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PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS  
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*The American by nature is optimistic. He is experimental, an inventor and a builder who builds best when called upon to build greatly. ~ John F. Kennedy*



*Above: The Ten Farmers (Ebba Otieno, Eunice Adhiambo, Perez Opere, Zachary Njagwa, Joash Abich, Paul Odira, Lawrence Asala, Grace Achien'g, Joseph Ndege and Jack Ododa)*

## Report from the Field by Seth Okumu

### Empowerment through Agribusiness

“Wealth is in land” is an old adage in Kenya, but this depends on how we use our land. Proper farming methods combined with favorable weather are huge factors in crop production. P4P invested in 10 farmers in the season ending February 2016. The project involved training on correct farming practices and provision of seeds & fertilizer.

The season has ended and all the produce has been harvested. We can confidently report a 300% increase in production among the farmers! In an acre of land which they previously produced 3-5 bags of maize, the farmers harvested between 9-19 bags.

All 10 farmers have given a 90kg bag of maize (198 lbs) each to P4P which will be used in the nutrition program as well as paying school fees for an additional scholarship student in the local secondary school.

The farmers report having enough to eat and often using the extra money for school fees. Eunice Adhiambo who is also the guardian to our sponsored scholarship girl, Beldine Aoko, recorded the highest yield with 19 bags while previously she was harvesting 5 bags. She says that she can now pay this year's fees for her other children who are also in school.

Lawrence Asala says he was able to pay fees for his younger sister who is in school. Ebba Otieno, who is the father to Elly Ochien'g, one of the children who graduated from P4P's nutrition program, admits to having the best food security this year as compared to any other year. Because he has enough maize to change into flour, he can now use the extra money he gets from his other casual income to buy nutritious meals for his family.

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Click to donate by Pay Pal or mail donation checks to:

Partnering for Progress, P.O. Box 28191, Spokane, WA 99228. Thank You!

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### Meet Chrisdee Imthurn

#### Communications Committee Volunteer

Chrisdee Imthurn is a whirling dervish of energy who has - luckily for us - directed some of that exuberance to helping P4P's Communications Committee (ComCom) get the word out about our events by distributing press releases to regional media.

“I saw a P4P volunteer's Facebook posts, learned about P4P's programs and wanted to be part of an organization that makes such a positive difference in so many peoples' lives,” Chrisdee says.

Chrisdee works in the Finance Department at the City of Coeur d'Alene and has lived in Post Falls for the past 25 years where she and Jim, her husband, raised two children. Daughter Katelyn lives in St. Louis and son Robert is in the Air Force, stationed in Anchorage.

“We own land in Clark Fork, Idaho, where we love to spend our time

four-wheeling, hiking, kayaking and boating,” Chrisdee says. “I love to travel, entertain, work on home projects and spend time with family and friends.”

“I am humbled by how blessed we are in America,” she adds. “I am proud that we as Americans are some of the most giving people in the world, and I believe and try to live by the word in Luke 12:48: *From everyone who has been given much, much will be required; and to whom they entrusted much, of him they will ask all the more.*”

“There are so many places to volunteer and I think it’s important to find an organization with character that uses money and time wisely. I appreciate how P4P’s programs help people help themselves. From the Power of Milk to scholarships to clean water initiatives to Days for Girls and agricultural programs, P4P makes an impact that will touch generations. I am grateful to be a part of P4P.”



## Communications Committee Report

By Linda Hagen-Miller

**P4P’s is going mobile** - Our webmaster, Mark Stenerson, is creating a mobile-friendly website for P4P and as this newsletter goes to press, it will soon be up and running.

In the past, if you opened Partnering for Progress on your mobile device, you would see portions of entire pages and you’d be forced to move about the page to read its contents. A web-friendly site truncates the pages so the entire page is visible on your phone or tablet screen. Pretty cool, and pretty necessary to keep us relevant in this brave new(ish) cyber world.



**Remote volunteers** - Chrisdee Imthurn, profiled in this month’s newsletter, is a great example of how social media and cyber technology help P4P recruit and utilize volunteers as well as spread the word about our fundraising activities and events. She learned about P4P through a friend’s Facebook posts and wanted to get involved. Chrisdee cannot attend ComCom meetings because she works full-time in Coeur d’Alene, but she can handle her P4P public relations tasks via email.

