

Empowerment Through Education



Thank You



Brentwood Chiropractic Clinic
Riverside Club
Crowfoot YMCA
Carr Family
Phillip Poon
Elbow Springs Golf Club
Mike Shaikh
Mary-Ann Stushnoff
Aurum Ceramic
Penny Humphrey
Western Heritage Upholstery
Conquest Personal Training
Cindy Urednicek
Chez Ziane
Chinook Mall
Man-Chiu Poon

Beth Marchand
Calgary Hitmen
D'Arcy Ranch Golf Club
La Flamme Galleries
Bernadette Curry
Texas Instruments
Muriel Keeling
Butterfield Acres
Ford Canada
Kim Henrich
Exact Mechanical Services
Ron Bennett
Western Drilling
Transamerica
Hotel Arts
Bruce Cowper

Lab Machine Works
Sure Seal Contracting
Reservoir Dogz Curling
Ted D'Amico
Susan Mordan
Donald Henderson
Kayla Baker
Kenneth Payne
Sandi Grassick
David Neufield
Copper Point Golf Course
Superior Paint and Body Service
Paula Derouin
Jemma Lynch
Howard Macleod

Helen Lam
Ted & Dave Custom Golf
Starbucks
Golf Town
Spyglass Resources
Joyce Loos
Torren Arndt
WillowPark Salon and Spa
Goldsmith Jewelers
Banff Springs Golf Club
Kim and Brian Marchand
Alvina Forsberg-Howell
Diane Semchuck
Kelsey Beck
Notable Restaurant
Wayne Vopni

Our mission is to empower individuals and communities in need
through education, leadership and partnership.

Integrity

Collaboration

Sustainability

Accountability

Empowerment



Within just 3 months, I witnessed the disastrous effects of the Alberta flood followed by the horrific impact of the Nairobi terrorism. I am humbled by our vulnerability as individuals and amazed at the ability of our communities to overcome indescribable challenges.



My encouragement goes out to Southern Albertans who were overwhelmed by the devastating flood. Albertans showed their community spirit as we dug each other out of the mud. With redirected donor dollars and volunteer resources, the flood had a significant effect on the non-profit sector. Respectfully, our event team opted to delay our annual golf tournament. The capacity for giving amongst Albertans shone through the storm and the delayed tournament generated enough funds to sustain our programs for the following six months. I thank all Albertans for their ongoing contributions, concern and participation in our events, even in the most difficult of circumstances.

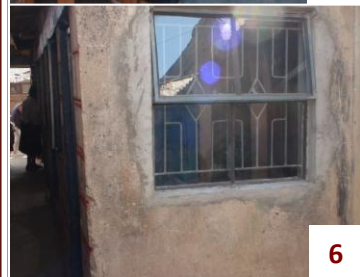


During my recent visit to Nairobi, Kenya, I bonded with staff and volunteers of People for Progress Foundation as we witnessed a four day long terrorist attack. In empathy of Nairobi residents who were held hostage, all of our hearts were taken hostage while we watched, powerlessly, the developments of the attack. Alongside resilient Kenyans, I returned to work on the day of the conclusion. Most significantly, we completed an expansion of our Raven Education Centre property by preparing and equipping an additional classroom to accommodate new students. Inspired by Kenyan courage and strength I approached every moment with passion and vigor, finding joy and fulfillment in all we accomplished together.



As individuals we find ourselves in vulnerable situations, but as a community we are strong enough to overcome challenges. Whether we trade flip flops for rubber boots on a sunny 25 degree day to clean a basement, give the ambulance right away for yet another terrorist victim, or empower individuals through education, our contribution impacts the well being of our greater global community.

Mary-Ann Stushnoff
President



Raven Education Centre has shown a very big improvement in terms of progressing and development. The children are well educated and performing excellent in class.

These are some of the changes that were done during the last official visit with Mary-Ann, PPF President in September and October 2013.

- 1) Furniture repair and addition of new tables and chairs
- 2) Painted the class room and walls and added posters.
- 3) Added shelves to the classrooms and kitchen.
- 4) Wrote numbers, letters, drew pictures on the border.
- 5) Painted the People for Progress Foundation logo on the outside wall
- 6) Added one more window in the kitchen.
- 7) Added one more toilet.

As we are approaching to the end of the year, we are looking forward to hiring a new teacher and increasing enrollment because our new classroom is ready for students and one whole class will be graduating to upper class.

Dennis Mauka
Executive Director



In the first week of October, we visited Tanzania, Moshi, Machame community to check up on our scholarship student, Priscila. At her school, Harambee Secondary, we talked with Priscila's teachers and headmaster. At the time, Priscilla was doing her final exams in order for her to graduate to form three.



After exams, Priscila will be on break and resume school next year in January. If she will not attain 40% pass mark she will be forced to repeat form two. We believe that she will pass her finals and move on to form three. With chores and lack of light making studies very difficult at home, we chose to sponsor Priscila for tuition (additional class time, which will continue into her school break. We expect tuition will help Priscila perform even better and give her opportunities for the best education in the future.



Priscila has really shown improvement since the first day, now she is very confident and helps during home visits in distribution of food and care packages.

Dennis Mauka

Outreach

People for Progress Foundation has been doing home visits in Machame for a number of years now, seeing the same people over and over. We provide food and hygiene items and discuss the well being of the children and their care givers.



It's so unfortunate that in our last visit many of them were sick and couldn't get out of bed. There are big challenges in the Machame community because of the poverty. Children are not going to school and parents are dying because of sickness thus orphaned children are left to stay with their grandparents and whom are aging can't provide for the family. These children are eligible for the People for Progress Foundation student sponsorship program.

