

# Notas

AMISTAD INTERNATIONAL

Annual Report 2019

## “I Could have Been a Nobody”



*In May, Shamiso received her college diploma as a graduate teacher.*

At just seven years of age, Shamiso knew more of grief and fear than any child her age should ever know. As a young girl in rural Zimbabwe, Shamiso was experiencing what so many families in her region suffered—an absent father and a mother who was desperately ill as a result of AIDS.

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*Christian and Muslim women gardening in peace*



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*A father weeps with gratitude*



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#### Amistad International

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# What is Amistad International?

**A**mistad, a word meaning friendship in Spanish, is a public nonprofit 501(c) (3) charity which supports humanitarian, self-help, and educational programs for communities seeking to lift themselves from poverty through education and opportunity.

By supporting local community leadership, Amistad works in partnership with community leaders to help children and adults develop the skills and knowledge necessary for building healthy economically-sustainable communities.

## Some of the projects we support include:

- Kuda Vana Children's Home, Zimbabwe—a home for abused, ill, and abandoned children. <https://kudavana.org>
- Community Initiatives for Rural Development (CIFORD) in Kenya—providing agricultural training, water tanks, and a program to train teenage mothers in marketable job skills including sewing, soap making and jewelry making. <http://cifordkenya.org>
- Lambano Sanctuary—homes and hospice for children with life-threatening illnesses, in Johannesburg, South Africa. [www.lambano.org.za](http://www.lambano.org.za)
- Buddha's Smile School (BSS)—a free primary school for 221 children of beggars, lepers and refugees in Sarnath, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, India. Founder and director, Rajan Kaur. [www.buddhas-smile-school.org](http://www.buddhas-smile-school.org)
- Grow Bio-Intensive Agriculture Centre, Kenya (G-BIACK)—teaching tailoring and sewing, agriculture, computer, handcrafts and cooking to impoverished teen girls. [www.g-black.org](http://www.g-black.org)
- Kenya—Support for Maruge and Amri elementary schools for impoverished Maasai and Kikuyu children.
- Mexico—A diversified program providing Mexico's Huichol Indian communities with humanitarian aid and job-skill training. In-country director: Dagoberto Cirilo. *E-mail: [amistadgdl@hotmail.com](mailto:amistadgdl@hotmail.com)*
- Haiti—Drs. Scott Nelson and Terry Dietrich's orthopedic surgical program at Hopital Adventiste d'Haiti, Port Au Prince, Haiti.

# Munna Meets His Match

Munna took great pride in the thieving skills of his sons, Salman, Shabu and Kumkum. He was against education, believing his children's most useful skills would be learned in the streets. But the final bricks in his family's safety walls fell when the children's mother died of alcoholism, and Munna lost a leg under the wheels of a train.

Now he had to rely entirely on the cunning, thievery and begging of his children. "So how could learning to read possibly help their financial situation?", he argued.

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*Buddha's Smile School founder, Rajan Kaur, with Munna and his sons Salman and Shabu.*

GIRLS' EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

# Inspiring and Empowering

For many years G-BIACK co-founder, Peris Nderitu, has been impassioned by the fate of destitute girls orphaned by one or both parents and left with no support or resources. Five years ago Amistad helped her create the Girls Empowerment Program at G-BIACK. Amistad first helped Peris build a dorm for the girls to live while studying. Several hundred girls have now graduated or are currently enrolled.

The 45 girls now living at G-BIACK. During their 18-month course they are learning life skills for independence; courses include nutrition, solar stove construction and cooking, computer skills, bookkeeping, income-generation skills such as sewing and tailoring, beadwork, baking; and leadership skills for succeeding on their own in their communities. Each girl completes a field assignment as a gardening teacher at a local orphanage. By the end of last year, over 1,000 orphaned children had begun to eat a nourishing diet, thanks to the GEP girls. This year's homes included Ezekiel Home for Disabled Children, a special combined home and school for 56 children who are all physically challenged; Revelation Children's Home, with 48 abandoned children who have been rescued from the streets; Kiota Children's Home, where the program was begun last year to feed 53 children; and Visions Children Home, with 120 children.

Previous GEP graduates have returned to their homes where they create nourishing gardens, teach gardening, and start small businesses, thus becoming contributing members of their communities.

After graduation from G-BIACK, and the help of a loan from the school, Mirriam Kamami purchased a sewing machine and supplies and rented space for a small shop.

She tells us: "I started my business immediately I graduated from G-BIACK. At first I could only do repairs for customers as I had no fabric. With proceeds from doing repairs bought school uniform material because every student in Kenya has to have a uniform. When I saved enough from making uniforms I was then able to start making women's clothing. Now making women's clothing is my specialty!"

A dramatic boost came to the G-BIACK sewing and tailoring school from Debbie and Chris Seguin of Sunnyvale, California who collect fabric, sewing supplies, and machines (and, importantly, donations for shipping costs) from their friends and family. So far the Seguins have sent several shipments totaling one ton... and more will soon be on the way. The Seguins' donated materials have boosted the GEP sewing program onto a higher level; the girls now have high-quality fabrics to learn to make attractive bags, decorative items and fashionable clothing for sale.





*Mirriam Kimami is a proud graduate of G-BIACK's tailoring program.  
She now operates her own tailoring business in the marketplace.*



The purpose of the GEP project is to lift up the girls, open their eyes to possibility, build their confidence, show them their strengths, and give them the skills and experience to live a productive and satisfying life. In the words of Samuel Nderitu, “Through the Girls Empowerment Program, young women are given an opportunity to discover what is in them and they are stirred to develop their potential and to mold their lives into leadership. They learn to realize what they are worth which enables them to improve their economic status. They also become a source of hope and inspiration to other girls in their communities.”

### **New Seed Bank Building**

This year an Amistad grant completed the construction of a large seed bank facility to permanently house over 1,000 varieties of open-pollination seeds. G-BIACK collects endangered indigenous seed species from all regions of Kenya, then multiplies them to share with smallholder farmers (generally much less than one acre.) Most of these seed species have evolved and survived because of their drought resistance and disease and pest tolerance. The seeds safeguard successful crop production year after year and eliminate the necessity for buying seeds. The new facility has three large storage rooms stacked in a two-story building. One is an underground root cellar where seeds are stored safe from heat and post-harvest pests; a second is at ground level where seeds ready to be shared with farmers are stored in airtight containers and bags; and a third level above has been constructed as a lath house where air can circulate to slowly dry the collected seeds once they arrive at the G-BIACK center.

### **Kitui Christian/Muslim Women Garden Project**

Last year, Amistad and G-BIACK started a special project for a group of Christian and Muslim women near the dangerous border with Somalia. G-BIACK women staff were teaching the group how to use ecological and soil-regenerative methods to grow food for their families despite the climate of prevailing drought. But a sudden,

unprecedented heavy rainfall caused severe flooding that washed away farmland and crops. Tensions increased, and non-locals became unwelcome. G-BIACK had to withdraw. Undaunted, G-BIACK moved the project to Kitui, farther inland from the border but likewise suffering from Muslim-Christian conflict, poverty, hunger, and dependence on relief food. Although less subject to border incursions from Somalia than Garissa, Kitui also has problems of kidnapping, cattle rustling, and killings tied up with Christian/Muslim conflict.

