicts in the village with youths who attending middle school in the village with the hope of creating awareness on different issues in the world and thus somewhat help raise youths that are more responsible about their sexual health and other social issues in the world. I am hoping by involving youths that are in middle school, these discussions will be able to take place even after I come back to Richmond as opposed to if I do the discussion with youths that are too caught up in the circle of poverty. If the proposal passes, my best friend (Gorret Namuli, - UWC Alumni and Davis Scholar in Middlebury College, pre- medicine student interested in public health) has also agreed to join me in providing HIV/AIDS education and leading discussion on different social-economic issues to girls in the villages by doing different group activities.

HOW WILL GOOD HOPE BENEFIT IF IT WON:

The constructions of counseling facility will not only target the people who are HIV positive but also will provide HIV/AIDS education to everyone in the village. Also it will be used as a center for reproduction education for girls and women as this is something that people do not normally talk about in most of the communities in Tanzania. Also refinancing the piggery and coop chicken projects will move Good Hope towards sustainability as the products will not only be used to provide balanced diets to the HIV/AIDS orphans but also used a source of income to cover other costs e.g. running of the Good Hope Kindergarten .

In the long run I am hoping that, the success of Good Hope will encourage more people in different villages to start similar things that will help combat HIV/AIDS and the conflicts that it has brought to our societies today. Tanzania has not gone into war since our independence in 1961 but we have always been at war with poverty and diseases etc, PEACE for Tanzania is getting rid of this human misery and Good Hope Trust is an excellent example of initiatives needed to alleviate these miseries.

Contact Information for Good Hope

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