



# Koins for Kenya



## Scholarship Programs

Peter Mrabu stands proudly with three of his children, all of whom have qualified, and are now attending universities in Kenya. The difficulty of qualifying for university in Kenya is tremendous, but to have three children accomplish this lofty ambition is almost unthinkable. Peter clearly declares that this has only been possible through the Koins for Kenya Scholarship Program. We are currently supporting 91 students in the secondary school at Mnyenzi, and we have 11 students who are being supported by sponsors in universities and colleges in Kenya and Uganda. The secondary students are chosen by the Koins board in Kenya. They are hardship cases, in a world of hardship, who have proven through grades and test scores that they deserve our help in finishing secondary school.

We are especially proud and excited about our university students. These kids have succeeded in moving forward from the secondary school and the villages surrounding Mnyenzi. These university students are realizing a dream of career success. It is our hope that they will find ways to return to the Koins area and help their families and villages improve the way of life by utilizing the things they have become proficient in, in furthering the growth and development in their own villages.

We are constantly looking for scholarship donors and supporters. If you are interested in sponsoring a student, either secondary or university, you can go to the web site and make a contribution to the scholarship program. Secondary tuition is \$300 per year. University tuition is currently \$1,500 per year. We are happy to accept any amount and apply it toward the area of your choice!

**-Nancy Littlefield, Koins for Kenya Scholarship Coordinator**

## 2011 Projects:

### FUNDED PROJECTS:

- Gona School: 3 classrooms, water cistern & desks
- Water cistern at Windridge
- Water cistern at Mwache
- SMS kitchen finished
- SMS staff quarters finished
- SMS water cistern reconfigured

### UNFUNDED PROJECTS:

- Latrines at Vicolani school, Windridge school, & Mwache school
- SRA Agriculture sponsorships: \$300 per family for 1 year of training by SRA
- 2 classrooms at Miyani

### 2011 KOINS EXPEDITIONS:

July Expedition:

**July 8 - 22**

Late July Dental Expedition:

**July 24-31**

## Koins & SRA Partnership

During the last quarter of 2010, Koins and the SRA (Self Reliant Agriculture) became acquainted with each other. As a well-established, deeply rooted, and trusted organization in our service area, Koins feels the partnership with SRA will bear significant fruits, literally and figuratively, in a short period of time. It is typical for the SRA to struggle in gaining the villager's favor when entering new areas, but working with Koins provides instantaneous credibility and confidence in their methods and courses of action. The SRA will train our villagers on nutritional self-sufficiency and economic stability through improved methods of land use, animal rearing, and crop rotation.

Most of our villagers live on small shambas (family farms), where they grow barely enough to sustain their families. Corn is the main food of rural Kenyans, and it does not provide the nutrition required for healthy bodies and minds.



SRA has developed a small scale agriculture program based upon teaching a family of approximately 7, working one hectare (2.47 acres), nutritional self-sufficiency through improved agricultural production. Raising small animals for protein for the family, and for sale in the market for income is a vital component. After the nutritional needs of the family are met, excess production is then marketed for income.

Koins and SRA will begin working together in Kenya in June. We have long realized that lack of good nutrition affects every aspect of life for these villagers. Now, with the expertise of SRA, we can work together to improve the nutritional health of the villages we serve. As our project progresses, we will be looking for sponsors for each farmer family that is trained. Supplies and training to make a family self-sufficient will cost approximately \$300 per family. Please join our team to create economic and nutritional self-sufficiency in Kenya with a donation now.

## Delta Mileage for Koins with Skybonus

It is possible for you to give Delta mileage to Koins for Kenya without losing any mileage of your own. When making reservations at Delta.com, you simply go through your typical process of selecting your airport of departure and final destination, dates, flight times, etc. Once you have made your final choices you click "REVIEW AND PURCHASE" which takes you to the next step. Just below the flight summary there is a "PASSENGER INFORMATION" section. There is a small window that asks for the SKYBONUS number. Koins' SKYBONUS number is US0006684. You place it in that small window and proceed as usual.

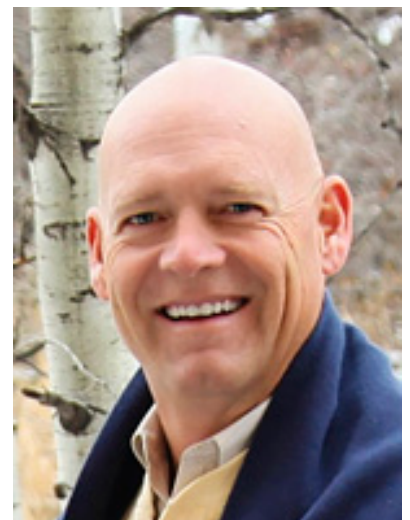
By adding Koins as a Skybonus partner, you will allow Koins to accumulate mileage that can be used towards future ticket purchases, allowing volunteers to fly at free or reduced fares. All while you continue to accumulate your own mileage.

