



# Sakila Sponsorship Program

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Dear Sponsors and Supporters,

December 2014

**Meat!** We take it for granted — not so in Sakila. Meat is not often something they are able to have. However, because of your gifts, we have been able to give the students meat with their meals several times a week. A few years ago we began tending a goatherd with goats provided by sponsor donations. The number of goats has varied from month to month depending on weather conditions and the needs of the children. The goats are not used for any other purpose than to supply meat for the two schools. When there are not enough goats to harvest, meat is purchased from local markets. As the number of students grows (now around a thousand) it becomes necessary to purchase meat more often. So, if you want to do something special for the children for Christmas, donate for meat! A small goat can be purchased for \$25 or a larger one for \$30. Naturally, you will be blessing all the children with these “goat” gifts, not just the ones you sponsor. But, what a way to share the blessings of Christmas with the children! Just note “MEAT” in the memo of your gift. Here is Bill’s report of this year’s trip:

*Hi everybody, it’s your friend Bill reporting on my first trip to Sakila, Tanzania this October.*

*Being the newbie on this missions trip was like having a back stage pass to the Sakila Sponsorship Program (SSP). I was excited to spend nearly 3 weeks immersed in the village culture.*

*Gene, Lorraine and the team patiently answered my many questions. At no point did they say to me, “Bill, haven’t you read ANY of the SSP newsletters?”*

*This was THE very best time to see and experience Sakila. I saw what’s been built since the Primary School was founded in 2003. I heard story after story of how God has brought people and resources at key times. It made my heart beat faster to experience the tangible results of God’s work through people and circumstances over time.*

*Friends, I can tell you with humble enthusiasm that I WAS THERE. The Primary School? The Secondary School? The students and teachers? They REALLY exist and here’s what I learned:*

## **Relationships are important in Sakila.**

*Although those words weren’t often said — they were **always** demonstrated. For instance, a friendly “Jambo” (greeting) was customary acknowledgment for all within 30 feet (young, old, friend or out of town). “Jambo” was accompanied by a handshake. In fact, their handshake’s so important and nice they shake it thrice. (Hey, that almost rhymes.)*

*Community leaders and guests met for coffee every day at 4 p.m. But not for the coffee — for the **fellowship** with one another. Whether the conversation was thin or robust, the message being sent to all in attendance: “You’re so important to me I’m here right now.” Skype and FaceTime have their place, yet they’re not the same as showing up and spending time together.*

## **Love comes to Sakila in containers.**

*It’s true. Love comes to Sakila in 40 foot steel dry shipping containers bringing everything from clothes to (for this trip) entire high school chemistry labs. Love comes to them in containers we call backpacks that are packed with gifts for our sponsored children. Love comes to them through containers that are shaped just like you and me.*

## **Highlights? There’s so many (yet so little space)**

- *Distributing sponsor provided gifts to children and their families.*
- *Graduation day (74 Primary School-7th grade students and 81 Secondary School-Form 4 students)*
- *The expression on the face of the 4th grade girl we sponsor discovering the doll that my wife, Robin, had placed in this year’s gift backpack.*
- *Worshipping in the village church where Pastor Marc Pearson laid the corner stone in 1993.*
- *Working side by side with this year’s team. They’re awesome. I truly benefited from getting to know each of them. I love these people.*

## **What’s next?**

*There’s more to do. Adding Forms 5 & 6 (AKA: High School), constructing Boy’s and Girl’s dormitories, and sponsoring children. Presently there are about 70 without sponsors. I’d love to help spread the word about the*

*Sakila Sponsorship Program. Please let me know if you know of a group who'd benefit from seeing pictures from our recent trip and learning about SSP. Rest assured that everything you do here makes a long-term difference there. It's received in humble gratitude. It's a great privilege to be a partner with you in the Sakila Sponsorship Program.*

*God bless you!*

*Bill Breakey*



Thanks for the glowing report, Bill. We just couldn't resist including a picture of Bill showing some of the boys (three of whom are enjoying suckers) how to do a 'selfie.' The photo on the right is Bill with the little girl that he and Robin sponsor.

If you'd like Bill's contact information to help him "spread the word" just get in touch with our office. Our contact information is in the header of this newsletter.

A couple more things: Please set aside the afternoon of Saturday, January 31st for our annual potluck at Gateway Fellowship in the Pearson Fellowship Hall. We have a special treat this year: Dan (Bill calls him "Dan the Camera Man") put together some photos of our October trip. They're really great! Also, now is the time to think about your year-end giving. Tax receipts will go out in January of 2015 and anything postmarked before December 31st will be included. All donations are fully tax-deductible. **Our top financial priority is to get the girls' and boys' dorms completed in time for classes to begin in July of 2015. They'll house the Form 5 and 6 students who are required to live on campus.**

God bless you so much! Have a wonderful time celebrating the birth of our Savior, Jesus! Thank you for joining our little family of sponsors and supporters to bring HOPE to the village of Sakila!

*Gene & Perraine Anderson*

The Sakila Sponsorship Program is a U.S. Federally recognized 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](http://www.sakilasponsorship.org) and clicking on the 'CONTACT INFO & DONATIONS' button.