The region is very arid, but if they know the skills, farmers can harvest rainwater adequate for producing food. G-BIACK has trained 30 Kitui Christian and Muslim women in methods that can succeed in their dry conditions. By working together in the gardening project the women of both great faiths are beginning to see that it could be possible to improve their community's harmony as well as its security through agriculture. They are dreaming of Christians and Muslims living in peace and goodwill, without the conflicts generated by want. They are planning to bring more women into their group to learn sustainable food production methods and help the Kitui community to move toward food security and stability.

Because commuting to Kitui is a seven-hour bus ride each way for G-BIACK staff, the well-respected local Catholic sisters have joined in to monitor and encourage the farmers' progress between training periods.

### **Grandmothers' Project**

Jeminah Wambui is a widowed grandmother. Two of her five adult children have died, leaving her with the care of six grandchildren. Isabelle Karimi's husband is blind, and she cares for him as well as five orphaned grandchildren. Gladys Wambui has the care of eight grandchildren, all of whom are attending school. Jemimah, Isabelle and Gladys, together with 20 other grandmothers are raising 78 orphaned grandchildren in the village of Tumaini.

This year Amistad funded G-BIACK to purchase 200 chickens and a few goats for the grandmothers to earn income to support their grandchildren and help them stay in school.



*G-BIACK brings Christian and Muslim women together to learn gardening in Kitui, Kenya, near the war-ravaged Somali border.*

The chickens provide eggs, meat and income from the sale of baby chicks. The twenty women also received ten laying chickens each.

These grandmothers and 20 others in their area have formed a support group called HOPE which facilitates a 'merry-go-round' bank. What that means is that each member brings about 50 cents to each meeting, approximately \$10 is gathered each meeting. One of the members, selected on a rotational basis, is then given the \$10 to invest in her home business.

AIDS is still a large contributor to the fates of so many African families. It often falls to the grandmothers who must then shoulder the support of grandchildren.

### **Library Constructed at G-BIACK**

Since its opening day in 2008, G-BIACK has always had bookshelves tucked away here and there with books available to browse or to borrow for participants in

its programs or members of the general community. Thanks to a grant from Amistad, this year a real library has been constructed the year with spacious quarters for both books and readers.

Built over an existing building that had been constructed with a roof-slab awaiting the day, the new library is 46' x 16', and includes a book room and a reading room. In addition to the library construction, Amistad provided funding for bookshelves, plus six tables and 25 chairs for the reading room. One blessing of the reading room is that it will provide a place for the live-in girls of the 18-month Girls Empowerment Program (GEP) to study or just relax with a good book, and will also serve as a classroom or meeting room in a pinch. Visitors to G-BIACK are encouraged to bring any used books they can spare to contribute to a growing selection of reading material.

# Amistad Volunteer Visits Maruge's Bridge to Peace

*Written by Tanya Cothran*

Maruge School is three and a half miles from the paved street, down a rough and rutted dirt road in the rural area surrounding Nairobi, Kenya. For my visit in June, the 1-5th grade Maasai students wore their traditional dress, the girls with lacy cloths tied around their shoulders and the boys with cloth tied like tunics. The Kikuyu children wore the school uniform. Everyone sang a welcome, inviting me to join in a dance. Many of the students wore necklaces and headbands that jingled as they hopped up and down.

The school is in a dry part of Kenya, far away from a water source, so the donkey, provided by Amistad, is crucial for getting water for drinking and washing to school. There is a water collection system for rainwater falling from the kitchen roof, collected into a tank and used for gardening.

The teachers and leaders of Maruge School are passionate not only about making Maruge School the best in their area, but also about environmental issues. Since Amistad built their school, they have worked diligently to nurture gardens and fruit-bearing trees in spite of the lack of water. I saw avocado and fruit trees, as well as shade trees. The students learn about composting and organic gardening, creating "vertical gardens," and are designed to use the precious water efficiently. Lunch was served in the Amistad-provided cafeteria, each child receiving a full bowl of beans, rice and cabbage, which they ate enthusiastically, and a cup of milky tea, called "chai" in Kenya. For most of the children, this is their only real meal of the day.

When it was recess, the kids all came out and split into three groups. There was a jumprope group, a group doing tire races, and a third group playing dodgeball. The teachers, Sebastian, Louise and I all joined in the games. There was a lot of laughing and joy throughout the campus.

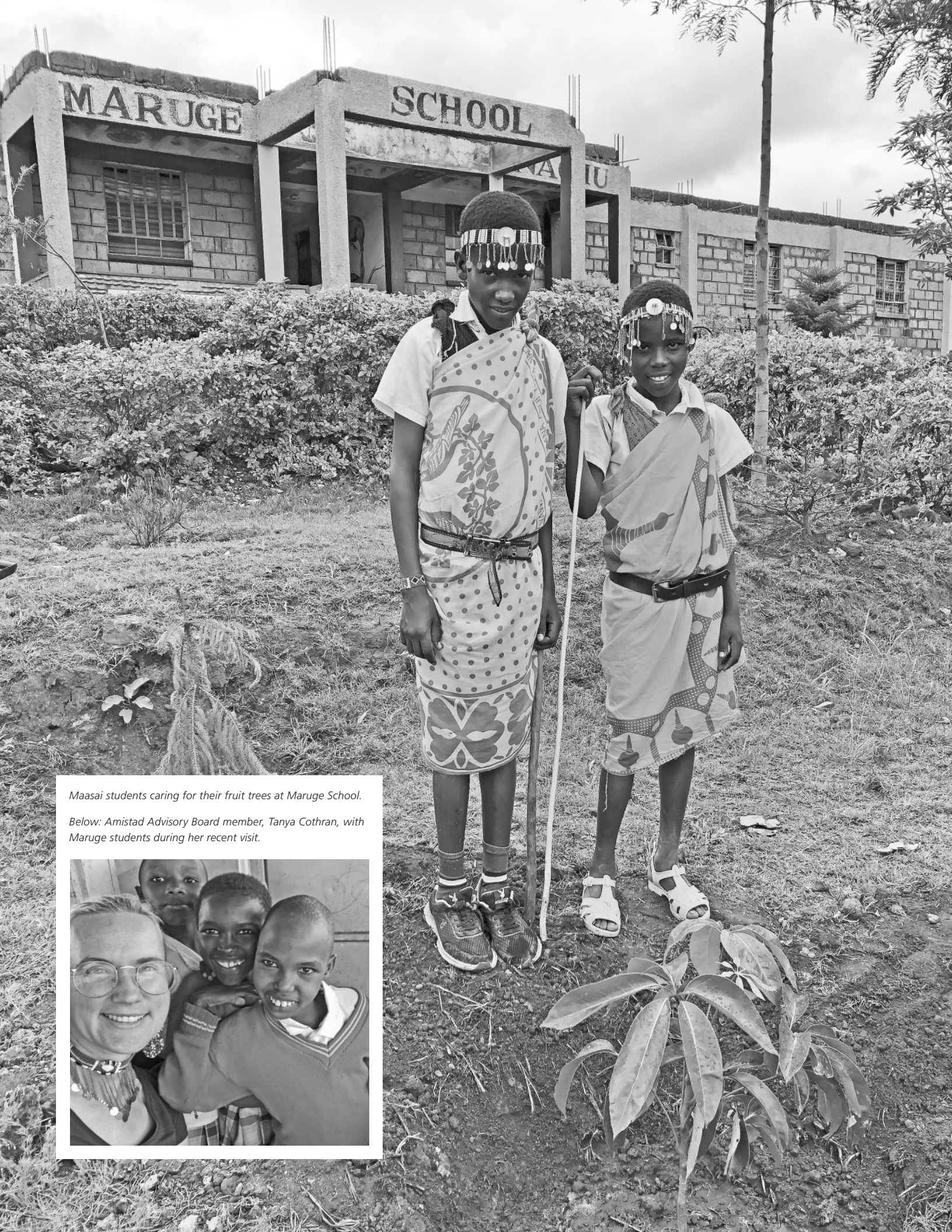
In the afternoon, we planted two trees, one honoring my visit and the other, Amistad director, Karen Kotoske. Two students were assigned to care for each tree. I also saw the trees that I helped to plant in 2017. They are taller than me now!

