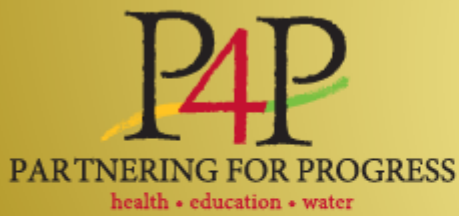


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I've always respected those who tried to change the world for the better, rather than just complain about it.

~ Michael Bloomberg



Report From the Field

By Seth Okumu, Kenya Program Coordinator

Umbrellas were recently printed with the P4P logo and given to Community Health Volunteers (pictured above) in appreciation of the many unpaid volunteer hours they dedicate to be in the first line of defense in health issues. CHVs are expected to visit 100 households on a voluntary basis and are an essential education link in a culture where word-of-mouth is the main method of disseminating information. With the rainy season starting, umbrellas are a blessing for CHVs making household visits and will shade them during the two hot and sunny dry seasons.

Nutrition projects are progressing well. We got another supply of Food By Prescriptions (PlumpyNut) from the Ministry of Health and the stock is good. We currently have 30 infants enrolled in the Power of Milk Program.

Schools are closing on 5th April 2017 and classes resume in early May. Second half fees will be paid for twenty seven high school scholarships at the end of April. All of the students are progressing well both academically and physically.

As reported in last month's newsletter, Magongo-Ribe Secondary school rainwater catchment tank has been delivered, installed and is working to provide a clean water source.

In Economic Development, all ten farmers that were trained have planted maize and are now top dressing their crops with calcium ammonium nitrate fertilizer. All the crops are doing well so far. We are planning to engage the Ministry of Agricultural officer to help us visit the farms and advise the farmers appropriately.

Make a Donation

**Click to donate by Pay Pal or mail donation checks to:
Partnering for Progress, P.O. Box 28191, Spokane, WA 99228. Thank You!**

A Decade of Progress

Partnering for Progress turns 10 this year. It's been a decade of incredible growth on a very steep learning curve. Each month, one of our volunteers will reminisce about their experience in Kenya. We hope their stories remind all of us that our work is important and sometimes life-saving.



Clean Hands Save Lives

By Akinyi (Helen Biggs)

I first went to Kopanga, Kenya, with P4P in 2008. Along with fellow volunteer Eryn Brooks, we provided health care education presentations to schools and clinics. Eryn and I were even given Luo names -- she was called Atiembo and I was called Akinyi.

Over five days, Eryn and I visited ten schools and two clinics. We used handmade posters which demonstrated basic health care principles such as the importance of boiling water, using a mosquito net, brushing teeth, covering coughs and sneezes and washing hands. We also talked about HIV/AIDS and the importance of clean water.

Since that first trip, I have returned seven times making presentations at the schools and clinics using an inquiry based approach, updated materials, better posters and props. And I have continued to emphasize the importance of hand washing.



Helen demonstrating proper hand washing

During my last visit, I attended a meeting of the Kopanga Education Committee which is comprised of the headmasters of the schools with whom we work, the heads of each school's parent association and Seth, P4P's Kenya Program Coordinator. We also talked about our scholarship program and the upcoming academic awards ceremony.

"Akinyi, our school has installed handwashing stations," the assistant headmaster of the Migongo-Ribe Primary School proudly said to me. "Every year you visit us and tell us how important it is to wash hands, so we decided to install them." The other headmasters eagerly joined in, saying they hope to install handwashing stations soon. Indeed, progress is being made through partnerships!

According to the Centers For Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), washing hands with soap and water can:

- Reduce the percentage of diarrheal-associated deaths by 50%
- Reduce the risk of respiratory infections by 16%
- Reduce a million deaths a year

Gratitude to Departing Board Chair, Carla Altepeter

Carla Altepeter is resigning from the P4P Board of Directors after serving for two years. We give thanks for all the effort she has shared to help us achieve our mission. Carla is an excellent "friend raiser," bringing many new partners to our work, and she is a

wonderful leader, guiding the Board in strategy discussions and hosting P4P's committees/volunteer meetings several times. Carla wears many hats, including that of CEO of Numerica Credit Union. P4P's Board and volunteers are fortunate to have had her passion for Africa and her support. We will miss her greatly!



Meet Volunteer Heather Reid

A woman who writes a blog called *Exhale Gratitude* obviously has her heart firmly planted in a volunteer space. Heather Reid, the blog's author and P4P volunteer, spreads that grateful spirit all over Spokane. In addition to working on P4P's Civic Theater fundraiser for the past two years, Heather is a mentor with Communities in Schools, is a CASA volunteer (Court Appointed Special Advocate or guardian ad litem), and runs a community group at her church. She previously volunteered with SNAP helping refugees find work in the food service industry and assisted with administrative duties at St. Luke's Rehabilitation Institute. All this in addition to her full time job as a staff manager at Wisconsinburger.

"I love being involved with an organization where all kinds of people come together in order to do good for those on the other side of the world. This is a chance to provide for others who aren't as blessed as we are. And I love the idea of possibly visiting Kenya one day and getting to know the amazing people I hear about."

Heather has lived in Spokane for the past three years but was born and raised in Montana, lived in Wisconsin for a few years and graduated from the University of Wisconsin with a bachelor's degree in hospitality management. She plans to start her master's in public administration degree at EWU this year.

