



### Jambo!

As we enter 2013, Partnering for Progress looks forward to working with the Kopanga and Griebe community in addressing the needs of health and education. We are deeply committed to addressing the significant public health needs such as malnutrition, unclean water and poor sanitation as well as the difficult access to education for high school students.

A community needs assessment completed by Seth Okumu will guide our direction as we work with the community to identify their priorities. A shared vision among stakeholders, plus a strategic plan that includes sustainability, is vital as P4P's work continues in the community.

We hope that you join us as we move forward with our 2013 goals. Volunteers are the heart of P4P. We invite you to join a water/sanitation, communications, malnutrition or health education committee. P4P fundraising events are great opportunities to also get involved. The upcoming June 5th *Grease* production and the October 4th Into Africa Auction on our 2013 calendar are in need of volunteer and financial support. Volunteer information is always available on Partnering for Progress' website under "Get Involved" or you may contact P4P directly at [info@partneringforprogress.org](mailto:info@partneringforprogress.org) or at 509.720.8408.

Your input is invaluable. Not only will you be active in finding solutions to problems, but your life will be enriched as you learn more about the people of Kopanga and Griebe. Such a small act of kindness can reap so many awards.

Asante sana,

Sandy Ivers and Stacey Mainer, Co-Executive Directors

### Greetings from Seth

I am moved by the commitment that P4P is having in helping the people of Kenya generally and Kopanga community to be specific. I am equally humbled by the resilience and determination of the people of Kopanga amidst all the problems they are facing in terms of health, water,

tremendous needs from the community that require assistance from different stakeholders. I am proud to be working with P4P, as one of the stakeholder, in their efforts and with participation of the community, to help improve the living standards of Kopanga people regarding education, provision of safe water and health. With all the challenges P4P has faced in previous projects, they have weathered the storm to have a model health facility and consistent, properly organised medical camps to help the people of Kopanga.



They say without a proper foundation, you can get to the top of the ladder and then realise you are leaning against the wrong building. They also add that experience is not only the best teacher but the only teacher. In P4P's previous projects, challenges have been faced and lessons were learnt. These has necessitated the need to; do some things differently, involve different players and partners, review previous partnerships with the aim of improving them. All these is being done with the aim to have the greatest impact with every project implemented. As the staff in Kenya, I am in total support of the process and I believe it's the best things our organisation has done. We are starting strong, more energised and more focused.

I will finish by quoting this; "If you want to go fast go alone, but if you want to go far go together." God bless P4P, God bless Kopanga!

Ogutu Seth Okumu, Project Administrator



### January 2013 trip to Kenya

On January 19th, a team of 11 health care providers, health educators, an Early Childhood Education specialist and a Community Development specialist flew to Nairobi, Kenya to spend five days at the clinic in Kopanga. During our visit, we amazingly saw approximately 1000 patients. Our team developed a triage system to provide an efficient process for health care delivery due to this patient load. We organized two

tents - one was specifically for eye patients and the other tent was for the overflow of patients needing to see the dentist, nurse practitioner, lab tech, pharmacist or nurses. Patients were prepped by assistants prior to seeing the on-site, visiting optometrists in the eye clinic tent. In the second tent, pharmacists set up an injection room as well as a medicine dispensary. Health educators did presentations for the waiting patients focusing on safe, clean water and HIV/AIDS prevention. Usually we treat many malaria patients that come to the clinic, but during this visit the majority of patients were diagnosed with typhoid.

Our trip also included a visit to five schools in the area, once again discussing safe, clean water and HIV/AIDS prevention. We met with the village chief and introduced the P4P team, in addition to meeting with the Traditional Birthing Attendants (TBA). The TBA's requested our help in providing them with uniforms and other birthing supplies that are desperately needed. The team had the opportunity to gather with the local Community Health Workers, a group of 11 people selected by their village elders, to oversee the health of their villages. This group asked for help with obtaining first aid kits, transportation solutions to get patients to the clinic for care, clean water/bore holes development and health care training. A team was sent to the orphanage in Bondo to do a dental health presentation and bonding on the children's' teeth to prevent additional cavities/decay. The Early Childhood specialist was able to spend two days at the Migori Teachers College as well as meet with parents at the clinic to discuss children with developmental disabilities and provide some basic educational aids and

The last night of our clinic rotation, we were invited to the home of a professor at the Migori Teachers College where we were treated to traditional African meal. It was a wonderful way to end a long and busy week and a good way to say goodbye to our fellow co-workers and friends before our next trip.

Helen Biggs, Board Member and Kenyan volunteer

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White is for peace, black is for the people, green for the land, and red for the blood shed in the fight for independence from the British.

### Kenya Elections 2013

Kenyans will be going to the polls next month to cast their ballots in the fourth presidential election in the country's history and for the first time since the new constitution was passed in 2010. The two frontrunners in the election are the current

Kenyan coalition government's Prime Minister Raila Odinga and the son of Kenya's founding father, Uhuru Kenyatta.

The new constitution, which decentralizes power, has divided Kenya's large land mass into 47 new counties, each one to elect a governor, senator, local assembly members of parliament, Civic Ward and a Women County Representative. Each new county government will have limitless freedom with decisions on budgetary allocations.

The world will watch to see if this young country, which gained independence in 1964, can officiate a presidential election without violence. In 2007 the election turned to rioting and the unfortunate loss of life.

In reference to the new constitution and the upcoming election, Richard Power of the Guardian African Network, stated that Kenya has the potential to enter a dramatic new era, a transformation that would make it one of the most democratic countries in the world.

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