After we planted the trees, we all gathered in the central "parade ground" area of the school. The students lined up by class and grade. The scout group of ten boys and girls did a march and formally took down the Kenyan flag while the student body sang the national anthem. This was the last day before school break and so the students were let out early to walk the long way home to their families. Maasai students walk several miles from their grazing lands to come to school.

Maruge School is far more than just an elementary school; more importantly, it is a bridge between two tribes, the Maasai and Kikuyu, which have been in bloody conflict over land use. The tribes' parents now work together to make their school the best school in their area: a haven where their children are learning to study and play together in harmony.

**Editor's note:** Tanya visited Maruge school as a member of Amistad's Advisory Board. She is the Executive Director of Spirit in Action, a sister organization with Amistad.





*Maasai students caring for their fruit trees at Maruge School.*

*Below: Amistad Advisory Board member, Tanya Cothran, with Maruge students during her recent visit.*





# "I Will Come to Help You Weed Your Garden"



Women like Margaret Ikiara, Director of Kenya's Community Initiatives for Rural Development (CIFORD) are on the front lines of Amistad's work. After a particularly hard day, Margaret wrote to Karen, "Today I went to CIFORD center and was met by seven elderly women at our gate. They had come to plead for food. Yet, I did not have food to give them. It was hard to see them return to their homes empty-handed."

These grandmothers are all in their 70s and 80s and caring for grandchildren and great-grandchildren whose parents have died from disease and violence. The elderly women sleep

in uncomfortable situations, sometimes going to bed without food, and they struggle to stay warm in this cold this time of year in Meru. Margaret prepared a light meal for the grandmothers before their long walks home, cooking what she had at the center, a bit of rice and some vegetables from the CIFORD garden.

Amistad replied to this heartfelt request from Margaret by providing 800 pounds of food, along with blankets, soap and oil, to share with 30 grandmothers in the community.

Cioliinyiru Murea lives in a small home with her grandchildren. There are no parents left to care for the little ones now. Cioliinyiru broke into tears when Margaret Ikiara arrived with bundles of food, overjoyed by the generosity of strangers. She was particularly grateful for the gift of a blanket, which she will give to her granddaughter when she goes off to continue her high school education at boarding school. "May God bless you," Cioliinyiru repeated to Margaret.

When a photo arrived of grandmother Karei Kukiria receiving her packages of food, Karen Kotoske noted Karei's kitchen, made from tree branches, wire, old doors and rock, looked like a wind might blow it over. Amistad was able to help her build a new home, with two rooms, and a bright blue door. Her former home was turned into a new kitchen.

When Margaret went to deliver the food to Grace Mukima (who sometimes slept hungry), "a prayer came immediately from her lips. She prayed and told God to 'guide all who have remembered her.' It was such a touching prayer."

Granny Julia, who lives with her grandchildren, also cried when she saw the food and blankets that Margaret brought to her. Eager to share the blessing, she offered to Margaret the one thing she had to give Margaret in return, "When it rains, I will come to help you weed your garden."

*Grandmother Karei Kukiria (L) receiving a new blanket from CIFORD founder/director, Margaret Ikiara. After seeing a photo of Karei's unsafe stick and rock kitchen, Amistad donors built Karei a new small home. Her previous home was turned into a safe kitchen.*





A LETTER FROM

# Karen Kotoske

FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear friends,

Sometimes we struggle with how best to tell stories about the recipients of Amistad's assistance.

In this photo, Lisa's smile provides a glimpse of the positive impact our donors' gifts are having on her life at Kuda Vana Children's Home in Zimbabwe. And while we can't measure Amistad's impact in smiles, we feel it is a pretty good start.



Unfortunately, there are a good number of humanitarian organizations out there which sometimes choose to share their urgent need for funds by highlighting the vulnerability of the individuals they care for. In doing so they may inadvertently harm the same people they are trying to protect by sensationalizing their suffering thus taking advantage of the human response to shocking photos and stories.

Amistad International believes that our primary duty is to protect while assisting the individuals we serve. This is why we sometimes choose to use public pseudonyms, and do our best to share stories and photos which reflect the positive progress in the lives of those whom

we impact. Even children living in poverty will one day have access to the internet, and could come across stories about themselves which might further traumatize them. And ethically, even if they never saw those stories, just how a child's story is told is something humanitarian nonprofits need to think really hard about. The question we must constantly ask ourselves is: who benefits from sharing this story—the vulnerable child, or the bottom line of our organization? The next time you receive a mailer that may be exploiting vulner-

able people, think about giving that organization some constructive criticism. Breaking the culture of "sensationalizing suffering" starts with each of us.

Amistad doesn't always get it right but we try. We hope that you, our supporters, see us trying. We hope that you recognize that just because our stories and photos are full of smiling faces, there is still much hurt, much need, and much left to do. Thank you for your consistent generosity. We are more than grateful for you.

—Karen Kotoske

# Bright Future Tailoring School Bringing Hope.

How do you help people find stability when living in unstable, even violently warring, conditions?

James Byensi, pastor of the French-speaking Presbyterian Church in the large Eastern Congo city of Bunia, has a vision for rebuilding hope in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. One of his first steps is to start a school to train young women how to sew. On August 1st Pastor James and the Rebuilders Charity launched the Bright Future Tailoring School, funded by Amistad's sister organization, Spirit in Action, with assistance from Amistad.

This exciting new project is now training single mothers from nine different tribes in the arts of sewing and tailoring. There is an even deeper significance for the girls from nine tribes studying together: this year, the area around Bunia has been devastated by inter-tribal violence. Thousands of Congolese refugees have been

pouring from the countryside into Bunia, fleeing for their lives. This year Amistad has also provided \$3,000 for food aid for the refugees living in camps.

"There are over 70 registered rebel groups," Byensi told Tanya Cothran of Spirit in Action and a member of the Amistad's Advisory Board, when they had a meeting in Kenya during June. "The sewing school is a small step towards peace among the tribes. We have two fine teachers and 20 motivated students," says Byensi.

Bunia refugee camps are overflowing with people who have been displaced by inter-tribal violence in the rural areas. Measles, malnutrition and the Ebola virus are taking many lives.

Amistad is making plans to help build schools in this war-torn area during 2020.

## Solar Lights for Maasai Families

Driving from Maruge School to the Maasai communities of Lyarat and Ndikiro in Kenya can very close to a nightmare. The road is bumpy and dusty, and one has to drive at the slowest speed possible. Along the road, you will find many water containers placed by thirsty people in the hope that the drivers of the Chinese trucks carrying water to their railway construction site would show mercy by sharing their company's water with the drought-stricken villagers.

The Maasai herding areas of Lyarat and Ndikiro Maasai are completely cut off from the rest of Kenyan society. They live in near-isolation without access to water, electricity, transport, medicine, shops and markets. Connecting these Maasai areas to the national electrical grid is an impossible dream. The government sees little economic benefit in taking electricity to the Maasai. And so the Maasai who can afford a bit of kerosene to light their dark poorly ventilated huts, fill small plastic bottles with the highly flammable liquid to light their dark homes.