Dennis Mauka



Africa gets into your soul and the children steal your heart.

I have had the privilege of watching videos of the children playing at Raven Education Centre in the impoverished Dandora community in Nairobi, Kenya. Seeing them delight in musical chairs (1), observing them learn hopscotch (2) and hearing their bubbling laughter while batting balloons around (3).

I have seen pictures of children playing with small cars, dolls and simple toys (4). Of drawing with their one crayon and then discovering the wonder of sharing their crayons to create multi-colour masterpieces (5).

I have stood in a room filled with children endlessly repeating "head and shoulders, knees and toes" as they basked in the attention given them by a couple of self-conscious white adult visitors (6).

I have sat and stood in the laneway outside Raven Education Centre engulfed in a sea of smartly dressed ragamuffins (and no, that is not an oxymoron) putting stickers on their hands and arms and cheeks and foreheads. And seeing their joy and their gratefulness at being given something - a lollipop and some stickers and lots of attention - by two wazungu (white people) (7).

I have known the awe expressed by little ones when they saw and touched the cats tattooed on my arms.

And I have seen and heard of the difference made in their lives and the life of the community because they are beginning their education, getting nutritional meals and being shown that they are important by staff and volunteers who care.

I have seen what Raven Education Centre Early Childhood Development School brings to the Dandora community. A chance for children to get a start on their education and take off to soar higher. Something they would not otherwise have. It brings a sustainable presence with a blossoming and developing building that promotes community pride and encourages the people. A sense of belonging that translates into a cleaner, healthier, safer environment as the community grows together. A restoration of dignity to an often invisible people seeking only a better life and opportunities for their families.

Education is key in the fight to eradicate extreme poverty. It is a major stepping stone on the path of reclaiming dignity and self-assurance. It is a beginning towards greater opportunities and lifting one's self and one's family out of despair. It is a foundation of safer, healthier community.

It is empowerment through hope.

Ron Bennett
Event Committee Member





It has been 510 days since I returned to Calgary after spending four weeks in Africa, volunteering with People for Progress Foundation. I was fortunate enough to witness firsthand and be a part of the amazing work that People for Progress Foundation is doing in Kenya and Tanzania. Those four weeks were the most amazing, life changing weeks of my life - The people that I met and the sights that I saw will forever be ingrained in my mind and will forever have a place in my heart.

When I returned to Calgary, I met with a friend for coffee to share with her stories from my trip. After coffee, she sent me an email thanking me for meeting with her and at the end she added this quote:



"To laugh often and much, to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children, to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends, to appreciate beauty, to find the best in others, to leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch... to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded!" - Emerson



And so again I go. In 70 days I will be making the journey back to Africa to once again volunteer with People for Progress Foundation. I look forward to spending time with the children at Raven Education Centre and helping them with their daily lessons, supporting and encouraging the staff, handing out care packages to those in need and interacting with members of the community. If I know one thing to be more true than ever, it's that with opportunities like this, you need to go with no expectations and an open heart and when you do so, you'd be quite surprised by not only what you will teach them, but what they will teach you.



Thank you to everyone that helped make my trips possible and thank you to those that make it possible for People for Progress Foundation to empower individuals and communities in need through education, leadership and partnership.

Kelsey Beck
Harambee Committee Chairperson



The value that we place on our own life and on the lives of other human beings will largely determine the conditions of human existence and the chances of human survival for the future. An extermination camp imposes a low value not only on the lives of prisoners, but also on the lives of every human being responsible for the existence of the camp. The devaluation of human life is a necessary condition of slavery and extermination camps, of warfare and oppression. Even in the naïve oblivion of our consumer society, by choosing to place a low value on the lives of other human beings (and therefore on our own life), we are choosing a dark future for everyone.

Therefore responsible self esteem and respect for the life of each human being are the pixels in a larger picture – a brighter tomorrow for human life on this planet. Each human life has its darkness and its light, like a Rembrandt painting. By developing our awareness of the unique beauty in each life, with all its difficulty and its courage, we enrich our own lives; we honour the lives of others; and we improve the conditions of human existence and the chances of human survival for the decades ahead.

Dr. Arthur Clark
Calgary Centre for Global Community

Volunteer Opportunities

Golf Tournament Coordinator

April – July

Lead a team of experienced volunteers

Harambee - Concert and Silent Auction Coordinator

September – November

Lead a team of experienced volunteers

Website Designer/Update

Monthly

Update information, pictures and videos

Newsletter Editor

Semi-annual

Edit articles and put in a news letter format

Fund Development Coordinator

Monthly

Apply for government grants and corporate sponsorship

Event Committee Members

April – July and September – November

Attend meetings to plan fundraising events

Committee Members

Mary-Ann Stushnoff
Dr. Bernadette Curry
Kelsey Beck
Rolonde Marchand
Phillip Poon
Taylor Carr
Ron Bennett
Muriel Keeling
Carmen Riguedell

Board of Directors

Mary-Ann Stushnoff
Dr. Bernadette Curry
Knute Smith
Dennis Mauka
Roystone Mwit

Contact Us

303-228 90 Avenue SE
Calgary, AB
Canada T2J 6P6
403.605.5563 ph
admin@peopleforprogress.net
www.peopleforprogress.net

Box 20867-00100 GPO
denismauka@yahoo.com
Nairobi, Kenya
(+254) 722538822