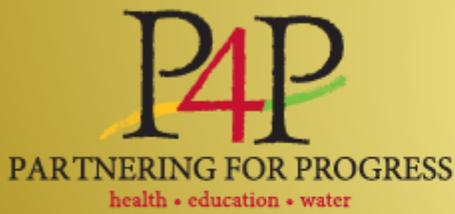


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*Don't fear moving slowly forward...  
fear standing still.*

*~ Katherine Harris*



## **Notes from the Field**

By Seth Okumu

## Doing it Small, Doing it Well

Partnering for Progress is committed to holding at least two comprehensive medical camps and community visits every year. This involves teamwork by P4P volunteer professionals from the U.S. as well as planning, guidance and coordination by Kenya staff.

This year's team of three consisted of a medical doctor, medical assistant and college journalism professor who worked hand-in-hand with Kenya staff and the community to achieve the objectives that normally has only been possible with bigger groups. With defined roles and much flexibility from team members, this small but efficient group managed to do 29 out of the 33 activities planned for the five days the team was in Kenya.



*Trip Leader Gordon Jackson, Medical Assistant Katie Coey, Dr. Kingsley Ugorji*

Division of labor and specialization make work easier and efficient, and on that note, we applied the same principles to this group. Dr. Kingsley, the medical doctor on the trip, was assisted by Charles Atha. The two provided medical service and expertise to

Ogada Health Center and the Giribe Dispensary. Katie Coey, the medical assistant, worked with local Community Health Volunteer Joan Akinyi to provide health and reproductive education, distribute reusable sanitary kits to school girls, and educate community health volunteers on health issues, especially HIV. Professor Gordon Jackson, assisted by Seth Okumu, oversaw all tasks and evaluated current status of water, education and economic development projects.

It's worth noting that having two people with extensive background and experience in Africa enhanced our ability to move forward with planned activities. Dr. Kingsley is originally from Nigeria and group leader Gordon was born and raised in South Africa.

They fit into the culture easily, and Katie Coey was open, flexible and eager to fit in as well.

Our stay in Maranatha Guest House was pleasant and the food was good. The group did experience a power outage and low water pressure, but this did not affect the safety and enjoyment of the volunteers.

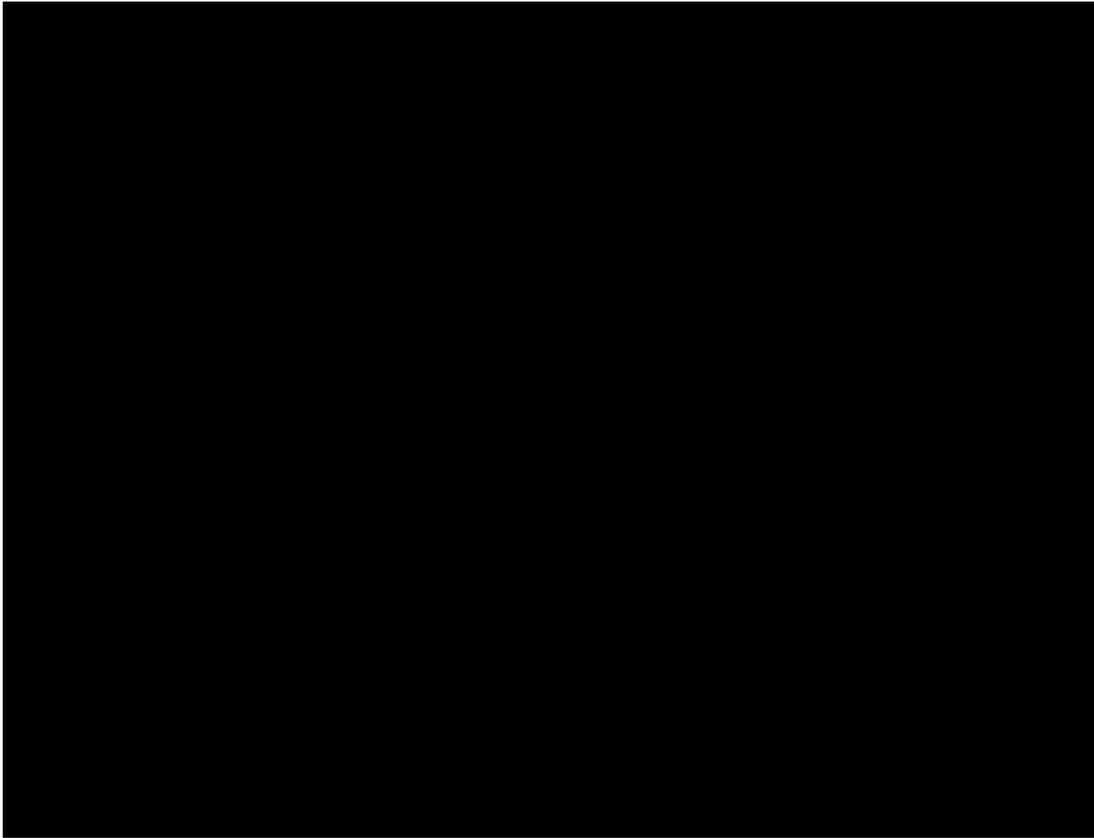
Something unique happened on the last day of the trip. The Magongo Ribe Secondary School board of management hosted dinner for the group to honor P4P and its good work in the Kopanga/Giribe area. Kingsley, Katie and Gordon were each presented with Maasai blankets as gifts.

