



*Providing young women with the opportunity to transform their own lives and the futures of their communities through education.*

# Annual Report 2008





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## Letter from Founder



2008 has been a year of exciting growth at AfricAid! Despite plummeting financial markets and the global economic recession, our remarkable supporters have rallied behind AfricAid, allowing us to achieve our most successful fundraising year to date. In the process, these supporters have demonstrated their deep-seated commitment to girls' education across Africa, joining with us in the belief that education will provide these young women with the opportunity to shape their own lives and the futures of their communities in the ways that they see fit.

This year marks the seventh year of AfricAid's support for girls' education in Africa. Over those years, we have seen the young girls we've sponsored grow into young women, and have watched as they have graduated and become teachers, nurses, and mothers. Along the way, we have also been able to help several schools build new classrooms and provide their students with textbooks, school supplies, and even access to computers. And we have listened to stories of student attendance increasing dramatically at the rural schools we support, all because the students there are now provided a school lunch and clean water through programs sponsored by AfricAid. We are grateful to all of you, our dedicated supporters, for allowing us to continue – and expand – this important work in 2008, which you will read more about in this report.

This year has also been a year of growth and change for AfricAid as an organization. In June of this year, I graduated and received a fellowship from Harvard to continue my work with AfricAid. This has afforded me the rewarding opportunity to work full-time for AfricAid. In the process, I have improved our organizational systems and capacity, preparing for even greater growth in the future. In partnership with our volunteers, youth groups, and board of directors, I have created more effective strategies, programs, procedures and communication networks within AfricAid. In the months to come, this will enable us to have an even greater impact on schools across Africa.

We are eager to continue AfricAid's work in 2009. While it is true that AfricAid cannot single-handedly eliminate poverty on the African continent, we *are* making a big difference in the lives of many individuals in Tanzania. It is our hope that, with an education — and therefore a voice in their future — the young women we support can step forward and make the changes that they see fit for their own lives and for their nation. I hope that you will join us in our efforts.

Asante Sana (“Thank you very much”),

Ashley Shuyler

Founder, AfricAid

## AfricAid's Impact since 2001

### **Mission Statement:**

*AfricAid is a nonprofit organization that supports girls' education in Africa in order to provide young women with the opportunity to transform their own lives and the futures of their communities.*

**AfricAid believes that it can best achieve its mission by providing three essential elements to these young women:**

- 1) the basic opportunity to obtain both a primary and a secondary school education;
- 2) access to the tools with which to enhance the overall quality and effectiveness of the educational experience; and
- 3) vocational training to help facilitate entry into the workplace for those who do not go on to higher learning.

**To accomplish these goals, AfricAid has to date raised over \$600,000 and has:**

- Provided over 200 one-year scholarships to young Maasai women
- Provided over \$90,000 worth of school supplies and textbooks to eight schools
- Contributed building supplies and labor for the construction of eight primary and secondary school classrooms
- Assisted a Tanzanian village in initiating the construction of a vocational center at an existing secondary school
- Provided computers for computer labs at three secondary schools and sewing machines for a vocational center for at-risk girls
- Implemented a school lunch program for an impoverished rural Maasai primary school
- Provided funding for the construction of a water pipe to provide clean drinking water to a remote village primary school without a water source of its own
- Implemented two pilot Teaching in Action workshops completed by 100 Tanzanian secondary school teachers
- Helped develop a greater culture of service learning and service activities among American youth through AfricAid Clubs formed throughout the US, the AfricAid Kids Team (AKT), and its "Changemakers" Service Learning Curriculum.

*Thank you for helping us to provide these young women in Africa with the opportunity to transform their own lives and the futures of their communities!*



## AfricAid's Impact in 2008

### *Girls' Secondary School and Medical School Scholarships*

During 2008, AfricAid continued to **support motivated young women** in their educational goals. AfricAid provides boarding school scholarships to young women at the Maasai Girls Secondary School in Monduli, Tanzania, and day school scholarships at the Ebenezer Girls Secondary School in Ngaramtoni, Tanzania. Additionally, in 2008, AfricAid sponsored the first year of medical school for a young woman in Moshi, Tanzania. AfricAid has committed to support the remainder of the medical education of this young woman who will, upon graduation, be the first female Maasai doctor in the country of Tanzania!



