



Happy New Year!

There is a Congolese saying that always makes me think of Partnering for Progress: “A single bracelet does not jingle.” Our supporters here in the U.S. and our partners in Kopanga have together made a magical jingle! Your support has contributed to various critical areas and helped a community grow.

Here’s a list of current projects:

- Five additional students will be able to access secondary school thanks to P4P scholarships.
- Our water protection project was plagued by heavier-than-usual rains, but we are on track and expect completion this month.
- A health care system strike in Kenya delayed our planned training program for our partners in Kopanga, but the Community Health Worker volunteers are standing by and have faith that we will provide the promised training once the strike ends.
- The dedicated, hard-working Board of Directors in Spokane is completing a five-year strategic plan. The four goals are ambitious, but essential. They are (1) decreasing childhood mortality, (2) increasing education rates, (3) creating sustainable funding and (4) organizational development. Many action steps are in the works now. If you’re interested in becoming part of the team and volunteering your time and suggestions to move P4P forward, please email info@partneringforprogress.org.
- If you’d like to help us by having FUN, purchase tickets to see Gypsy at the Civic Theater on June 4. Visit our website at www.partneringforprogress.org to buy tickets.

At the end of January, P4P’s founders Stacey Mainer and Sandy Ivers will travel to Kopanga to develop even deeper relationships with existing partners and pave the way for new partnerships. They will visit schools, Ministers of Health and Education and health providers in our service area. Stacey and Sandy will thank the Hope Ministry Church, which provides the facility for our nutrition and cooking classes, and inspect our last two water projects. They plan to meet with our Community Based Organization: members include a local business woman, educators and health workers. We wish Sandy

Many thanks to all of our partners,

Dia Maurer
Part Time Executive Director

Lifting Girls and Boys Out of Poverty

One of the surest ways to raise the quality of life and standard of living of a country is through education. In 2002, the government of Kenya took the initiative by declaring that universal primary education would be a basic right for all of its children.

Education is one leg of the P4P stool and the Education Committee, headed by Helen Biggs, and our Project Administrator in the field, Seth Okumu, have made solid strides implementing a scholarship program in the Kopanga region.

The government reports that 2.37 million children received Early Child Development Education in 2011 and the Free Primary Education program had an enrollment of 9.86 million. Less than 75% of students transition from primary to high school.

However, even though the government instituted free, compulsory primary education for children from 6 and 13, parents are still required to pay for books, supplies, school uniforms and transportation. Classes are overcrowded with as many as four students sharing a two-child desk. Sanitation is sorely lacking with sometimes 300 students using a single latrine. Clean drinking water is often not available, and students must go home for lunch, sometimes an impossible task when they live an hour's walk away.

P4P awarded scholarships to five secondary students last year and all five of those scholarships were renewed for the 2014 school year. Seth is now working with educators to identify candidates for the current round of scholarships and he reports that they've received 20 applications.

We profiled two of our scholarship recipients in previous newsletters and would now like you to meet another. Fifteen-year-old Masagna Daniel Nyongesa takes twelve subjects at Magongo Ribe Secondary School and his favorite subject is business. After high school, he hopes to go to college and become an attorney. Masagna's hero is our own P4P Project Administrator, Seth Okumu. Masagna's father is deceased and he lives with his mother and sister in Grike Village.

Onto Thin Air

On March 22, P4P Executive Director Dia Maurer and Founders, Stacey Mainer and Sandy Ivers, will represent P4P on KYRS-Thin Air Community Radio station's program Nonprofit Spokane. The volunteer-powered, non-commercial radio station dedicates an hour every Saturday morning to highlight community organizations and keep area residents informed of the volunteer outreach accomplishments of our citizens.

Tune in March 22, 9:00 am to 10:00 am on 92.3 or 88.1 FM.

Gypsy

Don't miss the acclaimed musical about the life of Gypsy Rose Lee at the Civic Theater on June 4, 2014. Gypsy Rose Lee's name is synonymous with strip tease and her story has been told and retold in several musicals and movies, but if you've never seen the show, you have missed a fascinating piece of theatrical history. Known for quips like, "Men aren't attracted to me by my mind. They're

more casual strip style compared to the herky-jerky movements of most strippers. Gypsy went on to become a Broadway actress, playwright, book author and legend. Support P4P by attending this fun, entertaining show.

Purchase tickets now by clicking on the picture! Adult tickets are \$35, student tickets and group discounts (ten tickets or more) are \$30 per ticket.

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