

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

Safi Foundation Newsletter

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April 2007

Jambo!

Wow, March was a busy month and I'm overdue to put out a newsletter! Most importantly, **we are approved as a Federal 501 (c) (3) Tax Exempt Organization retro to 3/2/06!** That took a long time coming and now we can proceed with getting grant money. In March, Mary, Carrie and Debbie Hunt and I took three great courses to learn better how to communicate, develop funding plans and get grants for non-profits from consultant, Lisa Arnold, who has been very successful in the non-profit realm for 20 years <http://lisaarnoldconsulting.com/index.html>. That puts her 19 years ahead of us and we were grateful for her input. What wonderful classes.

What we didn't know was that just like the Ngateu retaining wall bringing additional benefits to the community, there were unexpected benefits from class. Who knew that just by talking in class (this was allowed) that we would meet Frida Ray, taking the class for the local Volunteer Center. In addition to all Frida had to offer, she knows Scott Bishop, a web designer who volunteers to help non-profits with their web pages. So from our class, we learned a lot and we gained a new web designer who agreed to take care of our web site and do some of the stuff you all have been asking for. PICTURES will be added☺. He knows how to do it and says it is easy. (Something I could never say in my wildest dreams.) We will be moving our web page shortly and I'll give you the new link soon.

Also in March we had our Annual Meeting. It was a time to reflect on what we did last year, assess where we are now, and determine our focus for the upcoming year. Safi's first year was spent in building the structure. This year we are ready and prepared to flesh it out. If you want the minutes from the Annual Meeting, please e-mail info@safifoundation.org and you will be sent a copy.

UPCOMING EVENT! - Contact a board member for invitations. I will e-mail an invitation to all of you shortly.

May 12th - Wine, Cheese and Tanzania

Come join the party and Silent Auction - This event will be held in Lacey WA. The Auction will have original art and Tanzanian treasures. If you have items for the auction: items from Tanzania, artwork, other suitable items including experience items; e-mail your ideas to info@safifoundation.org

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Ngateu Update

Focus Now On Student Support - We have sponsors for half of the 21 students we have pledged to support. Thank you to all who have donated. At last year's Annual Meeting we agreed that in addition to infrastructure, we must financially support at least 20 students annually. Seth has found 21 good students. We still need people to commit \$400/year for the annual support of these good students. Ideally this support will be renewable for the number of years student is in school (up to 4). A student must be passing to receive aid. This fee covers tuition, exercise books and other supplies plus uniforms and lunch. When you sign up to sponsor a student you can arrange for installment payments.

In recent correspondence we have found that students in this community come from families that have an annual income of \$120 - \$200 US. Since teachers are paid from school fees it obvious that our support can give a great impact not only to the sponsored students but to the whole school.

Please, if you desire to help sponsor a student, **Send donations, marked as "student support" to Safi Foundation at PO box 8275, Lacey, WA 98509.** You may send questions to the same address or to info@safifoundation.org For those of you wondering, next year we will start soliciting earlier for student support. This is our first year and our organization is still forming. ☺

Clean Water Supply - Water and sanitation are our next projects. They need to be in place prior to the kitchen project. We have estimated that the water project will cost around \$5,000 US and will pursue grant sources for this.

Haba na haba, hujaza kibaba
(Little by little fills the pot)

Kristina
Secretary, Safi Foundation

P.S. Please feel free to share this e-mail and our web site with others. That is how we grow. Thanks www.safifoundation.org (soon to be improved ☺)