## Red Cross Hero

"There are Heroes hidden among us, quietly acting with integrity, courage, and compassion. They look like ordinary people, but these Heroes are beacons of light in a world often filled with distress. They give kindness and service to the vulnerable, the weak, and the helpless."

Congratulations to our very own Bret Van Leeuwen! He is the recipient of the 2011 International American Red Cross Hero award for the Mountain Valley chapter of the Red Cross. This award recognizes heroes around the country who have performed extraordinary acts of valor in the service of their fellow men. Bret was singled out for his work in establishing Koins for Kenya and being the means of bringing much needed educational opportunities to thousands of Kenyan youth.

He will be honored on April 26, 2011, at a luncheon at the Provo Marriott Hotel. We would love to have you join us at the event! Please contact Jami Quesenberry if you are interested, or go to [www.UtahRedCross.org/](http://www.UtahRedCross.org/)





## Plight of Albinos Fundraiser

In the summer of 2009, Koins became aware of the urgent needs of people with albinism in East Africa. They are not only subjected to the harsh treatment of the sun on their fair skin, but also to the harsh treatment by their communities which manifests itself in, at best, being ostracized. At worst, they are subjected to kidnapping, mutilation, and death due to the belief by some that their body parts hold magical powers.

In August of 2010, Koins partnered with the Kenya Ministry of Education and the Kinandaongo school - a school where the children with albinism in our service area can live and be educated free from fear and danger. The school is relatively new, built with funds raised by Marjon Bogaard, a woman from the Netherlands. The school dormitory was dedicated in October 2010 with the capacity to house 48 students. To put this in perspective, in the Kinango district alone, the small district where Koins operates, there are approximately 100 people with albinism.

Koins for Kenya started formal fundraising in October 2010 with a garage sale held in Utah and an article written by Jo Piazza for Tonic.com that garnered national attention. With the generous donations received, we have been able to purchase beds, bedding, food and water for 8 students. We hope to continue this support in the future as the school reaches capacity.

These funds were also used to save the lives of two children from the village of Lutsangani. In September they were in hiding with their mother after they learned their father was looking to sell them in Tanzania. They were able to evade capture and find safety, food, clothing, and education at the Kinandaongo school through Koins' intervention and donations.

For more information on the plight of albinos in East Africa, please see Jo Piazza's article: <http://www.tonic.com/article/using-education-to-combat-albino-violence-in-east-africa/>.

## Yehu Microfinance

Yehu Microfinance has come to Mnyenzi and provided more than 20 micro-loans to villagers. This inspired program provides small business loans to entrepreneurs, allowing them to start up or expand their small businesses.

Yehu has been operating out of the Koins Community Center, and we look forward to seeing the results of these loans in the lives of these villagers. You can read more at [www.yehu.org](http://www.yehu.org).

## Grant Writing Help Needed

As we look at the year ahead, and the new programs and projects we hope to work on, we are faced with the stark reality that funding is difficult. Many of our donors from the past are facing difficult times, and we have no solid corporate funding. I know there is funding available for our agricultural, water and health initiatives through large foundations such as the Gates Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation, and I just don't know the process to access funds.

If anyone has the knowledge, or knows someone who could help us with grant writing, we would be very open and grateful for such help.

So many organizations are looking for millions of dollars for their programs. We can do so much with \$10,000, a drop in the bucket for many of these large foundations.

If you can help, send an email to [ingrid@koinsforkenya.org](mailto:ingrid@koinsforkenya.org).

## Koins Movie Fundraiser

During the August 2010 expedition, Paul Meyers spent his time filming. Paul, a 2006 Koins expedition veteran, and creator of the video that currently is shown on the Koins website, is working his magic to put together a realistic portrayal of life in Kenya, focusing on the life of Purity Mrabu, Koins first female university student, and a graduate of our secondary school scholarship program.

We will be hosting fundraising premieres of this movie upon its release. If you would like to host a premiere in your area, and coordinate a theater venue and invitations, please contact Ingrid at [Ingrid@koinsforkenya.org](mailto:Ingrid@koinsforkenya.org). We feel this will be a great opportunity to expose new people to Koins, as well as raise funds for our university scholarship fund.



## Kendy Taylor: English Teacher

In August 2010, Kendy Taylor accompanied the Koins expedition for a visit to Mnyenzi. When the group returned home, she stayed on in the village, to teach English and work with the secondary school students. Kendy returned home to California in December.

We are happy to announce that Kendy is back in Mnyenzi!

Kendy graduated from UC Irvine with a double major in Spanish and Global Cultures. Teaching in Kenya in 2010 was her first official English teaching position, however she had worked as a Spanish instructor for the past five years. Kendy fell in love with the community and is happy to be continuing her work in the school with English writing skills and exam preparation as well as revive, develop, and strengthen the SSAWA program that educates the female youth on topics ranging from self-esteem issues to sex and drug education, decision-making and life skills. She is also taking on more responsibilities as a representative of Koins for Kenya, acting as a liaison between the American board and the Kenyan board of directors, overseeing projects and preparing for expeditions.

