



Sakila Sponsorship Program

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Dear Sponsors and Supporters,

May 2017

Thank you so much for all your gifts for rice. We made our goal and we have a good start on gathering funds needed for beans and corn. Godwin visited Sakila in April. School was not in session due to Easter Holiday. But, he was able to arrange a celebration for these twelve graduating Form 6 students.

"It is with great joy and a sense of overwhelming gratitude that I write this note to all of you. Together we've been on this journey and some of you started with us from the very beginning. Long before the noises of hundreds of children could be heard, in multiple campuses and at different levels of their quest for higher education, there was a dream---long before there was a reason to trust in the dream, a dream that would one day produce one of the best schools in the region. Dreams, even great dreams, need believers. Not all dreams bear fruit. Not all dreams are of God. Not all dreams have good intention. But as we shared this dream, to provide better education for children of Sakila and surrounding villages, you listened. You responded and because you believed in the dream, you entrusted us with your hard-earned, generous donations. Thank you!"



The dream has yielded many fruits along the way. We've graduated three Form 4 classes (high school level equivalent), and from those three groups, there are great success stories. One of those

success stories is the group I'd like to present to you today. On Thursday April 13th, 2017 we graduated our first ever High School (Community college equivalent) students at Hebron High School. The twelve that graduated are truly a special group. Some of them are among the first enrolled into the then newly registered school in 2003. This group has been exemplary from the very beginning. They have always performed well academically. The school recently received a national award, which came directly from the Ministry of Education in Tanzania, and recognized Hebron as one of the most improved (and improving) schools in the nation. With that, we immediately received challenges from neighboring schools to test our Form 6 students using "mock exams" taken from previous national exam archives. They took first place in those exams and going into the national exams, which will be held from May 2nd through 12th, they are very confident that they will all pass with high marks, and they believe they will post some of the highest academic marks nationally.

This was a big dream, which without you and your involvement in each step of building and expanding the schools from Primary, to secondary and on to high school, would never have happened. Thank you for being such a huge part of so many students' lives and, in the process, changing so many families. The effects of what you have done, and continue to do, are impossible to quantify, but please know that the positive effect is great.

The families of the graduating class sent their sincere gratitude and they told me to say this, "...thank all the sponsors for changing the lives of our children forever. We will never be the same because our children are now people in our community. Thank you!"

~ Godwin Selembo~Director

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We also want to personally thank you for your faithfulness over the years. It's been amazing to us that you have felt the same passion for the children that we have felt. God has used you and others to bring a gift of hope to the children and families of Sakila and it is incredible how the ministry has grown, from a few little ones attending classes in a chicken coop to a school system accommodating students from Pre-School through High School, 14 years in total.

Did you catch what Godwin wrote about receiving challenges from neighboring schools? They find our progress too good to be true. But it is said that even the atmosphere on our school campuses feels different. Many do not perceive that it is due to God's blessing and prayer by you here in the U.S. and the dear ones in Sakila. Thank you for keeping us growing strong with your prayers and support!

Blessings,

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 and clicking on the 'CONTACT INFO & DONATIONS' button.