She's an avid writer (www.exhalegratitude.com), yoga practitioner and traveler who has visited 30 states, Spain and the Caribbean. She says she's itching to see more of the world.

Volunteer Now!

Communications Committee Report

By Linda Hagen Miller



We are a small but lively team—volunteers Eryn Brooks, Chrisdee Imthurn and me, plus inimitable P4P part time staffers, Dia Maurer and Lee Fowler.

Our job is to raise community awareness of P4P’s programs and accomplishments by obtaining media coverage in local and regional publications. We promote P4P fundraisers and events, communicate with volunteers and supporters via the monthly newsletter and weekly social media posts, write and/or edit brochures and fact sheets and keep the website updated.

P4P has always had a communications arm but we expanded the committee’s role to include vigorous media outreach in 2012. Since that time, ComCom has secured quite a bit of “ink” for P4P.

We submit public service announcements (PSAs) to promote Into Africa Auction, our annual fundraising event, the annual Civic Theater fundraiser, the Kopanga Music Benefit and appointment of new members to the board of directors; and we propose and sometimes write feature stories about P4P. We have secured coverage in the following:

Magazines, Newspapers	Radio
Spokesman Review	Spokane Public Radio
Journal of Business	KYRS Thin Air Radio
Coeur d’Alene Press	
Inlander	Websites
Liberty Lake Splash	Visit Spokane
Spokane Area Metro	KAYU Fox 28
Valley Current	KREM
Living Local	KXLY
InHealth	
Spokane CDA Living	

Feature Articles	
Spokesman Review Food (2 articles)	Inlander
Spokesman Review Editorial*	Gig Harbor Living Local
Journal of Business	Fig Tree
CDA Living Local	Sandpoint Living Local
In Health (2 articles)	The Current
Tri-Cities Mom	Wenatchee Valley Good Life
Metro Magazine	Wenatchee World
Latitude 5	Doc Talk *
Spokane CDA Woman (2 articles)	The Message (Medical Society)*
* ComCom thanks P4P volunteers Debbie Stimpson and Gordon Jackson who wrote or secured placement of these articles	

Social media is integral to getting the P4P message out there and Lee Fowler, P4P Administrative Coordinator, is a whiz at navigating the World Wide Web to promote P4P. Take a look at how much we've grown in the last three years.

2013	2016	Activity
500	805	Number contacts in Excel data base in Google drive
571	837	Email address in database
739	1111	Donor contacts
210	551	Social media measurements (postings)
37	78	Twitter followers
26	43	Instagram followers (data from 2015 to 2016)

The well is running a little dry though. Once a local publication has covered an organization like ours, they are not likely to do another feature story for a few years. Therefore, we are constantly looking for new places to be published. If you have suggestions or belong to a professional organization that encourages spreading the news about their members whose volunteer work is benefitting the community and the world, tell us about it. Email me at lindahagenmiller@gmail.com.

Catch a Broadway Musical and Support P4P

Combine Cole Porter's music and lyrics with Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew* to get one of Broadway's most endearing shows, ***Kiss Me, Kate***.

When the egotistical performer Fred Graham is reunited with his ex-wife Lilli Vanessi in the leading roles of *Taming of the Shrew*, the drama off stage leads to pandemonium on stage. Mistaken identity, gangsters, and a colorful cast of characters add up to a hilarious musical comedy filled with beloved Broadway musical numbers *Why Can't You Behave*, *So In Love Am I*, *Wonderbar*, *Too Darn Hot*, *I Hate Men*, *Brush Up Your Shakespeare*, *Always True to You (In My Fashion)*, and *Another Op'nin*.

Tickets are on sale NOW for P4P's spring benefit performance at the **Spokane Civic Theater** on **Wednesday, May 31**.

Please join us for an unforgettable Tony Award-winning Broadway musical that is sure to make you smile and support P4P's Kenya programs at the same time.

Tickets are \$35 for adults, \$300 for a package of 10, and \$30 for students.

Our usual pre-function appetizer spread and no host bar will sweeten the evening even more. Buy tickets

at <http://partneringforprogress.org/civic-theatre-benefit.html>. For information call (509) 953-8014.

Kiss Me, Kate



Purchase Tickets

Click to purchase tickets using Pay Pal or call (509) 389-9858 for credit cards orders.

Mail checks to Partnering for Progress PO Box 28191 Spokane, WA 99228 Thank You!

It's coming! Save the Date!



Help us celebrate A Decade of Progress!

P4P's 10th Annual Into Africa Auction

Saturday, October 7, 2017

Mirabeau Park Hotel in Spokane Valley

Board of Directors

President: Ashley Lenz

Treasurer: Canada Segura

Secretary: Greg Connolly

Traci Anderson

Cameryn Flynn

Thomas Holman

Gordon Jackson

Patti Krafft

Stacey Mainer, Co-Founder

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Civic Theatre Benefit: Barbara Morkill, Sandy Ivers

Communication Committee: Linda Hagen Miller

Economic Development: Traci Anderson

Education Committee: Cameryn Flynn

Finance Committee: Canada Segura

Fundraising Committee: Annie Luu Gokey, Sandy Ivers

Health Committee: Gabriella Bulman

Water Committee: Jim Ivers

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Lee Fowler, Administrative Coordinator

Seth Okumu, Kenya Program Coordinator

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