

Together we are changing lives... one girl at a time.

We are pleased to present the High School GRADUATING CLASS of 2009

Most of our sponsored girls and these 17 graduates are the first in their families to complete elementary school. After high school, each girl volunteers as an elementary school teacher for one year. Often, our girls are the only teachers in the classroom due to a teacher shortage in Kenya. Therefore, since 2004, our 33 interns have contributed 33 teaching years to the children of Kenya.

After interning, our girls continue to college. The first girls who were sponsored in 1998 are beginning to graduate from college, start their careers and marry a man of their choice. We are so proud of our pharmacist, teacher and of course, Rukia Kadidi, our BEADS for Education Program Manager who was our first college graduate. We boast 6 college graduates, 15 college students, 17 interns and 41 girls who have just enrolled in high school. In total, we sponsor more than 320 girls.



Thank YOU sponsors for your sponsorship which makes these girls' dreams a reality.

Together we really are changing lives—one girl at a time.

Deborah K Rooney

Debby Rooney

BEADS Co-Founder

EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS

BEADS works in three sponsorship regions – Samburu in northern Kenya, Amboseli National Park in southern Kenya and Isinya which is located 1 hour south of Nairobi. Top Ride Elementary School in Isinya is the educational center of our programs. Since 2005, BEADS has presented annual workshops for teachers, interns and the sponsored girls, which focus on improving the quality of teaching and guidance for our sponsored girls.

- Interactive Teaching
- Library Development and Usage
- Book Clubs for students and Teachers
- Writing, Poetry, Drama Workshops
- Top Ride students presented Macbeth
- HIV/AIDS awareness training
- Environmental Education
- Recycled art
- Career Counseling
- Rights of girls especially concerning Female circumcision and forced, early marriage

Top Ride has steadily improved the quality of education and now stands 13th out of 336 schools in the Kajiado District with a mean mark of 346.3 out of 500 - which is a B. The marks are calculated by a standardized national exam. Our interns and teaching programs began in 2005 when the school was 48th out of 223 schools with a mean mark of 291.3 out of 500. Thank you, students and teachers.

Two of our girls have received distinguished honors as published in the Nairobi Standard newspaper.

Rachael Misoik received the highest graduating mark ever from the renowned Moi Girls High School and she is ranked 2nd in the entire district. Rachael is now interning for BEADS and also the Kenya Equity Bank – an honor accorded to the top 2 high school graduates from each district. Congrats Rachael.

From the Amboseli National Park Region, Sein Koipatan graduated with highest honors in the district and is now attending one of the VERY best high schools in Kenya. She is the first BEADS' girl from this region to attain this level of academic success. Kudos to Sein and her teachers.

Top Ride School Improvements

After six years working on the quality of education, developing the infrastructure of the school became a priority last year. We began by replacing the timber classrooms, building a proper library and teacher residence and an amazing shade structure. 12 new cinderblock classrooms are already in use but we still need 5 more classrooms at a cost of \$5000 each. A teacher residence is under construction and is intended to secure the longevity of our highly trained teachers. This year 6 homes will be opened.

We hope to build new dorms for the girls and a well for the school so they can always have good drinking water available in the new future.



Intern Neema in front of Original Classrooms

New Classrooms - 2010



WALKATHON January 2010

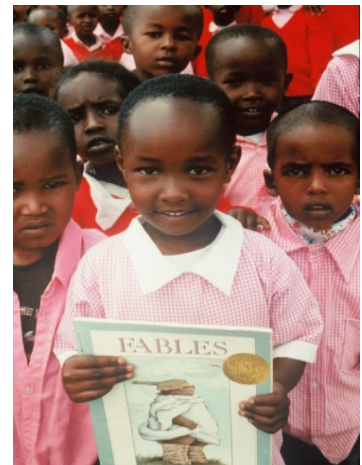
Our 5th annual walkathon was an overwhelming success. Sponsors, girls, warriors, mothers, fathers, teachers and community leaders again joined hands to raise funds and awareness for girls' education. Meeting your sponsored girl, sharing her culture and participating in our annual Coming of Age Ceremony without the cut is an extraordinary experience.

If you want to join this year's walk, and help BEADS with our only annual fundraiser which allows us to continue and expand our programs, please call me.

Library Development

We have stocked two libraries with more than 10,000 volumes of classic children's literature and developed a reading program for each school. All students from class 5 and up participate in book clubs as do the teachers. The younger students love story hour at the library and reading in their classes.

One of our 7th grade girls said, "After reading Shabuna, I learned that a girl should not marry at a little age." Now that is a success story to me.



Famine Relief

Beads for Education distributed \$78,315.33 worth of food relief in late 2009 and early 2010 to nearly 8000 Kenyans who were suffering from the effects of the worst drought in Kenya in 40 years. The distributions were made in our three sponsorship regions for our communities and schools. We purchased maize, beans, rice and cooking oil in bulk and used our people including teachers, staff, the BEADS interns and even some sponsors to hand out the relief packages to the long lines of patiently waiting villagers. We relied on the local leaders to determine the proper relief for each family waiting in line. It was an extremely gratifying experience and once more reminded us how fortunate our lives have been. As a postscript, the rains have returned to Kenya and the land is green again. However, it will be years before the herds of cattle and goats will be restored and the people will continue to take it day to day. Thank you all again – we are strengthened once more by your human caring.

A special thanks to *A Voice is Heard*, a new NGO founded by two sponsors who attended the 2008 Walkathon. They raised more than \$29,000 for additional famine relief for the Amboseli region and joined the 2010 Walkathon to distribute their packages at the end of the Walk. Well done!!

This means that the two efforts generated more than \$107,000 in much needed aid.

ASANTE SANA (thank you in Swahili).