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## My May Trip List

By Gordon Jackson, Trip Leader and P4P Board Member

My week-long trip to Kopanga last month began with a 33-item “wish list,” compiled from the wish lists of P4P’s committees. Our small team consisted of myself and Dr. Kingsley Ugorji, an ob-gyn specialist, and Katie Coey, a medical assistant, both from CHAS (Community Health Association of Spokane). We are much indebted to CHAS for sending us such capable and committed help. Kingsley attended to patients in two clinics and Katie conducted an HIV training session for a group of community health volunteers.

Here is the “wish list” I took to Kenya:

- Communications Committee: Lots of photos, please, labeled with names. *Done.*
- Economic Development Committee: Interview some farmers and beneficiaries of our goat program so we can tell their stories. *Done*
- Education Committee: Interview current scholarship recipients, especially the first crop of high school graduates whom we have supported. Distribute Days for Girls Feminine Hygiene Kits™ to high school girls. *Done.*
- Health Committee: Deliver medical supplies and interview a mother at the Power of Milk program, which addresses the nutritional needs of under-nourished infants and toddlers. *Done.*

- Water Committee: Take photos of the new water tank at Magongo Ribe High School and the recently completed Mubachi project, where water from a natural spring has been channeled into a pipe to reduce contamination. Deliver water testing equipment. *Done.*



By Friday, we had accomplished almost everything on the list. That evening, Mr. Damiano Owaga, the principal of the Magongo Ribe High School, unexpectedly treated us to a thank you dinner. Kingsley, Katie and I each received a red Maasai blanket. The greatest take-away from this experience was the short speeches by the principal and his colleagues expressing the profound gratitude their community has for P4P's contributions.

A 34th thing was added to my to do list, the principal's request to tell P4P's supporters "thank you." So, here it is.

- **From Kopanga, to all of you—thank you, thank you, thank you.** *Done.*

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## **A Decade of Progress**

By Eryn Brooks, Communications Committee Volunteer

Barack Obama had just been elected president of the United States and I found myself in a circa 1990's SUV bouncing down roads with a P4P team on our way to a community not far from his Kenyan father's homeland. Just a few months prior to finding myself in Kenya, I met Mike and Stacey Mainer at an AIDS exhibit at First Presbyterian Church in Spokane

and before I knew it, I was on my way to Kopanga with P4P. The trip changed my life completely and left a long-lasting impression that has fed my commitment to support Partnering for Progress.

I was blessed to be with an excellent group of volunteers that included Stacey and Mike Mainer, Sandy Ivers, Julie Mark-Ernst, Tyler Gunderson, Brock Gundersen, Helen Biggs and Eric Pearson. Our days were productive and rewarding and the evenings were full of laughs.

Helen Biggs was typically my “partner in crime” and we made quite the team. From safe sex talks and demonstrating how to put on a condom, to school and orphanage lectures about clean water and hygiene, to teaching kids the hokey pokey, to bumpy drives all over the countryside meeting with villagers, families and children, we took each adventure in great spirit.

Our visits to schools and orphanages were always eye-opening as we saw the limitations teachers face and their determination to educate the local children. I was struck by the limited prospects for young women when education is not an option.

Typically, the end of each visit to a school or orphanage was followed by adorable children singing local songs or reciting poems and lunch (a huge extravagance) in a community member's home. I loved the contact and connection with all that we met and was fascinated to experience life so different that what I take for granted every day.

It is amazing to see all that Partnering for Progress has accomplished since my trip over eight years ago. P4P has always worked collaboratively to accomplish identified goals and stressed the need for self-sustaining, community-directed projects, and our partnership with the community continues to grow. Congratulations, P4P, on 10 successful years.

