

**Baby Centre**

Global Connections (GC) team and its supporters have long desired to start a Baby Centre for babies that are abandoned because they are HIV positive. This is very common in Kenya, as babies with HIV/AIDS are stereotyped as hopeless and destitute. We have brainstormed, researched, and spent time at other baby homes throughout Africa, and finally we are ready to move forward. For those of you who are familiar with the Limuru Children’s Centre (LCC) we are building new dorms for the boarders that will be behind the kitchen. These dorms will include family rooms to create a more home-like atmosphere. The baby home will be a part of this new building.

Tesni Anderson, who is from South Africa and lives in Kenya, is leading this project. Linda Richmond and Joe Dowd, British business leaders living in Nairobi, are overseeing the construction of the new dorms. We are raising the funds and looking forward to getting the project underway as soon as possible. We still have \$40,000

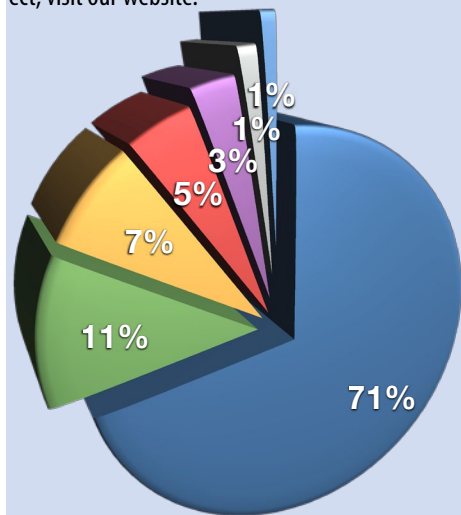


FRONT ELEVATION- BABY CENTRE AND NEW LCC HOME

**Project Support**

From October 2007 to February 2009

This chart shows all donations designated to various projects in Kenya over the last 16 months. No percentage of these funds was deducted for administrative costs. For more information on each project, visit our website.



LCC and Baby Centre	\$156,520
Ngusih Water	\$25,000
Tigoni Scholarship	\$16,300
Misc. Project Support	\$10,316
Pat Dixon	\$7,000
Care of Creation	\$3,000
Sister Sandra	\$2,371

to go before we can begin

building. **Disclaimer:** the following is very sad. To show the need for the Baby Centre, we surveyed 40 local residents - here are typical responses from our Kenyan community from the question: *Could you bring up (foster or adopt) a baby who is HIV positive?*

- "I have a few words to tell you. If you know you are planting and will never reap, why waste your time? Dying people should be left to die.."
- "No. If I have to bring up a child, let me bring up the one with a future."
- "I don't like wasting time. I think such children should not even exist."
- "Positive(HIV) people should be thrown in a deep pit and be buried. They don't have to exist."
- "Please. I hate wasting time, and that is wasting time. Why should I do that?"
- "No, because my husband can't agree. He hates people with AIDS.."

This breaks our hearts and encourages us to get this project up and running. We already care for children who have HIV/AIDS and they are beautiful, wonderful children who are growing up healthy and strong with proper nutrition, medicine, and education. If you are as moved as we are to get involved, donations for the remaining funds needed can be sent to Global Connections.

Right: From Christmas with the Kids, Ambassadors Sarah Tollick and Anna Terry hold two beautiful baby girls.



# AMBASSADOR PAGE

Ambassadors are trip participants or volunteers who help lead initiatives to support Global Connections or our partner programs.

## Christmas with the Kids Moves Many

Praise God for sending 28 young adults to visit with us over the past holidays in Kenya for 3 weeks and returning them all safely back home. It truly was an amazing journey for all involved and we could definitely not have pulled it off without the help of Someone looking over us.

The first group of seven young adults stayed at *Mzungu Manor* (the volunteer house at *Jamii Moja*) and established a great community that will be the standard for all others coming to stay with us in the house. "Mzungu" means foreigner - or - "person walking in circles." *Jamii Moja* means "one family" or "one community" and is the name of the farm. The second group was a family of nineteen and stayed at the Roundvales. For both groups, Christmas was definitely different than any we had experienced in the past and will be remembered by everyone for a long time.

