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*The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself
in the service of others. ~ Gandhi*



May Trip Report - A First-Timer's Take

By Gordon Jackson

Go. If it's at all feasible, *go* and see firsthand what Partnering for Progress is accomplishing in Kenya. And if you can't go, rest assured that P4P continues to live out partnerships that enrich Kenyan lives in multiple ways.

That was my main take-away last month from my first P4P trip. For me, what had inevitably just been abstractions came to life as I met 10 of 27 high school scholarship recipients and saw the Power of Milk (POM) Program's infants and toddlers eating the nutritional supplement that was crucial to their growth.

Our three-person team, consisting of me and P4P's co-founders, Stacey Mainer and Sandy Ivers, were on a one-week visit that included a mix of fact finding, reinforcing partnerships and establishing new ones, and visiting P4P projects—like the nearly completed latrine at a government clinic being constructed at Kopanga. We also saw the now fully-functional water pump that school principal Arthur Sylvan gratefully showed us at nearby Mubachi Elementary School and held meetings with other principals and health officials.



There's much more to tell (look for Part 2 in next month's newsletter), but my overriding impression remains. Seeing for myself P4P's impact during one week carried infinitely more weight than all the committee and board meetings I've attended. So I urge you, as a friend of P4P, to join us if you possibly can on a future trip. Regardless of your background or skills, Kopanga can use you in some way.

Please take my word for it. P4P's partnerships in Kenya, backed by our supporters and friends like you here in the U.S., are changing lives, and through the POM Program, P4P is literally saving lives. Those results are well worth a trans-Atlantic journey. *Gordon Jackson joined the P4P Board in July 2015.*

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Power of Milk Profile

by Gordon Jackson

Veronica's dad, Augustina Bitu, is an unusual participant in P4P's Power of Milk Program. For one thing, he's a dad; almost all the adults bringing their malnourished children to the weekly Thursday clinic are women. Also at 64, Mr. Bitu was the oldest parent among the 40 or so clinic attendees on the week we visited.

Veronica is the daughter of Augustina's third wife. Polygamy is common in this part of Kenya, and Augustina has five children by each of his first two wives, and two by Veronica's mother—from whom he is now estranged.

A visit to Veronica on one occasion had him worried. "She was extremely thin," he recalled. "The baby wasn't eating right." He then spoke with a community health volunteer who connected him with P4P's Charles Atha, who oversees the POM Program. But first Augustina needed permission from

the local chief to take custody of the child. Now, each week 3-year-old Veronica is weighed and measured. Besides her progress in these areas, Augustina said, "She doesn't look as dull as before

and now plays with others.” He continues, “Because of tradition,” people do not expect dads to attend. But I know what I want for my girl, so I don’t feel awkward.”

He is also an enthusiastic advocate for POM. Just the day before, he said he had mentioned the program to a grandmother of a child whose mother had died of AIDS. The woman couldn’t breastfeed the baby, and he believes the infant isn’t getting enough food. To Augustina’s disappointment, she did not attend clinic the morning we spoke. But Augustina did, and he’s committed to returning each week. “The Power of Milk program is so good,” he said, “that I will leave only when they say Veronica is ready to exit.”



Volunteer Now



The World's Truly Beautiful People

“Family” means different things to different people. To most of us, it means a special type of caring for one another and a shared history. Family can be a source of strength and support, a beacon to help us navigate our path through the world. These people are there for us when we need help or guidance. They celebrate our successes and share our joy. This month, we want to recognize the family foundations that have been a major source of strength and support to Partnering for Progress and those we serve.

The gifts shared by these families represent over 10% of all funding P4P received last year! These generous families gather their collective economic power to benefit families across the globe. With zero expectation for notoriety or influence, these people quietly change the world for the better. Families they will never meet are able to celebrate birthdays with infants who are alive thanks to the Power of Milk.

Farmers can now provide more food for their families and safe water is available for school children. The Board wishes to thank them publically and carry a message from the hundreds of families in Kopanga that benefit from their support:

Asante Sana!

Bloom Family Foundation

Burton Family Foundation

Glein Family Foundation

Roecks Kvitle Foundation

Lee & Cheryl Sachnoff Fund

Tilford Family Foundation



Just Say Spa-aaaahhh...

Join us for P4Ps newest and most relaxing “fun” raiser – A Pampering Social at La Rive Spa at Northern Quest Resort and Casino on **Wednesday, July 20, 5:30pm – 7:30pm**. We’ll mix, mingle, get mini-treatments, enjoy wine and appetizers and give away a door prize. Spa service options include a 10-minute massage, jaw or eye lift, eyebrow or lip wax and nail polish change.

If you’ve never been to La Rive, you’re in for a treat at one of the region’s most luxurious, beautifully appointed spas. Tickets are \$30 and all proceeds go to P4P! We expect this event to sell out, so make your reservations now by calling the La Rive Spa at Northern Quest Resort and Casino, **509-481-6108** or email spainfo@northernquest.com.

We Need Speaking Venues for Seth

We are still looking for opportunities for P4P’s Kenyan Project Coordinator, Seth Okumu, to speak at community groups when he is



in Spokane, September 23 through October 9. To date, he is scheduled to speak at the Valley Rotary, Kiwanis Club of East Spokane and Coeur d'Alene Rotary. Seth is a dynamic, insightful presenter so if you know of a civic group, church, club or other organization who would like to hear P4P's story, contact P4P's Executive Director, Dia Maurer, at diamaurer@gmail.com

P4P in the News

Wayne and Patti Krafft's work with P4P in Kenya was one of five "voluntourism" stories (the act of doing good deeds while seeing the world) in the June issue of *InHealth* magazine. Communications Committee Chair, Linda Hagen Miller, wrote the article. *InHealth* is distributed in medical and dental office waiting rooms, grocery stores, coffee shops, health and fitness clubs throughout the Inland Northwest and is mailed to 1,300 doctors and medical professionals. Overall readership is approximately 26,000 people. <http://partneringforprogress.org/wp-content/uploads/lending-hand-kenya.pdf>

The *Spokesman Review* and *Journal of Business* ran our press release announcing the appointment of Carla Altepeter to chair of the Board of Directors. On Sunday June 5th, the *Spokesman Review* ran an editorial written by Board member Gordon Jackson. See "Bathroom fight lost on Kenyans". In the editorial Gordon shares his observations of the Community Led Total Sanitation event facilitated by Gad Obuya, a community health assistant. <http://partneringforprogress.org/wp-content/uploads/bathroom-combatants-learn-from-village.pdf>



9TH ANNUAL

INTO AFRICA AUCTION

*One Event Will Change
a Thousand Lives*

MIRABEAU PARK HOTEL
OCTOBER 1, 2016
5:30PM



Into Africa Auction

One event can change a thousand lives. Save the date for this year's annual fundraising auction and dinner. African dishes will mingle with American fare, the auction tables will be stacked high with intriguing items and your friends and fellow P4P supporters will be there.

The Mirabeau Park Hotel in the Spokane Valley will be our venue again this year, so put the date on your calendar for **October 1 at 5:30 pm**. Tickets are \$65 per person or \$500 for a table of eight and can be purchased online at www.intoafricaauction.org or by phone at **509-720-8408**. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. To learn more about sponsorship, call Ashley Lenz at 414-698-1822.

The Mirabeau Park Hotel is holding rooms at the discounted price of \$85 for auction attendees. Book directly with the hotel by calling 509-924-9000. Don't forget to mention P4P to receive the discount.

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