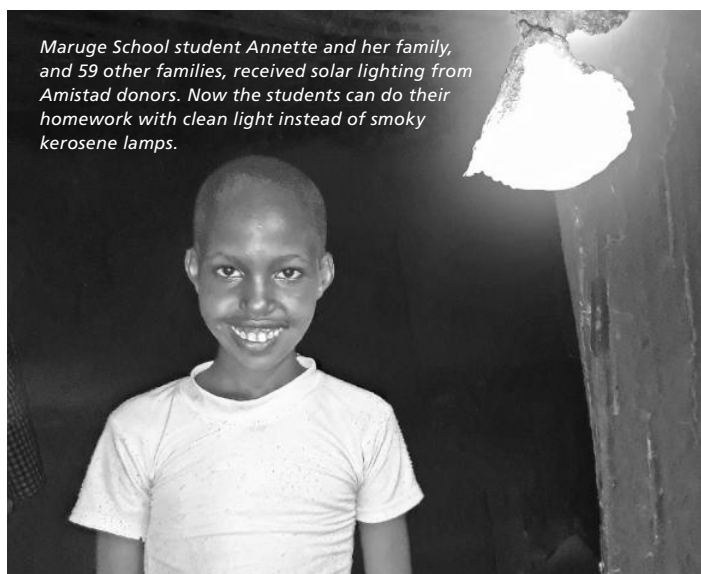
Lyarat and Ndikiro children do have some luck in their lives; if they get up before dawn, they can make it on foot through the rocky hills in time to arrive for morning classes and breakfast at Maruge School.

On one of Maruge School director Sebastian Wambugu's visits to Lyarat and Ndikiro families, he saw nine-year-old Maruge student, Annette Mugadet, studying in her dark home by the smoky light of a kerosene-filled bottle. Seeing so many other local families using unsafe lighting, Sebastian wondered "why not bring each family in the area a solar light?"

Learning from Sebastian how a relatively small amount of money could help children do their homework more safely, Amistad provided the funds to purchase solar light kits for 60 homes in the two villages, including Annette's home.

"No amount of good words can express the joy that I saw in the children and the women when we finally delivered the lights. I still feel the joy in my heart," Sebastian Wambugu tells us.

*Maruge School student Annette and her family, and 59 other families, received solar lighting from Amistad donors. Now the students can do their homework with clean light instead of smoky kerosene lamps.*





*Prosthetists/Orthotists Tim Cleveland (left) and Michael Moor (right) are part of a team which is founding a new Orthotics and Prosthetics Program at Haiti Adventist Hospital.*



## 2020 Opening of Prosthetics Clinic

Haiti has been struck by disaster after disaster, and its people continue to struggle with poor sanitation, crumbling infrastructure, and constrained access to healthcare. Earthquakes and hurricanes have left a bruised country, and traffic accidents injure at astonishingly high rates. In Haiti, children born with limb defects have been dealt a painful blow because there has been no way for them to access artificial limbs or orthopedic surgeries, until now.

Through a partnership with Loma Linda University's Orthotics and Prosthetics Program, Haiti Adventist Hospital (HAH) is opening a sustainable orthotics and prosthetics (O&P) program in August 2020. This will be an adjunct to the orthopedic surgical services offered by Dr. Scott Nelson and others. Amistad is a supporting foundation.

The new program will bring services to amputees and patients requiring treatment with orthotic devices in Haiti. HAH feels that the needs of these patients are best met by an established program, as opposed to short-term clinician volunteers. With an established program, patients will be able to receive consistent evaluation and follow-up care.

The child in the photo was born with a severe form of tibial hemimelia (meaning he was born with legs too deformed to func-

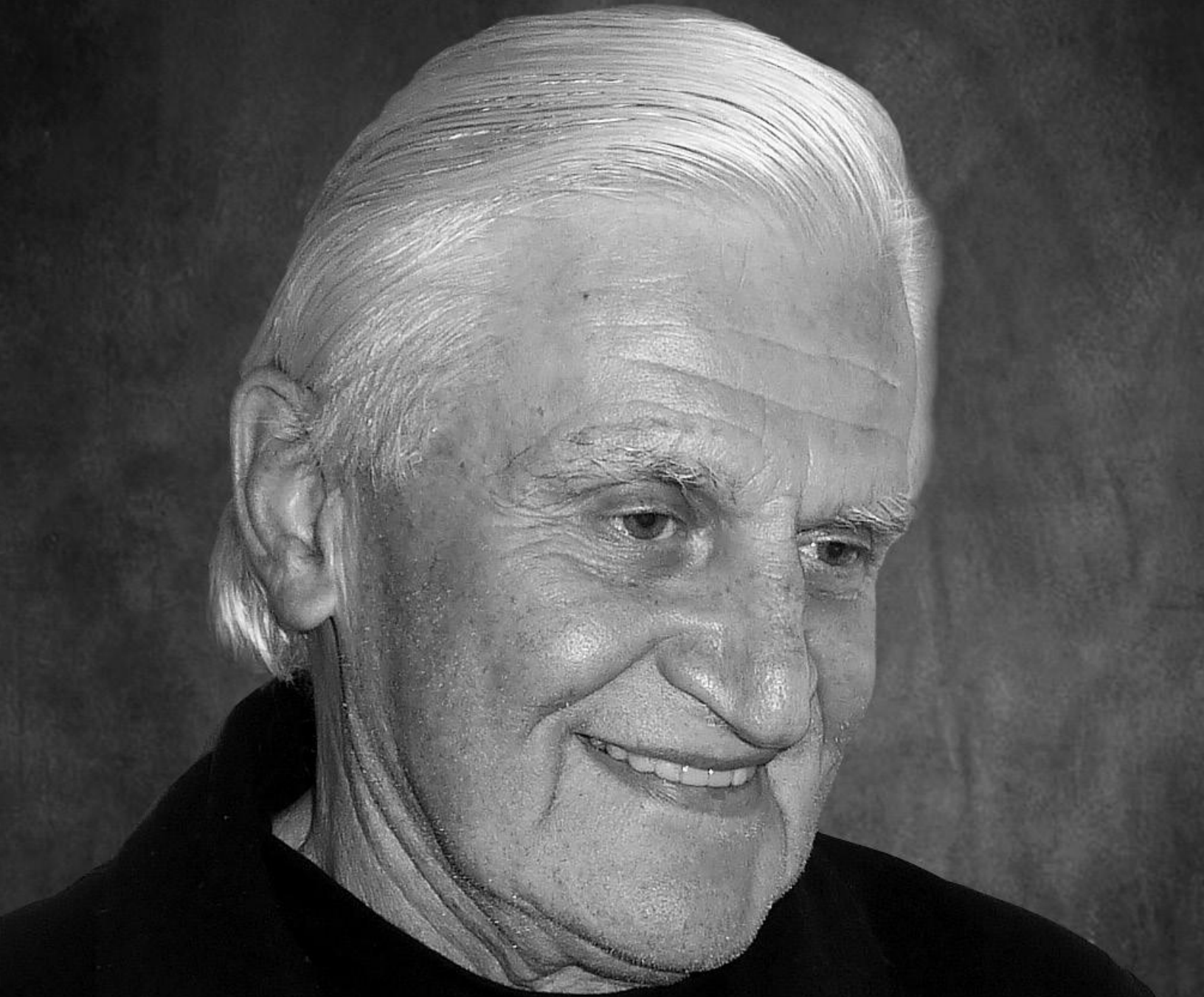
tion). At HAH he received bilateral above-knee amputations and was fitted with prostheses by Tim Cleveland and Michael Moor, Certified Prosthetist Orthotists. This boy will require assistive devices for the rest of his life. For him, having comfortable legs as he grows means more than just the ability to walk; he will now have the ability to walk to school and later to work and participate in society, rather than being wheelchair-bound in a country with steep hills, chaotic streets, and rutted paths.