Kendy is happy to be back in Kenya and thrilled at the prospect of getting involved in new arenas of Koins and the community. We are very happy to have Kendy working with Koins.

## Koins & ACN Fundraising Partnership

Now donating to Koins for Kenya can actually save you money!

Koins for Kenya has joined forces with ACN, the world's largest direct selling telecommunications and home services provider. Founded in 1993, it now serves businesses and homes in 21 countries spanning North America, Europe, Asia, and Asia-Pacific.

ACN offers services such as: digital phone service with video phones; local and long distance phone service; high speed internet; satellite TV; home security, and now, in certain parts of the country, energy. It also serves small businesses.

Changing providers is easy. ACN is providing dedicated staff to walk our Koins friends through the process step by step.

And the best news is that you will save money on your monthly bills while at the same time donating to Koins. You don't even have to think about it! A percentage of your monthly bills is automatically sent to Koins for Kenya to help educate the youth of Mnyenzi.

Please contact Jami Quesenberry if you would like to take part in this win/win partnership. She will get you in contact with one of our ACN representatives. Or you can get more information at [www.myacn.com](http://www.myacn.com).

# 2010 RECAP

## STUDENTS

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- 91 students were on scholarship for their secondary education
- 11 students were on scholarship for higher education (university and college)
- Help was provided at the Albino school in Kibandaongo

## MICRO BUSINESS PROJECTS THAT WERE MOSTLY SELF FUNDING

*based at the KCC and BTW in Mnyenzi:*

- Cell phone and battery charging
- Tractor work
- Sewing of uniforms and other sewing needs of the village
- Renting the KCC to other groups
- The workshop completed desks and chairs for Mnyenzi and Bofu secondary schools as well as other local projects

## OTHER

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- Kendy's volunteer work at the Mnyenzi secondary school
- Dallin Frampton and his time in the village
- Two successful major expeditions (March and July) and a June visit by the Michels family
- Accounting system up and running in QuickBooks

## BUILDING PROJECTS

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- A new water cistern in Miguneni was completed just after the first of the year
- Two new classrooms and a water cistern at Vikolani primary with fund raising led by Val Stokes
- Two new classrooms and a water cistern at Dzivani primary with fund raising led by Dallin Frampton
- Two new classrooms at Miguneni primary with fund raising led by Kris Kimball
- Two new classrooms at Mwache primary with fund raising led by Robyn Kimball
- One new classroom at Chikomani (Windridge) primary with fund raising led by Cindy Workman and her 6<sup>th</sup> grade class
- New kitchen at the KCC (Koins Community Center)
- Staff quarters at the Sean Michels School (under construction will be completed in early 2011)
- Kitchen addition at Sean Michels School (under construction will be completed in early 2011)
- Well over 100 new desks constructed and delivered to the various primary schools mainly Dzivani, Miguneni and Mwache
- 7 four-stall latrines were built at various schools with a grant from Safaricom (an African cell phone company)



## *March Expedition Recap*

Our March expedition left on March 20 and returned March 31. There were 4 participants: Steve Quesenberry, and his son, Ted; and Mike and Betty Wasuita. The group accomplished much in their short time.

Steve taught a three-day seminar to 27 local teachers and school administrators (called "The Power of One"). The seminar covered leadership and government principles by examining the impact of seminal figures in US History. The class also examined and educated about the new Kenya constitution, emphasizing the importance of Kenyan Constitutional principles,

rights, and responsibilities. The seminar encouraged serious political participation in national and local issues by the citizens in the Koins work area.

Ted raised money for the materials for 10 desks prior to the expedition. He was able to complete and deliver those desks to the Miyani school. This was part of his Eagle Scout project, as was collecting and delivering medical supplies to the Mnyenzi dispensary. These supplies were greatly needed. Ted also shadowed a local student, Patrick.

Cindy Workman's students raised enough money to purchase a laboratory microscope and other equipment for the new Lab at the Mnyenzi Clinic. The microscope's purpose is to aid in detecting blood borne diseases such as malaria and tuberculosis. It was put into immediate use upon arrival. On the first full day of use, 80 patients were seen and diagnosed. Thank you!!!

Mike and Betty Wasuita spent 4 days conducting dental clinics at Bofu and Mnyenzi. They furnished the anesthesia and other supplies necessary to extract teeth. Under very primitive conditions they were successful in evaluating and treating 65 patients. Mike was also able to advise Koins on how to make future dental expeditions better.

We thank the Quesenberrys and Wasuitas for sharing their valuable time and talents with the people of Mnyenzi and the surrounding areas. Thanks also to all those who contributed supplies and money for the new Mnyenzi Lab. Your contributions are very much appreciated!

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**[www.koinsforkenya.org](http://www.koinsforkenya.org)**  
**[koins4kenya.blogspot.com](http://koins4kenya.blogspot.com)**