

Exciting updates from...

the ACF Cheetah Express



The Power of Books: A New Chapter for Our Students

Education doesn't end with school fees and supplies. Access to books is one of the most powerful tools we can give our students.

Now that we have a local office in Kimana, we're launching a new initiative to collect or purchase books for our students, with a focus on age-appropriate, culturally relevant titles in both English and Swahili.

We're asking for your help: a donation toward purchasing new books,

or simply sharing this campaign with others who might want to contribute. Every book will bring us one step closer to giving our students a library of their own. An amazing gift that can mean the difference between falling behind or thriving.

ACF Book Campaign



One Extra Bag, A World of Difference

For our journey to Amboseli in August, every member of our tour group is doing something extraordinary:

Jambo, Habari Yako?

(Hello, how are you?)

Dear Friends,

I've never been more excited to share our recent news. **So many good things are on the horizon - ACF is on the move!**

To begin with, we've identified another non-profit, Ngongroad.org, that operates a program very similar to ours. They focus on children living in the slum areas near Nairobi, and we've had a series of productive video calls where we've shared our respective challenges and successes. They've also been incredibly helpful in our search for candidates for the **Program Manager and Case Manager** roles at our office in Kimana.

We're currently interviewing several strong applicants, and if all goes well, we'll meet our new





each is bringing an additional piece of luggage, packed full of donated items for our students.

A special thanks goes to John Smead and The Church At Woodmoor for their charitable gifts toward this endeavor. Every child will receive their very own solar flashlight, athletic wear, personal hygiene and school

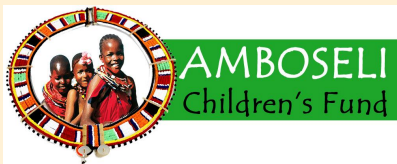
supply kits, even backpacks to transport their school books and belongings.

We're also bringing carpentry, electrical, and medical kits, plus various STEM projects to support hands-on learning and vocational skills.

Of course we haven't forgotten the need for a bit of fun; soccer balls, outdoor games, UNO, activity and coloring books...all will bring more play and joy into their days.

It's an incredible collection of generosity, and we can't wait to see the impact these gifts will have on the children and communities we visit.

Please accept our appreciation for helping to make all of this possible!



team members during our August visit and officially roll out our new program.

So what is this new program? First and foremost, we plan to add more children! There are many, many families asking for our help as there are simply no other services available in Amboseli. We also want to offer more than education alone. We want to build lasting relationships that empower communities from within.

This means that each child in our program will have a case manager to connect with them, their families and their school on a regular basis. No more waiting for the school breaks which are only three times a year. We will monitor not only their school performance, but also their health and well-being; providing support, counseling and mentoring which is so needed if they are to succeed.

Truly, every workshop, every sponsored child, and every scholarship donation is a testament to what becomes possible when your compassion meets our commitment.

Another exciting bit of news are the gifts and workshop items we will be bringing for our students (see article to the left and photos below). YOUR giving has made this possible!

Finally, a heartfelt request: if you sponsor a child, please consider sending me a letter with a photo or two that I can bring with me on this trip. There is nothing quite like watching a child's face light up when they receive a letter and a picture from their sponsor - especially hand delivered by me on your behalf.

These small gestures mean so much more than we often realize; **they tell our students that someone far away truly sees them, believes in them, and is cheering them on.**

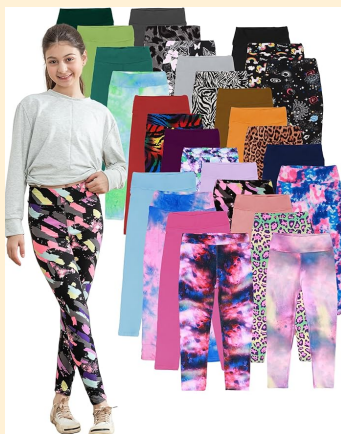
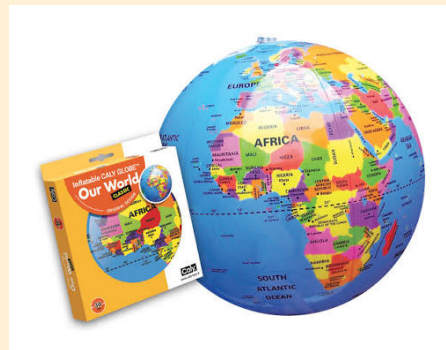
As I've said many times, we may be a small organization, but we have a mighty group of supporters behind us - and together, we are making a big impact.

I look forward to more smiles, milestones and lives changed because you have chosen to be part of this. Thank you for walking this road with us!

Shari Young

Co-Founder

AmboseliChildrensFund.org





Welcome Chris & Jessica Peters!

Children's Ministry
The Church At Woodmoor

Recently, I had the pleasure of meeting with Jessica to discuss the Children's Ministry continued sponsorship of **Emmie & Michael, two bright young students in our program**. ACF is so grateful that the children's ministry has embraced these children with such generosity.

Together, we've planned a regular exchange of letters and photos - a beautiful way to build cultural understanding between our youth while

sharing the teachings of Christ.

I can't wait to see how our children grow and learn from one another, and we're deeply thankful for this tremendous opportunity!



Give to Charity - and Pay Less in Taxes - Straight From Your IRA

If you are 70.5 or older and have a Traditional IRA, there is a simple way to support a charity you love - and reduce your tax bill at the same time. It's called a **Qualified Charitable Distribution**, or QCD.

What Is a QCD?

A QCD lets you send money directly from your IRA to a charity. The fact that it never touches your hands makes all the difference when it comes to taxes.

The Big Tax Benefit

Normally, when you take money out of your IRA, you pay income taxes on it. With a QCD, you don't. The money goes to the charity, and the IRS does not count it as income to you.



Sponsor a child today



Your annual Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) may also be donated to a qualified charity.

That means a lower tax bill - and more of your money actually going to the cause you care about.

Who Can Do This?

Anyone who is 70.5 or older and has a Traditional IRA can make a QCD. You can give up to \$111,000 per year this way!

How to Do It

Just contact the company holding your IRA - such as Vanguard or Fidelity - and tell them you want to make a **Qualified Charitable Distribution**. They will handle sending the check. The key is that the money must go directly from your IRA to the charity. You cannot withdraw it first and then donate - that won't qualify.

Give Smart - Make Every Dollar Count

Smart giving means making sure as much of your gift as possible actually reaches the people you want to help. Instead of a portion of your donation being lost to taxes, the full amount goes directly to the work that matters.

Amboseli Children's Fund is a qualified 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, which means it is fully eligible to receive your QCD. Your gift helps support children in Kenya from primary school all the way through post-secondary education - giving them opportunities that can change the entire course of their lives. *With a QCD, your dollars go further, your taxes go down, and the children of Amboseli move closer to the future they deserve.*

To direct a QCD to us, just contact us and we will be happy to provide everything your IRA company needs to make it happen!

Samuel gets his official uniform

We're excited to share an update on **Samuel Lomunak**, who is currently attending **Amboseli Institute** in Nairobi, where he is working toward his **Travel Guide and Driver Certification** - set to be completed next year!

Samuel recently received his new uniform, a proud milestone marking his progress in the program. Standing tall he was all smiles (2nd from the right) pictured alongside Leonard and fellow classmates.

Samuel is one of our original students; he started our program when he was just 6 years old. We're so excited to see him grow closer to launching a career in Kenya's tourism industry.

Thank you to Stephen & Alison, his sponsors, and to everyone that supports our program for helping to make moments like this possible.



thank you  FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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