To make this program a reality, start-up funds for O&P equipment and supplies are needed. You can support the O&P project in Haiti by contributing to Amistad International's Haiti O&P fund.

Written by Annika Cleveland, an intensive care nurse and nurse educator who, with her husband Tim Cleveland, is moving to Haiti in 2020 to serve at HAH. Tim is a Certified Prosthetist Orthotist and will be developing the new Prosthetic and Orthotics Clinic at HAH. Annika finishes a Masters of Science in Nursing with a concentration in Nursing Education in May 2020. She will be creating an orientation process for the nursing staff at HAH. They are both 2015 Loma Linda University graduates.

THOMAS E. KOTOSKE

1938-2019



*May His Tree Shade  
and Feed Many*



With a sad heart I share news of the death of my beloved husband of forty-six years, Thomas Kotoske co-founder of Amistad. Tom died February 5 of this year. Following Tom's death I was deeply moved by a letter from YARD founder, Sebastian Wambugu, which he wrote to Tom upon learning of Tom's death. Sebastian was a guest in our home in 2011 and a recipient of Tom's warmth and hospitality. But what meant the most to him was only a simple thing: Tom's building of a fire to warm Sebastian on a cold day.

I'd like to share that letter with you.

Dear Tom,

*I am mourning and the same time celebrating your life that touched many of us around the world. Celebrating your life must therefore come first. In 2010 I visited you in Palo Alto—it was rather a cold month for someone from Africa. Indeed, it was extremely cold. I vividly remember you keeping me warm in your welcoming home by the fireplace. You would constantly add more wood to keep the fire burning. This was happening while Karen Kotoske and I were in deep discussions about Amistad International's work around the world, in Africa, and in particular, my own village in central Kenya. You never interrupted us, yet the energy in you was immense! You kept the fire burning!*

*The warmth and the love that you generated is what I took back home. I have shared this love to the women, who each day struggle to put food on the table, to the children of both Amri and Maruge school who equally struggle to get basic education and life skills. Your love has helped us a lot in resolving conflict that constantly occurs when two neighboring communities conflict each other. The choice of Maruge School which currently has 60 children from impoverished families spread between the two communities (Maasai & Kikuyu) is a very practical example to bring about peace and love through education.*

*Two years ago, we planted a mango tree for you at Maruge school; the tree was planted by the second grade pupils. They learnt about the environment, water conservation besides learning to live together in harmony. Maruge School is in a dry place, water is scarce but your tree must grow! From it will get fruits, shade and wood and enjoy its aesthetic value.*

*When English is my third language, it could really be hard for me to express my own feelings and that of my colleagues and the children. We all know that your pain is forever gone and that you are wishing us well when you are in God's arm.*

—Sebastian Wambugu, Founder Director, Youth Action for Rural Development/ Kenya

Tom was president of Amistad's board of directors and a constant source of courage and inspiration to me in my role as executive director. Tom, always the lawyer, never failed to provide me with his experienced counsel and encouragement. He was inexhaustibly patient with my frequent trips to Mexico as Amistad's programs developed among the indigenous peoples. Tom's lifelong faith kept him courageous until his last breath.

Karen Kotoske

# Updates from Kuda Vana Children's Home



*Kuda Vana children love reading books in their library.*

Many of you have no doubt been following recent events in Zimbabwe, and wondering how Kuda Vana children are faring. The country has indeed been suffering tremendously, with a devastating cyclone earlier this year, hyperinflation and economic chaos and an historic drought bringing food and water shortages. The recent death of former President and dictator Robert Mugabe has also re-ignited political frustrations and deep wounds from decades of economic repression.

Fortunately, Kuda Vana has been largely insulated from the ongoing crises. While much of the country has experienced power cuts of up to 18 hours a day, donor support has provided a reliable solar system. Water shortages in the cities are critical, leading to outbreaks of cholera as sewage systems back up. We're grateful to Providence for providing a property next to a year-round reservoir, with several wells on our property. Nationwide food shortages have been alarming—earlier this year no one could purchase eggs or bread in stores—but through donor generosity, we have continued to provide quality food for KVCH children.

However, given the volatility of politics and climate in Zimbabwe, Kuda Vana must be even more self-sustaining in the future, which means we are making plans to launch a larger farming operation on our campus, the Thrive Farming Program. We look forward to sharing these plans with you in the coming months.

Kuda Vana does an impressive job of providing a supportive family environment for the children, but growing up in a children's home is never the ideal for any child. However, Zimbabwe does not allow international adoption, and, culturally, inter-country adoption is not a path many families take.

This is why Kuda Vana is in the process of preparing to implement our Foster, Adopt, Mentor Ministry—FAMily Ministry. The FAMily Ministry will seek to give some of the KVCH children who have been left without a personal guardian the opportunity to become part of a traditional family where their needs can be met in a family setting.

We are working together with a church in Harare which will link some of our children with families who hope to provide a loving home either through adoption or mentoring.

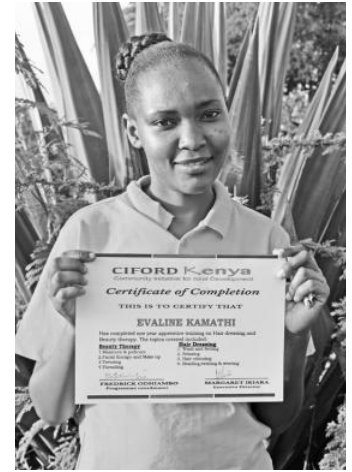
The FAMily program will include a thorough interview, assessment, visitation and education process, ensuring that all will benefit from the arrangement. The FAMily Ministry will officially begin in 2020; however, Kuda Vana has already seen two of our children receive adoption, and nine more children are being fostered.

One child we would like to find either an adoptive or mentoring family for is Sabelo. This bright boy was brought to Kuda Vana (then Murwira) at eight months of age after his mother died. As a young boy, he had severely bowed legs, and had to endure many painful surgeries, casts and treatments. But Sabelo caught up! He is incredibly resilient, and now runs and plays faster than most of the boys. Sabelo is full of energy and creative, and loves to make everyone laugh. He loves to experiment with anything and everything he can find. You can often find him tinkering with bits of wire or tires, creating a small car or truck to play with. He is quite thorough and will take the time to add details and paint if he can. Sabelo likes to spend time at the garage with the Uncles who work there. He is eager to learn and asks lots of questions about the use of all the different types of tools. Sabelo does well in school, has big dreams and an even bigger heart. He recently told a volunteer that he'd like to be a truck driver. When she asked him why, he said "I want to drive a truck so that I can build homes for people like me." We are so glad Sabelo is part of the Kuda Vana family, and hope to one day find him a forever home through the FAMily program.