AfricAid is proud to support this school in its efforts to provide a top-notch education to Tanzanian girls, and particularly to

### *Ebenezer Girls Secondary School Ngaramtoni, Tanzania*



those who have been orphaned by AIDS. AfricAid has helped to fund the construction of **three classrooms** and outfit a **computer lab** at Ebenezer, and has also provided **scholarships** for girls who would not otherwise be able to attend.

AfricAid supporter Frank Mathews, who visited the school in May of 2008, noted that "it's mind boggling to realize that such a simple and inexpensive contribution on our part can transform forever the future of these bright young girls. I will never forget seeing a sad and listless visage suddenly blossom into smiles and sparkling eyes. What caused the change? The gift of hope, in the form of education."

### *Muongano Vocational Training Center Usa River, Tanzania*

Through a partnership with groups from North Carolina and Colorado, AfricAid has assisted the important work being done by the Muungano Vocational Training Center in Tanzania. The Center came about because of the vision of community leader Joseph Kitia, who has seen that vocational training is essential in a country where unemployment levels can reach 40%. Muungano is designed to train students in practical skills that will qualify them for employment or enable them to start their own small businesses. AfricAid has furnished the school's **computer lab** and hopes to help the school achieve its dream of **providing workshops** in mechanics, carpentry, tailoring, electrical work, and business management in the future.



### ***Losinoni Primary School Losinoni, Tanzania***



AfricAid has funded the construction of four **new classrooms**, new **latrines**, and the **renovation** of several buildings at this rural Maasai school. The school's dynamic headmaster, Ezekiel Ngungat, reports that the villagers are now very proud of their school and its beautiful new classrooms, complete with windows and fresh, bright paint. Sara Stewart, a past AfricAid intern, traveled to Losinoni in 2008 and saw that "these new classrooms were just what the school needed. Compared to the other buildings, these new classrooms really provided a learning sanctuary...Overall what I saw was an effort by the community to give the children a better education, and a home away from home."



### ***School Lunch Program Losinoni Primary School Losinoni, Tanzania***

In addition to classroom construction at Losinoni Primary School, AfricAid has continued to partner with the school's "Maasai Mamas" – the mothers of the school's students – who make beautiful beaded jewelry that AfricAid then sells in the U.S. With the money raised from those sales, AfricAid helps fund a **school lunch program** for the students there, many of whom walk miles to and from school each day. Without this lunch, most students would have only one evening meal of porridge each day. Headmaster Ezekiel Ngungat has reported, "The pupils' attendance before lunch program has improved from 55% to 90%. The pupils are also very active and participate effectively during the sessions because they are filled, fed up. The above achievements have been contributed by the donations from AfricAid ...Your contributions and compassion have really made a difference to the children of this village. The involvement of AfricAid in this school has also been an inspiration to the parents, who have started fundraising for money to pay for the cook's salary who prepares lunch for the pupils. They have also contributed some money for constructing staff houses to accommodate more teachers, who are urgently needed to meet the increasing number of pupils." AfricAid is proud to partner with this rural Maasai community – a community that is deeply committed to providing their youth with a quality education.

***Teaching in Action  
Tanzania-wide***

AfricAid is the proud sponsor of Teaching in Action (TIA), an **annual workshop** that brings together secondary school teachers from all across Tanzania and instructs them in student-centered, participatory teaching practices. Because teachers have historically used methods of rote memorization in their classroom instruction, students often finish their time in school unprepared for their national exams and for effective participation in the Tanzanian workforce. Through TIA, Tanzanian teachers are learning techniques that are equipping their students for success after graduation. AfricAid has partnered with TIA's creator, Dr. Frances Vavrus of the University of Minnesota, to implement the first two years of the TIA program, and plans to significantly expand the program in 2009.



Esilalei is an AfricAid-supported school that serves a predominantly rural Maasai community. A group of artists from northern Colorado, Wyoming, California, and Michigan visited there in 2007 and learned that there was no water source for the school. They were told that many of the school's students walk miles to and from school each day, which means that students often spend the day exhausted from thirst. Some even choose not to travel to school, knowing that there will be no water upon their arrival.