As with many people that come on this experience, some in the groups did not know the reason why they had traveled so far but discovered it during their stay here and even after they returned home. It was great to see tripgoers jump in with our partner programs after being here for 2 or 3 days and asking the questions, getting their hands dirty, and wearing themselves out swinging kids around in the air without any needed leadership from the staff. Both teams visited a "sampler" of our partner programs - Limuru Children's Centre, LCC K-Branch, Pat's Feeding Program, Care for AIDS, Care of Creation, and St. Jerome's Church in Kibera. When a free afternoon opened up, many people took the opportunity to get more in-depth with the program



Celebrating Christmas at the *Mzungu Manor*

that interested them the most and jumped at the chance to spend more time learning about them. It was tremendous to see people connecting with their interests and passions when offered the chance. All in all, this experience has been a blessing to everyone that took part in it, including the staff of GC, which continues to grow. We are excited for what the future holds

## Sponsorship

The Limuru Children's Center Godparent program is underway. Our 35 boarders have been "adopted"! Thank you everyone who has committed to investing in the lives of very precious children.

## Upcoming Trips:

Veteran Ambassadors Trip: July 1 - August 9

Sarah Tollick Family/Friends Trip: July 18 - August 9

## Videos are available:

Copies of our extended GC DVD video (the long version of our online video) and also the video of this past summer's trip are available - email us for more information.

## Projects

Led by Ambassadors:

### Famine Relief

Lindsey Mitchell has returned home to Big Sky, Montana from the Christmas trip and started raising awareness in her community to the plight of Kenyans with the ongoing famine. She has had two events at her house with over 40 people in attendance where she presented experiences from her trip with pictures and stories. She also cooked up some traditional Kenyan food for her guests.

After hearing of the continuing famine, donations exceeding \$1500 were given to start a Food Relief Program. Our African team will be managing this Program as funds continue to come in. We can currently feed 150 people for one month.

### Jewelry

Jared and Britt Jones returned from Kenya with a desire to help Care for AIDS (CFA). All of CFA's clients are taught a skill that they can use to earn income, like jewelry making and kitsch folk art. Jared and Britt wanted to open up a new market with a much higher profit margin by bringing the jewelry to the States and then sending the funds back to the jewelry-makers in Limuru. This has turned out to be a great success as the first shipment of items were sold in a matter of weeks.

### Anajali School

During their family trip, the Browns visited Kibera, one of the biggest slums in the world, over a million people live within a square mile and approximately one hundred thousand children are orphans. In this dark place, the Browns saw hope in an existing primary school and are extending this school through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. This high school will provide these children the necessary education to find quality jobs, bring economic life back into this community, and provide hope to others as they share their new understanding of Christ. The total cost of the project is \$50,000 and the goal is to open the school by September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009.

**We appreciate these Ambassadors creating initiatives to help the people in Kenya that touched their hearts. If you would like to help support one of these projects, please email us: [info@globalconnectionsonline.org](mailto:info@globalconnectionsonline.org)**



# AFRICA PAGE



Lunch time at Limuru Children's Centre

## East Africa Update

On the verge of the rainy season, things in Kenya continue to improve. GC's relationships continue to grow stronger with all our friends and partners, while we continue to pursue new ones as well. Every time we turn around, we are presented with new opportunities to get involved in other peoples' lives. With the addition of Joe and Kyle to the East Africa team (formerly Will flying solo), the trio is involved to a much greater depth than even six months ago. Things at the LCC continue to go well as the new dorm construction gets underway soon. Nearly all of the children are healthy and looking forward to having a break for a few weeks after they take their exams in April. There have been many visitors as of late, including Joe's parents (both doctors from the U.S.) who have given the children medical checkups. Unfortunately, two of our children have what is described as severe issues that will possibly involve operations and many trips to the hospital. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers. The LCC has added several new students at the K-Branch, bringing the total to nearly one hundred. Caroline, a boarder from the Main Branch, is heading to secondary school in the next term. She will be the first boarder to meet this tremendous milestone!