*Sabelo was born with a bent-leg condition requiring surgeries and casts when he was a small boy at Murwira Children's Home. Now he is strong happy young fellow at Kuda Vana.*



# “Now When My Children Cry, It Is Not For Lack Of Food.”



*Left: Her life now changed completely, Donata Kaimuri (L) now operates a hair salon with her CIFORD classmate, Lilian Kawira (R).*

*Above: Eve Kamathi, a 2019 graduate of CIFORD's Young Mother's Job Training Program, was at the top of her class in hairdressing. She now works as a stylist in a Maua town salon.*

Donata Kaimuri became pregnant in the 7th Grade, and had to drop out of school. Her parents were angry and withdrew their support. After her second baby was born, she began having thoughts of suicide. Enrolling in the young moms' classes was a life-changing intersection in her life. After graduating this May, Donata started her own business in the marketplace with classmate Lilian Kawira. Both young mothers are now able to protect, feed and educate their children.

Donata tells us, “Now when my children cry, it is not for lack of food. It is because I am not with them. I am working in my market salon. Thank you, CIFORD and friends, for changing my life.”

The first class of 60 young mothers has graduated this May from the Amistad-funded job skill program at Community Initiatives for Rural Development/Kenya.

Emily Karambu, 19, is one of the 2019 graduates. She was born with physical disabilities which made her a target for ridicule and discrimination; sadly, she wasn't allowed to go to school. At age 15, she became a mother.

“Joining the CIFORD trade school was the best thing that ever happened to my life,” says a grateful Emily. “I was going through my worst times.” She now supports herself and her child by selling beadwork and mats. “I have been able to make customized beaded jewelry, and people are not only buying them, but also loving them!” Emily is a living reminder that disability is not inability.

Eva Kamathi is another 2019 graduate of the Young Mothers' Job Training Program. She is a mother of a two-year-old daughter and was at the top of her class in the hairdressing and beauty therapy courses. When a beauty salon in Maua Town was looking for a stylist, CIFORD recommended Eva and she was hired. She is proud of her achievements.

Winifred Kinya, a 2019 graduate and mother of two, also now works in a salon. She is proud to be providing beauty services for members of her local county council.

Orphaned and pregnant, teen Irene Kawira felt hopeless. She had been living with her cousin but her unplanned pregnancy broke that relationship. She started feeling hopeful when she heard about CIFORD Young Mothers' Job Training Program. She is currently enrolled in the 2019-2020 class with 68 other young women who are learning hairdressing, skin care, tailoring and jewelry-making. And Irene's relationship with her cousin is healing.

Winifred, the mother of hairdressing 2019 graduate Loina, told us with pride, “My daughter Loina is now sending our family money for food. Thank you and God bless you and all your friends who make this program possible.”





## Here's What You've Done

*Shelma and Olivia graduated from a home nursing course, sponsored by Kuda Vana Children's Home donors.*



- Community Initiatives for Rural Development/Kenya installed a solar water pump for their water well, thanks to the members of Soroptimist International/Glendale and Dick and Nancy Noble. The new pump can provide 5,000 gallons per hour for CIFORD's teaching gardens and the community of Lailaba, Meru, Kenya.
- In war-ravaged Democratic Republic of the Congo, Amistad provided food for 300 families in internally-displaced people's camps in Bunia, Eastern DRC.
- Debbie and Chris Seguin, Sunnyvale, California, have shipped over one ton of fabric and sewing equipment to the sewing school at Grow Bio-Intensive Centre in Kenya. The Seguins are continuing their collecting fabric for the young mother's sewing school.
- Kuda Vana Children's Home increased both physical capacity and staff for the Nursery Home. A psychologist was hired to provide counseling for the children. KVCH staff skills were increased by their attendance at child development workshops. The construction of transitional housing for KVCH youth reaching the age of 18 was completed.
- Kuda Vana's Family Assistance Program supported community two young ladies, Shelma, 15, and Olivia, 20, who are celebrating their 2019 certification as nursing aides. Their certification allows them to work as clinic and home-based care nurses aides. Shelma's dream is to become a registered nurse.
- Kuda Vana Children's Home in Zimbabwe updated the solar equipment in order to have a reliable source of power. We're grateful to our donors who supported this urgent need. The national electrical grid does not work much of the time, and gas for the generator is over \$20 per gallon.

- 800 pounds of food were delivered this year to 31 grandmothers and their dependent grandchildren through Community Initiatives for Rural Development (CIFORD). We thank Joanie Sanchez, Jeanne and Tom Liston, and Cheryl Abel for making this possible.

- Urmi Basu, founder of New Light/Kolkata, India, this year was a recipient of India's highest civilian honor for women, the Nari Shakti Puraskar Award, given by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. "Basu and her team have been working relentlessly in a mission to educate and provide better lives to the ignored, neglected and often humiliated children of sex workers," according to a statement from the ministry.

In 2005 Amistad International granted Basu's Kolkata program for children of sex workers funds to open the Hogar Meridional-Soma Memorial Girls Home for girls ages 11-18.

In 2015, Amistad provided the funds to help New Light remodel a residential home for sons of prostitutes, Khela-Ghar. Without New Light, the 25 boys would otherwise be at risk for becoming pimps and drug dealers.

Urmi Basu writes us, "The support of Amistad made New Light's Soma Home possible. Your love for the children and the women at Kalighat came through like a precious gift of lifeblood. After all these years, the project stands and grows because I had someone like you who believed in the mission."

- Lambano Sanctuary's Pediatric Hospice in South Africa receives children with a range of life-limiting and life-threatening illnesses. They now have 16-bed facility that is run by dedicated medically trained professionals, from doctors and nurses to caregivers. Lambano also has a care unit where dedicated staff make home visits after the patient has been discharged to ensure that the family is making the transition as successful as possible. Amistad provides ongoing support to Lambano Sanctuary.
- Ongoing construction of a trade school and greenhouse for agriculture training in Nayarit, Mexico is underway, thanks to Amistad supporters.



# We Say Gracias to These Wonderful People and Organizations

*Dear Amistad,*

*You have been like a guardian angel to CIFORD. You have always had our community at heart. May God's blessings be upon you always.*

—Margaret Ikiara, Founder/Director of Community Initiatives for Rural Development

- We want to thank the following friends for their faithful support of Kuda Vana Children's Home: Harold and Merriline Mulder, Merikay McLeod, Gay and Duane Wilson, Teresa and Carl Wilkens, Lisa Neuharth, Joyce Runge, Raylene West, Marly and Dennis Peet, Carol and Vern Holsten, Mary Carlin, Gene and Jayne Conley, Donna and Bill Pershall, Beth McClanahan, Jean Boutcher, Rose Connors, Douglass Mercer, John Bailey, Raylene West, Ruth and Laurence Jennings, Ian and Dorothy Cheeseman, G. F. VanMeurs, Nickie Rocchio, Missions Unlimited, Howard and Joanie Anderson, and Beth Boram.
- Thank you to Expeditors, St Louis of Hazelwood, MO, for freighting at no cost one pallet containing 450 pounds of sewing fabric, professional sewing machine and table to an overseas shipper in San Diego, California. The items were delivered to Grow Bio-Intensive Agriculture Centre/Kenya (G-BIACK.)
- Thank you, angels Wanda and Don Krein for your sustaining support of Amri and Maruge Elementary Schools in Kenya.
- Thank you to Nancy Woods Orton and her parents, Jay and Glenda Woods, for donating a Juki merger (an industrial sewing machine) and a Bernina sewing machine, cone thread and fabric to G-BIACK sewing through Debbie and Chris Seguin's shipping program which provides fabric and equipment to the school. Thank you also to Tom Seguin for his invaluable help.
- And a most warm round of applause for our Florida volunteer, Margo Rees, who untiringly helps us with Kuda Vana communications and news.
- Thank you, Ann Down, for your generous support of Buddha's Smile School.
- Thank you, Chris and Bill McClure and Shelley and Paul Stokstad, for generously supporting the Young Mother's job skill program at CIFORD.
- Thank you, Mary Louse Reiber, for your significant help to Amistad's outreach. We'd like to make note that Mrs. Reiber was one of the first donors to Amistad in the early 1980's, giving her the status as our longest-giving donor.
- Thank you, Lois Blackwelder, Dr. Setty Porco, and Shelley and Paul Stokstad for providing food for internally displaced refugees in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- Thank you, Kee Flynn, for your sustaining encouraging support of Amistad programs.
- Thank you to the following wonderful friends for their support of Buddha's Smile School: Ann Down, Donna Peters, David, Jeng, Ezra and Caleb Cunningham, Carol and Miriam Sicherman, Carol Levy, Dr. Bronwyn Finnigan, Dr. Sunny Rathore, Stephanie Bagully, Tom Comstock, Marsha Scott, Linda Soer, Camille Bessede, Valerie Le Dure, Ulrich Kunzmann, and Ann Robichaud.
- Thank you, Lori and Mark Orvek, Joan and Paul Lake, Alice Esparza, Irene Tate, DorAnne Donesky, Raylene Franklin and Suzanne and Peter Nelson for your support of our Huichol Indian community outreach in Mexico.
- Thank you, Donna Peters for the Christmas party you provided for Buddha's Smile School children with each of the 221 children receiving a gift from Santa. We are grateful for your faithful support.



