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2008 Safi School Project Annual Report

Safi School Project is three years old! Progress has been made on several of our projects: the water project, lunch for students, kitchen, student support, serendipitous teaching and facility improvement. We have also learned from talking with administrators, teachers and students, so now we have more dreams and more to accomplish.

A. The clean water dream is still the highest priority. But we discovered that it is possible to dig a well and that is the new plan. Safi School Project is continuing our partnership with Rotary Clubs in Lacey, WA, Arusha, Tanzania and Rotary International. The \$27,412 needed for the drilling company to complete the well (it needs to be very deep) should be covered by this partnership with Rotary. There will be other costs. The water may have too much fluoride. If so, we would need a defluoridization system. The latrines may have to be moved. We do have a young man in Great Barrington, MA who is working to raise money for this water project at Ngateu. It is a great story.

B. All students at Ngateu now receive lunch every day! It costs \$60 a year to provide lunch for a student. Sponsored students' lunch is covered by school fees that sponsors pay. The other costs are covered by donations dedicated to lunches or from undesignated funds.

C. And a kitchen will be built! A \$5000 gift has been given to cover the cost of a new kitchen. There will be a "stove" which burns 1/4 of the amount of wood that an open fire does, ventilation and a cement wall around the area. And clean water will be available when the well is finished.

D. We now have 200 students at Ngateu. 57 of these students are sponsored by Safi School Project sponsors. In 2006, we sponsored 21 students from the top students academically at the primary school next to Ngateu. In 2007 we sponsored 26 students and since we were late in letting the headmaster know that we had sponsors, we didn't get the top 26, but we hope they are good students. In 2008 we sponsored 10 of the top students at the primary school. 1/2 of all these sponsored students are girls. There are other students who need help; some need partial sponsorships and some full sponsorships. The cost is \$400 per year for a full sponsorship.

The 2006 top students made a dramatic impact on their class, ALL of the students in that Form 2 class passed the annual exam. This is very rare.

E. Our travel team went to Tanzania in October last year and enjoyed wonderful weather, great animal safaris and time with students and teachers at Ngateu. One of the dreams was to provide "serendipitous teaching" - teaching outside the Tanzanian curriculum (that teaching is covered by Tanzanian teachers). Aesop's Fable – "The Lion and the Mouse" - was a huge hit. P.E. class, with jump ropes and English jumping rhymes, handball, Hokey Pokey - all great fun, challenging for the U.S. teachers, but learning happened in unexpected places. The paint that was sent by container didn't all come through in good condition. So, the painting project changed to a geometric design on the wall, using different, similar colors. It was also a big hit. And, another wall was painted with a world map - the students were fascinated.

F. We still hope that Ngateu will be a model school for future project. So, the dreams and plans continue.

1. A sanitation system needs to be built.

2. A friend has found computers designed for third world schools that are distributed in Arusha and cost \$500. We would need 30 of them for the computer lab. They use much less electricity than the current computers and 5 would run on one solar panel (when we get to solar).

3. Books are needed for every subject area. We bought \$200 worth of textbooks last year - many more are needed.

4. New desks. The current desks are inadequate and unsafe. We do not have a cost or a specific plan yet, but hope to have both soon.

5. The library needs shelves - wood and people to build them.

6. We hope that the community will be more involved with the school when the water from the well is made available to them. The school board, headmaster, village council and the Lutheran Diocese are working together to write up plans for the use of the water.

G. The "purposeful travel team" will go to Tanzania in January and February of 2010. One group will leave Jan. 15th and return on Jan. 31st to Seattle. The second group will leave Feb. 1 and return to Seattle Feb. 18. The plan is the same for both groups: work at Ngateu for 6 days (teaching, building, painting, conversing in English) - with afternoons to visit other projects. And safari to the Serengeti and Tarangire - it's migration time, we hope.

There will be time to shop, visit friends, the Maasae Girls' School, etc. And if people are interested in a trip to Zanzibar or a trip to visit a remote tribe or climb Kilimanjaro - this can be arranged outside of the regular 2 week schedule.

If you are interested, please contact me or any of the board members. We don't have definite costs yet, but it appears that the airfare is under \$2000. The other costs will include land travel, lodges, food, tips, etc. We'll need to have a commitment by the 1st of July.

It has been a busy and exciting year. We hope you will continue to be interested and involved in the Safi School Project.

Sincerely,
Mary Nelson
Executive Director, Safi School Project

Although it may not be possible to help everyone, it is vital that we help someone.

What We Have Done So Far

- Supplied Financial Aid to Ngateu Secondary School
- 2006 Safi built a \$5000 retaining wall
- Safi contributed \$6,650 in 2006
- 2007 Endowed 21 students with full school support
- Assured that Teachers were paid
- Designed and began working on a water project
- Safi contributed \$18,810 in 2007
- 2008 Endowed 47 students with full school support
- Serving lunch to all students
- Safi contributed \$35,276 in 2008
- 2009 Endowing 57 students with full school support

Category	2009 Budget
Student Support	\$22,800
Water Project	30,000
Lunches	8,580
Kitchen	5,000
Project & Computer Managers	3,400
Operation Costs	2,250
Donations Needed	72,030

*In TZ, all school costs are funded from student fees

Questions? Contact info@safischoolproject.com

