

# Nurturing Minds NEWS

Change Our World,  
Educate A Girl

Nurturing Minds Newsletter  
June 2012



## Student Highlight: Yustina John



My name is Yustina John. I am 15 years old and live with my mother, brother and sisters. My father passed away two years ago and life became very hard as sometimes we would go hungry the whole day without eating. My mother sells sambusas (meat pies) and the money is used to buy sugar and color for making ice cream to sell. It was my duty to sell ice cream with my mom every day. One day, my mother heard people talking about Sega. I took the exam and passed – that was the happiest moment in my life! It was a chance for me to go back to learning. At Sega, the teachers teach well and the environment is good because we have books and classrooms. The person I admire most is the Minister of Home and Foreign Affairs, Bernard Membe, because he is trying hard to help the people of Tanzania.

If you are interested in sponsoring Yustina, or another student for a year at the Sega Girls School, please contact our Student Sponsorship Program Coordinator Chris Hammarsjold at [crh@usscgroup.com](mailto:crh@usscgroup.com) or call Nikki on 617-969-1950.

## Sega Girls Give Back

Last April, Sega's Form 2 students visited the Mgolole Orphanage dedicated to caring for babies who lost their moms during childbirth. During the outing, the students helped clean the facility and played with the babies and toddlers.



## Sega Campus Expands



The second phase of construction is now complete! Thanks to your donations, plus a \$400,000 two to one matching grant from USAID, we now have 1 additional classroom, 3 additional dorms, 1 staff house, 1 volunteer residence and 2 chicken coops. Just in time to welcome 60 new students this summer!

## Kilimanjaro Challenge

Imagine yourself on top of the world's highest freestanding mountain and the roof of Africa in support of the Sega Girls School! Nurturing Minds is partnering with the Peaks Foundation on a fundraiser that includes climbing Kilimanjaro, visiting the Sega School and taking a safari viewing spectacular wildlife and scenery. The dates are February 12-23, 2013 and the cost per person is \$4,095 (airfare not included). For more details on this life-changing trip, email Laura DeDominicis at [laura.dd@att.net](mailto:laura.dd@att.net). Hurry, there's only a few spaces left!

## Sega Girls Win Football Tournament

20 Sega students went to the local international school to participate in a football (soccer) tournament. The girls created a team the day before and held only one practice, but still managed to place 1st and 2nd!



To contact us, 617-969-1950 or [info@nurturingmindsinafrica.org](mailto:info@nurturingmindsinafrica.org)

## Sega Has Gone Kuku!

The Sega School has reached a milestone in its journey towards becoming a financially self-supporting school. We currently have 2,000 "kukus" which is Swahili for chickens, with more coming. The kuku bandas (chicken pens) have been completed and Mohamed, our kuku manager, is busy keeping the chicks healthy and happy until they are ready to start laying eggs. This is a participatory, hands-on opportunity for our students who are not only responsible for caring for the chicks, but also learning valuable entrepreneurial skills such as how to market and sell eggs. Special thanks to our amazing donors and to generous grants from Dining for Women, Kennett Friends Meeting, and the U.S Embassy in Tanzania that helped make this vital program possible.



## New Rainwater Harvesting



With 60 new students this year and a new chicken business, the demand for water has increased substantially and the cost of purchasing potable water has become unsustainable. With help from

Engineers Without Borders, we have determined that installing rainwater capture equipment on each of the campus buildings, and feeding the water to a 300,000 liter underground storage tank is our solution. The total cost is approximately \$100,000. Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church awarded the Richard Shaull grant of \$41,000 to begin phase I of installing a rainwater harvesting system on six of our new buildings. A Global Giving fundraising campaign raised another \$20,000, and a \$600 donation from a local Rodan & Fields sales team got us off to a strong start! Amazing what can be done when everyone works together!

## Challenge to Educational Citizenship Award

Clementina, Sega's headmistress, and Enock, the Academic Master, visited the US in June to attend a teacher training conference in Philadelphia. During their trip, they joined board member Ashley Moran and students of the SEGA Club at King's Highway Elementary to receive the Challenge to Educational Citizenship Award (the only elementary school out of 150 applicants to receive this award!) at the State Capitol in Hartford, CT.

## Volunteer Opportunities

We have several Service Learning Programs available for volunteers wanting to spend time at the Sega School: English as a Second Language (ESL) Teacher. One-year minimum commitment. Provide intensive instruction in English.

- Must be ESL trained, with certificates/or a teacher by profession.
- Sponsorship & Exchange Coordinator (2 posts): Coordinates communication between sponsors and students, while building students' skills in letter writing, English language, and written and email communication.
- We also consider placement of 2-4 other short-term volunteers from 3 months up to one year, who have skills in English, Arts/Crafts, Computer, Sports and Recreation, Life Skills, Music, Dance, or other areas.

All volunteers must be age 18+, and we prefer that volunteers come as a pair if under the age of 22. If you are interested in volunteering in our Service Learning Programs, please contact Nikki Shearman, [nikki@nurturingmindsinafrica.org](mailto:nikki@nurturingmindsinafrica.org), 617-969-1950.

*Nurturing Minds is a US-based (501) (c) (3) non-profit organization.*

*EIN # 20-8870624 All donations to Nurturing Minds are tax deductible.*

*The official registration and financial information of Nurturing Minds may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State Bureau of Charitable Organizations by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1(800)732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.*