The Jamii Moja Farm continues to evolve while we are still learning about the ups and downs of farming. The purpose is to create jobs, grow cash crops for sustainability and provide food for the LCC. It has not been the easiest process, but we are making progress. For now, we are focusing on fewer crops and doing them well. Some of the cash crops include these non-staples: butternut, capsicum, strawberries, okra, and cucumber. The farm is also making a push in becoming totally organic, making full use of no-till farming and mulching. To add to this, the LCC kids will soon have their own one acre plot where they can learn about farming and grow much of their own food, such as cabbage, corn and spinach.

Thank you and appreciation goes out to all of the people supporting the numerous projects in Kenya, as it is very encouraging to see the progress that is being made and the tremendous impact your support has in the lives of our friends there.

## New Global Connections Family in Africa

**Joe Heritage** graduated from Furman University in 2007 with a degree in History. After graduation he spent a month in Kenya on a short term missions/volunteer trip. This exposure to the third world, had a huge impact upon his life and calling. After stints in Thailand and Mozambique in 2007 and 2008, Joe joined the Global Connections Kenya team in late 2008 and is working alongside Will Porter and Kyle Davis, facilitating and overseeing sustainable development and discipleship programs in Kenya.

**Kyle and Jessica Davis**, along with their two children, have joined the GC family in order to serve in Limuru, Kenya. Spending the last three years in Kenya, they have developed networks and gained insights into culture, ministry, and life which will be invaluable to our operations. Serving as the Executive Director for East Africa, Kyle will be facilitating the arrival of volunteers and working in the area of GC's ministry partnerships to take them beyond the relationships we already have in order to diversify and expand our operations in the Limuru/Nairobi area.



Above: Joe Heritage  
Left: Davis Family

## Current Needs

Any amount that can be contributed to support the following projects is tremendously appreciated.

- LCC New Home and Baby Centre** - \$40,000 needed
- Famine Relief** - \$10 per person per month
- Anajali Secondary School in Kibera** - \$50,000 needed
- Help support our Team Members in Kenya** - \$600 per person per month
- Employ a Kenyan on the Jamii Moja Farm** - \$50 per person per month
- Teach a girl to sew through Sister Sandra's school** - \$150 per girl per year
- Provide food through Pat's Feeding Program** - \$14 per widow per month



# Global Connections

Humanitarian aid through indigenous efforts in the developing world  
Life Changing travel and volunteer experiences

## Seen this Logo around?

It's part of our corporate sponsorship program and the logo for the Limuru Children's Centre. This symbol was designed by Patrick Mungai who oversees the Limuru Children's Centre. He loved the idea of a safe home being the symbol for the work of taking care of Limuru's children. Columbus Brick Company has started putting the logo on the placard's they wrap with their bricks. For every 1000 bricks a percentage



is donated to the LCC. Thank you Columbus Brick! The program has been hugely successful and wonderful help to the work of the LCC.

*If anyone is interested in a corporate sponsorship program please email us.*

## Community

Community has become a very important subject to the Global Connections Staff, especially as we are engulfed in the electronic age. We are exploring ways to be intentional about pursuing community in our lives. "Community is what we are created for. We are made in the image of a God who is community, a plurality of oneness." Shane Claiborne, *Irresistible Revolution*.

## Our Team

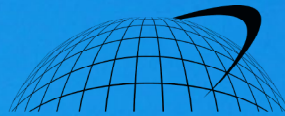
- A.B. Puckett - President
- Anna Terry - Executive Director, U.S.
- Kyle Davis - Executive Director, East Africa
- Rachel Thomas - Financial Officer
- Bryan Mitchell - U.S. Programs Director
- Zac Brooks - Programs Coordinator, U.S.
- Will Porter - Programs Coordinator, East Africa
- Joe Heritage - Programs Coordinator, East Africa

## Contact Us:

P.O. Box 9630  
info@globalconnectionsonline.org

Columbus, MS 39705  
www.globalconnectionsonline.org

Global Connections Inc.  
P.O. Box 9630  
Columbus, MS 39705



# Global Connections

