



Sakila Sponsorship Program

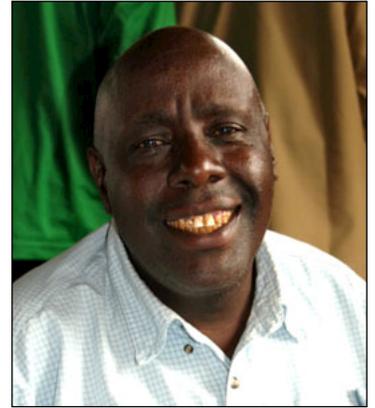
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Dear Sponsors and Supporters,

September 2011

We are very mindful of the fact that we are a team — two teams, actually, but with a common goal. The sponsorship team is made up of somewhat less than 600 fully active, very committed, sponsors and supporters. The other is the team in Sakila, made up of devoted teachers, workers, children, parents and guardians. God has brought us together for a singular purpose — the nourishment of the minds and spirits of a generation of children in and around the village of Sakila. It is essential that we pray for each other that God will sustain and strengthen us to do His work. Our hearts are heavy as we sorrow over the loss of a vitally important team member. Godwin says, *"I struggled mightily with this story... still too fresh I guess. But I think I finally have a good story to represent what he stood for."*

On August 2nd, 2011, the entire IEO/IEC and SSP family lost a very important member of its family. Our dear friend Mathayo "Mandela" Abel Akyoo passed away. For nearly two years he struggled with a head injury he'd sustained in a motorcycle accident. He finally succumbed to it. Mandela was a part of International Evangelism Center/Church since it started in 1983. He was a huge part of why things ran smoothly in a lot of areas. Mandela could literally fix anything. He was a huge part of making sure all equipment ran smoothly. The local saying around the Bible school campus was that our vehicles, tractors and all other machinery were too afraid of Mandela to break down for too long. He also worked closely with the water drilling team from Wyoming to provide water to thousands of people in various villages. Additionally, Mandela was extremely funny and he was a natural born storyteller. His sense of humor help galvanize the sense of purpose around the campus because he was always ready to laugh, but when it was time to do something serious, all laughing stopped and he was taking charge to fix or find a solution to the problem. His absence has already been felt in a resounding way. He will be missed monumentally, but we are thankful for the many years he enriched our lives with his humor, sense of purpose and his strong family values. It was a privilege for many, including myself, to have known Mandela and a greater honor to have been called his friend. ~ Godwin



So much has been accomplished in a few short years. Mandela played a major role on the Sakila team. He helped drill the schools' wells, fixed equipment, and even painted buildings. One of our favorite memories is Mandela giving thumbs-up, dressed in a white hazard suit, standing with the school paint crew, saying, "Good job!" We were going to ask you to pray for God to raise up someone to fill the void left by this wonderful, hard-working man but God was well ahead of us. Baraka and Charles had been working with Mandela for many years and learning well under his watchful eye. We are told they are already stepping up to the plate. Just goes to show that nothing happens to us that God has not provided for. "...my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus." [PHILIPPIANS 4:19]

Please continue to pray for rain. Tanzania is only allowed one day of electricity per week and even that may stop. The schools and bible school are using generator power. But, that takes gas...to the tune of \$100 a day! (And you thought things were getting bad in the states.) Please pray for many of your fellow team members here who have health and financial needs. In addition, pray for the children and staff in Sakila. They, as well, are praying for you. The Secondary School is doing admirably. One building is complete, the second will be ready for occupation in January, and foundation for the third has been poured. Each building holds three classrooms. Soon we will be attending a celebration of the second class to graduate from Primary School. Then they will join last year's grads at this lovely new campus. Praise the Lord for His goodness! God bless you all as we labor together to do the Master's work.

Gene & Serraine Anderson

The Sakila Sponsorship Program is a certified 501(c)(3) Charity. All donations are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to the Sakila Sponsorship Program (S.S.P.) or pay securely using your credit or debit card by going to www.sakilasponsorship.org and clicking on the 'CONTACT INFO & DONATIONS' button.