*Thank you from the children of Kuda Vana Children's Home.*



- Thank you, Margaret Solomon, for providing blankets, a Christmas meal and medicines for the BSS children.
- Thank you, Dick and Nancy Noble, Dr. Linda Dixon, and Dale and Connie Twomley for enabling the following programs at Grow Bio-Intensive Agriculture Centre/Kenya:
  - Meals for Girls Empowerment teaching agriculture, sewing, computers and cooking
  - Building of a library
  - Chickens for grandmothers caring for orphaned grandchildren
  - Teaching of gardening at four orphanages
  - Kitui gardening classes for Christian and Muslim women
- Thank you, Melanie and Earl Boyd, for your support of the English Language program at Eglise Francophone, Democratic Republic of the Congo, as well as many other Amistad programs.

Dear Amistad,

*Amistad has really changed many lives of young children and community at large through supporting Maruge and Amri Elementary Schools. Through Maruge's "Let's Be Light" initiative, families are happy since they are no longer buying kerosene for their tin lamps (expensive and hazardous). Because their children attend Maruge School together, two tribal communities, Kikuyu and Maasai, traditionally in conflict, now have come together. They are working as a team, in peace.*

Thank you,

—Sebastian Wambugu, Founder/director Youth Action for Rural Development/Kenya

- Thank you, Lindy Dixon, Dick and Nancy Noble, and Melody and David Huffman for enabling the purchase of solar batteries and equipment for Kuda Vana Children's Home.
- Thank you, Joanie Sanchez, Cheryl Abel, and Jeanne and Tom Liston for providing food and blankets for elderly African widows who are raising their orphaned grandchildren.

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## We Remember

- Tom Kotoske, Amistad's President of the Board of Directors, co-founder of Amistad with his wife, Karen Kotoske, is remembered by Debbie and Chris Seguin, Susan Donesky Erich, Lois and Paul Lin, Dr. Linda Dixon, Anne Robichaud, Sabrina and Chad Drago, Gay and Duane Wilson, Bonnie and Bryan Street, Amanda and Luis Donoso, Charleen and Jerry Bier, and Diane Claerbout. Tom loved Amistad's programs. We deeply miss his wisdom, counsel and unfailing hopes for the children and women we serve. Tom's particular enthusiasm was for the schools which Amistad builds and supports. Coming from a large family of modest means, Tom always believed that the promoting of education for impoverished children was among the most noble work a human being could do.
- Bonnie and Bill Blythe honor the life of their friend Betty Guthrie.
- Martha Donesky, Audrey Shaffer, DorAnne Donesky Wolfkill and Suzanne and Peter Nelson honor the life of Huichol Indian flying clinic pilot, Conroy Donesky.
- (Ret.) Judge Paul Flynn is remembered by Karen Kotoske and Melanie and Earl Boyd. Judge Flynn was a long-time generous supporter of Amistad (along with his wife of 47 years, Mrs. Kee Ralphs Flynn). Judge Flynn was the welcoming host for several Amistad fundraising art events which the Flynns held at their home in Montecito, CA. Paul is deeply missed.
- Gay and Duane Wilson remember their friend, Joe Wagner, husband, father, grandfather, teacher, mentor, logger and friend.
- Robert Donesky's life is honored by DorAnne Donesky, Susan Donesky Erich, Dr. Wendy Anderson, Arliss Brooks, Karen Kotoske, Ann Stoltz and Melanie Fisch.



# We remember Barbara Deal

One of the ways in which Amistad invests more effectively is by collaborating with similar charities which share Amistad's values. One of the organizations we've been working alongside is Spirit in Action (SIA), a non-profit which supports African programs for small business enterprise, skills training and social justice. SIA's executive director, Tanya Cothran, is a member of Amistad's advisory board.

This year Amistad helped to send Tanya and SIA volunteer, Barbara Deal, to travel to Africa to check the progress of both SIA and Amistad programs. You can read in this issue of Notas Tanya's report about her visit to Maruge School, an Amistad program. One of Barbara's tasks on their journey was to write notes from each of the programs they visited. Their stop in Uganda included a visit to Universal Love Alliance (ULA), a social justice program. In 2017, Amistad Director Karen Kotoske connected ULA with Spirit in Action, and since that time Spirit in Action has supported ULA's effective social justice outreach.

Tragically, Barbara, 71, fell ill in Kenya and died shortly thereafter. Her ashes are now part of the African soil she loved.

We would like to share a few of Barbara's notes with you, as our tribute to this woman of deep compassion. Barbara writes about their visit to Universal Love Alliance in Uganda:

*"Site visits to SIA projects have included Universal Love Alliance, which brings together faith leaders from both Christian and Muslim communities, to train them in taking leadership with their congregations for basic human rights. In a country ravaged by HIV/AIDS, many orphaned children are raising their younger siblings. Imagine being a nine-year-old girl, responsible for four younger kids. No income, no source of food. The older children work for neighbors digging gardens, others make bricks in hot sun, some are forced into sex trade. ULA trains leaders to find help for these kids; also assists many women battered by husbands, and works with men to change cultural patterns of abuse. ULA works with other marginalized groups, including the elderly, at-risk children, and LGBT youth, who are at great risk of being beaten, cast out of their families, perhaps even killed."*

The photo below was taken at the end of a long day of site visits. After 15 site visits that day, Barbara (on the right) still had energy left to give encouragement to grant-recipient Milly.

Rest in peace, Barbara.





## We Honor

- Margo Simons honors her friendship with Margaret Allen.
- Robert and Ginny Latta honor their beloved son, Dr. Alan Latta.
- Gay and Duane Wilson celebrate their 61st wedding anniversary.

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(Nobody—Continued from page 1)

Shamiso's aunt had no money to pay for treatment to help her dying sister, and did not have the resources to care for her young niece. She was approached by a man who said he would pay for medicine to treat Shamiso's mother, but only if he could marry seven-year-old Shamiso. Luckily, neighbors heard of the plan and reported the situation to the police. Social Services stepped in and took young Shamiso to the only place she might be safe: a small orphanage then known as Murwira Children's Home (now Kuda Vana). Shamiso's mother died shortly after she arrived at Murwira.