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**Share Your Talents - Volunteer**

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## **Meet Volunteer Katie Coey**

Katie Coey juggles life. She's a wife, mother of three active children, works full time at CHAS (Community Health Association of Spokane), and managed to squeeze in a dream-come-true trip to Kenya last month with P4P. She's quick to

credit her husband for stepping in to take care of the family when she was gone.

Katie's Kenya trip was her first adventure beyond North America and she says the experience was truly eye opening. "The people are so amazingly friendly and truly appreciate everything P4P helps them with," she says.

The Coey family lives in Hayden and Katie has worked for CHAS for the past 12 years. She is a certified medical assistant with an associate of science in social work.

Katie's hobbies and down-time activities revolve around her sports happy husband and children, Leila (17 years old), Zac (15) and Kolbe (10).

"I love that P4P is there to help and empower the local people through education, medical care, and clean water, and I am truly grateful for organizations such as P4P that are doing so much good in a part of the world that needs assistance."

Katie with Joan Akinyi, CHV

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## **New Board Members Join P4P**

We are excited to welcome Amanda Strong, Kendra Edlin and Amber Frohberg (left to right above) to P4P's Board of Directors. Amber works for CHAS as Women's and Children's Program Manager and is interested in joining the Education Committee. Kendra is Assistant Vice President of Retail Experience at Numerica Credit Union. Amanda is Project Manager

at Strong Technology Consulting Inc. All three bring a wealth of skills, experience, ideas and enthusiasm to the Board.

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## **P4P Is Grateful for Your Service, Ashley!**

P4P gives thanks for all the skills Ashley Lenz has shared with us. The P4P Board and volunteers were fortunate to have had her passion for our mission for over three years, and we know she plans to continue to partner with us in the future.

Ashley served as board treasurer, vice-president, and acting board chair. Perhaps her largest role was that of Into Africa Auction chairperson. She brought many improvements to the event, including a swift check-out process, new partnerships and bold signage. The event, and our organization, are better for her service. We hope Ashley and her husband, Dan, enjoy their summer with new baby Katelyn.

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## ***Kiss Me, Kate* Funds Future Programs**

A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who attended the *Kiss Me, Kate*, P4P's Civic Theater benefit on May 31. You helped raise \$8,000. We know life is busy and calendars

are full and you could have done something else on Wednesday night, but you chose to come out and support P4P's programs. Thank you!

Your support helps P4P save lives and contributes to economic development in Kenya through our Power of Milk program, scholarships for high school students, clean water initiatives, Days for Girls and agricultural programs.

Special thanks to the Civic Theatre Committee who dedicated hours in planning and procuring sensational raffle packages, as well as to all who helped the evening of the performance. We thank the following businesses and individuals for their in-kind raffle donations: Total Wine & More, Sandpoint Festival, La Quinta Hotel Sandpoint, Wisconsin Burger, Spokane Indians Baseball, Patti Krafft, Sandy Ivers, Barb Morkill and Cy Parker.

We also wish to thank the following sponsors for underwriting the cost of *Kiss Me, Kate*. Their generosity makes it possible for P4P to use nearly 100% of the benefit proceeds on programs in Kenya. ***Asante Sana!***

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## Firecracker Ticket Special July 1-5

Watch for P4P's Into Africa Firecracker Ticket Special which will run July 1-5 with discounted ticket prices. Our annual auction and dinner is set for **October 7, 5:30 pm** at the **Mirabeau Park Hotel** in the Spokane Valley. We are celebrating P4P's Decade of Progress, so be sure to join us.

Once again, this year's auctioneer will be the ever-popular Jeff Owens. Masters of ceremonies will be Kalae Chock and Sean Owsley, anchors of KHQ's weekday *Wakeup Show*.

Tickets are \$65 per person or \$500 for a table of eight and can be purchased online at <http://partneringforprogress.org/into-africa-auction/> or by phone at (509) 720-8408.

The Mirabeau Park Hotel is offering rooms at a discounted rate of \$85 (taxes not included). This special offer expires September 14, so if you're thinking of spending the night at the hotel after the auction festivities, don't wait to book your room. Call the Mirabeau Hotel direct at (509) 924-9000 and mention P4P to receive the discount.

### Into Africa Auction Tickets

*During our Firecracker Ticket Special individual tickets will be \$50 and a table of eight \$400.  
Purchase between July 1-5 for these savings!*

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Stacey Mainer, Co-Founder

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Communication Committee: Linda Hagen Miller  
Economic Development: Traci Anderson  
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