***Esilalei Primary School  
Mto wa Mbu, Tanzania***



As a result, on their return home the group resolved to find a way to help bring water to the school's students, and through the help of AfricAid, raised sufficient funds to purchase the necessary **water pipe** to connect to the nearest town's water source, some two miles away. The nearby Maasai villagers then worked together to dig the necessary trench from the town to the school in unbelievably rocky terrain. As a result, the school now has its own source of water, and student attendance rates are expected to greatly increase in 2009!

## **AfricAid Youth Service in America**

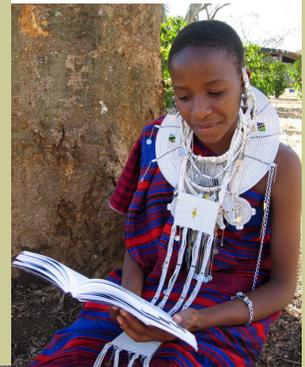
AfricAid is dedicated to the belief that we in the United States have an increasing responsibility to help build a culture of service learning and service activities among the youth of America. To achieve this end, AfricAid has helped develop the “Changemakers” Service Learning Curriculum for elementary and middle school classrooms and has helped initiate and support the development of “AfricAid Clubs” across the country.

Through the “Changemakers” curriculum, it is hoped that young Americans will have a greater understanding of the connection between poverty and a lack of education, and between caring and giving back. The “Changemakers” Service Learning Curriculum program seeks to encourage both individual involvement and group involvement in our community and in our world, and to help teach young children the value and satisfaction that comes from developing lifelong habits of serving, giving, and caring.

Additionally, AfricAid has facilitated the creation of AfricAid Clubs across the nation, in locations as diverse as Utah, Georgia, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania, as well as many in Colorado.



***“We in the United States have an increasing responsibility to help build a culture of service learning and service activities among the youth of America.”***



## Featured AfricAid Service Groups

### Volunteer Testimonial

“After joining the AfricAid club, and having been involved with the AfricAid Kids Team, I can see how important it is to continue supporting these girls in Tanzania. I have seen what poverty they live in and truly believe that through education they can improve the quality of their health and living conditions as well as advance themselves in their local societies. It is increasingly apparent to me that my generation will not be able to ignore the pressing issues of poverty that afflict most of Africa.”

### *The Colorado Academy AfricAid Club*

Since this club was founded in 2001, it has raised tens of thousands of dollars and funded dozens of full one-year scholarships for Maasai girls in Tanzania. This club has been very creative in its fundraising efforts, organizing such events as a snowboard giveaway and annual themed fundraisers like “A Night at the Maasai Market” at the Denver Art Museum, the University of Denver, and the Colorado Academy campus. Most importantly, they have helped to educate their community about their cause. They work with the Colorado Academy Lower and Middle Schools to collect school supplies and have organized community service “Africa Days” to teach the school’s younger students about Africa, poverty, and ways they can help.



### *The AfricAid Kids’ Team (AKT)*

Started in 2005, this team was formed so that children who recognized the needs of Tanzanian schools and students could take the initiative to lend a helping hand. This group designed and produced a signature AfricAid item, the Uhuru Bracelet, which they sell at local events, craft fairs, and retail outlets. This unique bracelet, named after the Swahili word for “freedom” or “liberty,” signifies the ability of Tanzanian girls to choose their own in direction in life with the help an education provides.



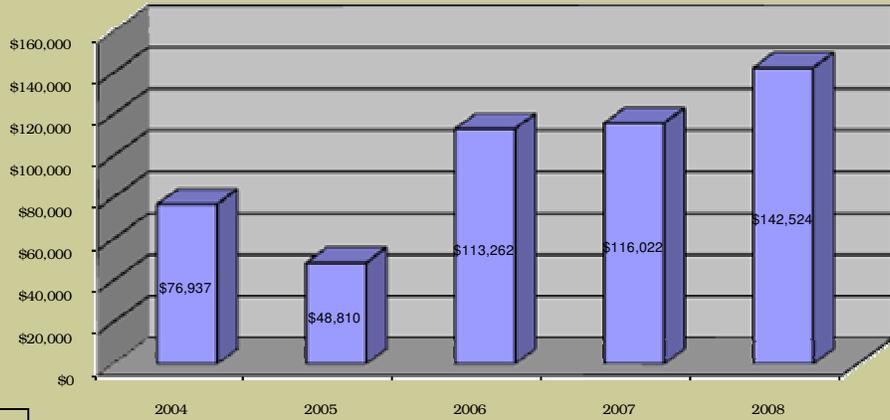
### *The Fairleigh Dickinson University (FDU) AfricAid Group*