Shamiso grew to learn that she was valued, loved and safe at Kuda Vana, although her tough exterior, created out of necessity after her trauma as a youngster, often made it difficult for others to get to know her. Shamiso was determined to achieve her dream of being self-sufficient, and to never be in a situation where she had no control over her future due to a lack of education or resources. She worked hard in school, and when she turned 18, Shamiso moved into the home of William Pepukai, Kuda Vana's Director. He and his family, along with help from Kuda Vana's supporters, continued to help her as she progressed on her path to self-sufficiency. This in itself is a true miracle. Globally, of

orphans who age out of care at the age of 18:

- 40% become homeless
- 70% commit a crime
- 60% are forced into prostitution

Luckily, this would not be the case for Shamiso, nor any of the children who age out of Kuda Vana thanks to our Youth Transition Program, which provides transitional housing and tuition support up until the age of 22.

This past month, Shamiso, now 23 years of age, achieved an incredible milestone in her life—she graduated college in August, 2019, with a diploma as a high school teacher. She has become a role model for other children at Kuda Vana, showing them that they can choose to rise above a tragic past and move forward to become contributing members of their communities. Shamiso says of her experience:

"If it had not been for the Kuda Vana family, I could have been a nobody. I am thankful to the donors, volunteers and management of this wonderful place."

The impact Kuda Vana is having on lives like Shamiso's cannot be overstated.

**Written by Tara Petersen, Executive Director of Kuda Vana Partnership International**



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## Amazon Smile

We are excited to share some great news with you! 0.5% percent of all purchases you make through Amazon.com's special charity website will be given to **Kuda Vana Children's Home** through Amistad International!

When you make a purchase on Amazon and you use this link:

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-2737593>

for your purchases, Amazon will send Amistad .5% of your purchase price. This program also applies to Amazon Prime members. Your Amazon purchases are anonymous to us.





(Munna—Continued from page 3)

Munna moved his children from slum to slum, always looking for new opportunities for his family to make cash. One day Buddha's Smile School founder, Rajan Kaur, showed up at the current location where they lived, on one of her routine visits to talk to parents of her students living in slums. She saw Munna's young sons living in the same harsh conditions as her other students. But to Rajan, even more distressing than their home conditions was the fact their father would not let his boys go to school. He was defiant and firm: "My boys will be working! Not wasting their time in school!"

But Munna had met his match.

Rajan began a relentless and convincing campaign: "Let your boys come to my school!" Finally Munna was worn down by the promise of the school's nourishing daily meal and medical care for his sons. He gave in but he was aware he could still make his boys beg after school. And so Salman, Shabu and Kumkum began coming each day to BSS even though at times the distance was great and public transportation impossible. No matter how far they had to walk, they came to school. Munna began to see his boys transform from scruffy street urchins to polite, clean, neatly-dressed, and well-nourished schoolboys. His pride as a father was changing form.

During the 2019 Parents' Day at BSS, Munna, with tears streaming down his face, stood up to confess to the other parents, "I deeply regret I made my sons beg rather than go to school. I now understand the importance of education. I support their new goals." Munna now realizes that a hard-working student has the hope of a better life than does a cunning thief.

## Arpita

Arpita loves to read. That was not always true.

When she first started attending Buddha's Smile School (BSS), she sold every school book that she was given her by the teachers. Back then, the money she could get was more important than the pages of words.

Many BSS students are coming from families where both parents and children are begging, collecting garbage to sell for recycling, singing for tourists, or doing other more dangerous activities. When Rajan Kaur goes into the slums to talk to the parents, she knows she is fighting against the reality that schooling could mean a short-term loss of income for the families.

Arpita saw that the new books from BSS could be sold for a good amount of money. However, after Arpita had been attending school for a while, a teacher noticed that Arpita had a new book tucked in her bag. A few days later, the book was still there.

Asking Arpita where she got the book, Arpita replied, "I found it in the garbage."

"Why haven't you sold this book you found?" she asked Arpita.

"I don't want to sell it," Arpita replied. "I want to read it!"

This moment was a turning point for Arpita, who now loves BSS classes and the school's nurturing environment. Arpita is now in the 7th Grade and is determined not to let anything get in the way of her educational goals.

## Hasina

Hasina is a girl living in a garbage-collecting Bengali refugee community. This is her sixth year at BSS. Her mother doesn't want her to attend school, she would rather that Hasina collect garbage during school hours. However, Hasina has dreams for herself. Every year she implores her mother to let her do both attend school and collect garbage.

Hasina had a narrow escape from tragedy this year when a neighbor forced her into his shanty, then he tried to rape her. Hasina fought the man off. Not trusting the police, Hasina's mother told Rajan about the attempted rape, believing Rajan has powers to bring about justice. Rajan called the police who subsequently arrested the man. Hasina is back in school though still traumatized by the assault. She is always aware of the dangers which surround her, knowing that being an unmarried adolescent in her city makes her at risk for rape.

## We're happy to report...

Buddha's Smile School currently has 221 students, ten teachers, and 112 former BSS students are attending middle and high school. The middle and high school students continue to receive tutoring at BSS. Brijesh, a graduate of BSS, is now working in the Marketing department at HDFC Bank.



*The teachers of Buddha's Smile School were honored by their BSS students during September.*

*BSS founder and teacher Rajan Kaur, (lower left) with her teachers.*

# How Can I Help Keep This Vital Outreach Going in 2020?

Funds are urgently needed for the following 2020 programs. We urge you to consider, if possible, the designation of "Wherever my help is most needed." If you choose a specific program, we will do our best to direct your gift to that program.

## Wherever my help is most needed

- India: Buddha's Smile School, (Varanasi, India), an elementary school for 221 children of beggars, lepers and garbage collectors \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Zimbabwe, Africa: Kuda Vana Children's Home. Funds needed for day-to-day operations. \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Kenya: Community Initiatives for Rural Development (CIFORD): Job skills training for at-risk teen girls, seeds, water tanks, women's leadership training. \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Kenya: Support of Maruge and Amri Elementary Schools \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Mexico: The Conroy F. Donesky Memorial Fund for the Huichol Indian Community outreach in the Western Sierra Madre mountains. \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Kenya: Grow Bio-Intensive Agriculture Centre, Kenya (G-BIACK) teaching sustainable farming, sewing, handcrafts and computer skills to at-risk teens and HIV+ women. \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Haiti: Drs. Scott Nelson and Terry Dietrich's orthopedic surgery program at Adventist Hospital, Port Au Prince, Haiti. Please specify which doctor's fund. \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Haiti: The establishment of an Orthotic and Prosthetic program at Haiti Adventist Hospital. \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- South Africa: Lambano Sanctuary and Hospice for HIV+ children. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Your gift is deeply appreciated. Amistad International is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit public foundation incorporated in 1980. Donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law and may be sent to: Amistad International, P.O. Box 455, Palo Alto, CA 94301. You may request Amistad's EIN number.

Here is my contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Please use it for \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like to honor someone's birthday, anniversary, birth, retirement, or life, we will send an acknowledgment letter to the family or individual whom you designate. Please provide the following information.

Honoree's name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

My name \_\_\_\_\_

My address \_\_\_\_\_

My email address \_\_\_\_\_

## ***Let your compassion live on: Please consider including Amistad International in your estate planning.***

Amistad International can process credit card donations. You may also donate through PayPal on our website ([www.amistadinternational.org](http://www.amistadinternational.org)) A donation by check is the most cost-effective way to give.

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## Amistad International

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