And it works. The event announcements Chrisdee sends out give us free listings in the *Spokesman Review*, *Inlander*, *InHealth magazine*, *Coeur d’Alene Press* and more as well as announcements on Spokane Public Radio and KYRS.

**Media coverage** - the online publications *Coeur d’Alene*, *Sandpoint* and *Bonnors Ferry Living Local* recently gave P4P coverage on all of its social media platforms, reaching new audiences for us in North Idaho. *Living Local* has also expressed interest in doing a feature on P4P. Debbie Stimpson secured an article about P4P in the March issue of *DocTalk*, a Rockwood publication.

**Looking for speaking venues** - we are researching possible speaking venues for Seth Okumu, our Kenya Program Coordinator, when he is here in October as well as year-round possibilities for our Executive Director, Dia Maurer. Civic groups, professional organizations, travel groups, book clubs, groups with Africa or medical ties, are all possibilities. If



## Service Team Heads to Kenya- May Trip Update

By Sandy Ivers

Board member Gordon Jackson and Co Founders Stacey Mainer and Sandy Ivers are heading to Kenya in mid May on a Programming Mission Trip. Program Trips provide an opportunity to continue to build relationships with the local Kenyan leaders and community members, as well as providing a chance to evaluate the effectiveness of P4P's current services offered in the Kopanga/Giribe communities.

This year's trip activities will include meeting with the local Ministries of Health and Education. Meetings are also planned with the CHVs (Community Health Volunteers) to hear feedback on their P4P sponsored training on Malaria. The team will visit the Ogada Clinic; observe and review the Power of Milk Nutrition Program; provide a Days for Girls workshop with 7th and 8th grade

girls; as well as training at least one female teacher in the DFG's curriculum. Meetings with local school principals will also take place. There is also the potential for another academic teacher workshop, which focus is yet to be determined.

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*To find out more about volunteering and travel to Kenya with a P4P Service Team click here:*

[Vunteer Now](#)

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## Kudos to Mark Stenersen of Host-1-Stop

Just about the time Sandy Ivers, Stacey Mainer, and their family members were visiting Kopanga for the first time, Mark Stenersen was starting his website company, **Host-1-Stop**, here in Spokane. The entire Stenersen family has been supportive of P4P and its mission, from the beginning.

Mark's business grew and with his help, so has P4P's online presence! Mark provides discounted services - he is our webmaster, IT staff, and guru of all things electronic. He's helped get our voice mail system electronically connected. He enables us to receive donations and ticket purchases online via PayPal. He makes recommendations for updates and website layout and links our social media pages to our site.



The latest way Mark is helping P4P is by transforming our website into one that is 'mobile friendly'. We are going live with this new look and feel this week. All the content is still there, but pages can now be viewed on phones and mobile devices as well as computer screens. Mark made this nearly painless financially and we are so grateful for his help!

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# ONE EVENT WILL CHANGE A THOUSAND LIVES.

A dinner and auction to benefit  
Partnering for Progress.

## Ninth Annual Into Africa Auction and Dinner - OCTOBER 1, 2016

Save the date for P4P's 9th annual **Into Africa Auction and Dinner** benefit which will be **Saturday, October 1, 2016** at the Mirabeau Park Hotel in Spokane Valley.

We are so excited to announce **Seth Okumu, P4P Kenya Program Coordinator**, will be our keynote speaker for this year's event!

As in past years, P4P's **Into Africa** event will blend exquisite African and American cuisine in an atmosphere that will capture your spirit of adventure and philanthropy. There will be a variety of silent auction items, fantastic loud auction items and fabulous dessert offerings.

Look for ticket specials this summer and please **SAVE THE DATE!**



## Nonprofit Business of the Month

If you have a chance, please check out Partnering for Progress at the South Hill Numerica Credit Union Branch at 2202 E.

29th Ave in Spokane through April. Volunteer Cy Parker set up an attractive display of posters, informational materials and volunteer forms. Many thanks to Cy and everyone at Numerica for helping us get out the word of P4P's mission and good works!

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