This group was created when FDU professor Joan Desilets challenged her students to think about what they could do to help increase the number of opportunities available to girls in Africa. This group has now undertaken projects such as meeting with the Tanzanian Ambassador to the United Nations, collecting school supplies and fundraising for AfricAid, and running an AfricAid Café on Sunday mornings to serve brunch to 150 graduate students.

## Financials

Annual Revenue



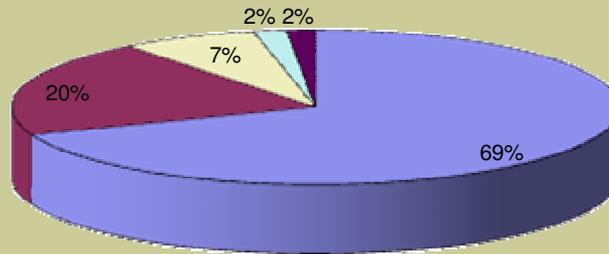
### Statement of Activities 1/1/08 – 12/31/08

#### Revenue

Individual Contributions	\$98,595
Fundraising Events	28,867
Donated School Supplies	10,387
Corporate Contributions	2,500
Other	<u>2,176</u>
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>142,525</b>

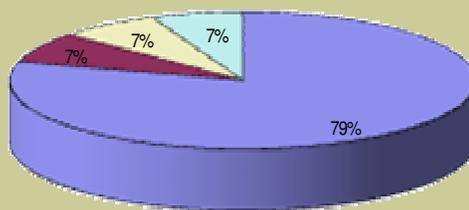
Cost of Goods Sold	<u>8,104</u>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>134,421</b>

Revenue By Source



- Individual Contributions
- Fundraising Events
- Donated School Supplies
- Corporate Contributions
- Other

**Expenditures**



- Program Funding
- Program Expenses
- Fundraising
- Administrative

**Expenditures**

<u>Programs</u>	
Program Funding	\$107,693
Program Expenses	<u>9,875</u>
Sub-Total	117,568
Fundraising	9,488
Administrative	<u>8,614</u>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>135,670</b>

**Change in Net Assets (\$1,250)**

Note: Excludes In-Kind Contributions

**Statement of Financial Condition  
As Of 12/31/2008**

<b><u>Assets</u></b>	
Cash	\$101,956
Other Assets	<u>4,640</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$106,596</b>
<b><u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u></b>	
Liabilities	\$383
Net Assets	<u>106,213</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$106,596</b>

*A detailed breakdown of income, expenses and assets will be available through AfricAid's IRS form 990 posted on [www.guidestar.com](http://www.guidestar.com).*

**Board of Directors:**

Danny Dodson  
 Judi Dodson  
 Rocco Dodson  
 Mary Greenwood  
 Felicity Hannay  
 Betsy Hoke  
 Karen Hutcherson  
 Holly O'Connor  
 Ashley Shuyler  
 Nina Shuyler  
 Richard Shuyler  
 Allyson Taylor  
 Krista Warnick  
 Mark Williams

*Advisor to the Board:*  
 Dr. Frances Vavrus

**Collaborations:**

First Person Publishing  
  
 GivingFirst.org  
 (Please see our profile at <http://www.givingfirst.org/africaid>)  
  
 Colorado Academy  
  
 Operation Bootstrap Africa  
  
 Rotary Club of Evergreen, Colorado  
  
 Fairleigh Dickinson University  
  
 Selian Hospital in Tanzania  
  
 Mwenge University College of Education in Tanzania







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AfricAid, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non profit  
organization.

EIN# 84-1549841