

Kageno Roots

Planting the seeds to grow places of hope.



A Newsletter volume 10 winter 2010



Peace on Earth • Amani Duniani • Kwe Epiny • Happy Holidays • Sikukuu Njema • Odichieng Yueyo Moyiedhi

2010 Achievements

Kenya

- Completed the first year of the Mobile Computer Program funded by Kids Against Poverty
- Completed the Western Union Foundation grant to expand the Micro-loan program
- Hosted two Intel volunteer trips allowing Intel employees to work alongside our Mobile Computer Program team
- The Kageno Kenya Nursery School, Microloan and Computer Programs reach sustainability and are now run entirely by community members
- Hosted a World Aids Day commemoration event where 74 people were tested for HIV/AIDS and 17 men were circumcised

Rwanda

- Officially opened the SL Nursery School providing early education, healthcare and a daily meal to 300 children
- Constructed a playground for the SL Nursery School - one of only three in Rwanda
- Officially opened the Lillian Vernon and Paolo Martino Community Center
- Developed a new line of craft products for international sale
- Fulfilled our first large craft order - now on sale at Donna Karan's Urban Zen store
- Welcomed Peace Corps volunteers Jarod and Sarah Ring
- Hosted the first Kageno service and yoga retreat in Banda Village
- Hosted 10 students from the U.S. Virgin Islands for a community service project

Worldwide

- Welcomed volunteers Kevin Kollenda, Anouck Lepere, Bonnie Morrison, Daniel Kim, Erin Robinson, Katie Pelo, Cali Hyde, Irene and Alexandra Ruperti and Candice and Alexis Wexler
- Co-Hosted "A Day of Wellness in Support of Africa" with the Urban Zen Foundation on April 11th in New York City
- Hosted "Summer Cocktails" to benefit the children of Banda village at The Max Lang Gallery in New York City
- Hosted "The Kageno Harambee 2010 - A New Decade of Hope" at Espace in New York City



Progress Report

Thanks to tremendous support from individuals, organizations and foundations from around the world, Kageno has been able to live up to its name of being "A Place of Hope" in 2010.

With funds raised by Danielle Levine and her friends, the SL Nursery School was opened in early February of 2010.



View of the Kageno Rwanda Nursery School

In February, Kageno Executive Director and Co-founder Dr. Frank Andolino was joined by Danielle Levine, Jordan Mallah, Paolo Martino, Daniel Goldstein, and Masa Kogure in Rwanda. The Banda community welcomed their guests with an opening ceremony featuring traditional songs and dances performed by school children. The celebration was capped with speeches given by distinguished locals on their appreciation for Kageno, its efforts, and its affiliated donors worldwide.

And now, with the completion of the SL Nursery School, 300 Rwandan children have been afforded the opportunity to lead healthy, educated lives supported by nutritious meals, clean water, and a safe environment.



Nursery School children on their way to school

kageno worldwide is a nonprofit 501 (c) (3) organization.



Lillian Vernon and Paolo Martino Community Center Opening Ceremony

Also in February, the Lillian Vernon and Paolo Martino Community Center opened its doors giving the community of Banda Village their first ever indoor community gathering space. The community center will be used by the community and will provide a venue for many different kinds of exciting community activities. The community is very excited about the latest developments and are so appreciative for all the support.

Success! World AIDS Day - Rusinga Island, Kenya



Primary school children participating in World AIDS Day Celebration

Your support allowed Kageno to sponsor and fund World AIDS Day, 2010 on December 1 at the Kamasengre Primary School on Rusinga Island, Kenya. Designed to raise awareness and promote education about HIV / AIDS, World AIDS Day has been a pillar of guidance since its 1988 inception. More than 750 people attended our local function and 17 of them took part in a voluntary medical male circumcision while several others inquired sought clinic referrals for future circumcisions.

Notable community leaders in attendance included the District AIDS & Sexually Transmitted Infections Control Officer, the District VCT Coordinator, the

Clinical Officer-in-Charge of Tom Mboya Health Centre, the Chief of the Rusinga West, the Assistant Chief of the Kamasengre East sub-location, and the Beach Management Unit Chairman.

In response to the World AIDS Day program, Kageno received letters of appreciation from Rusinga Island Community Leaders:

"I would want to remark that the Kageno Worldwide organized a very successful World AIDS Day at the Kamasengre Primary school, Rusinga West Location" - Samwel Onyango, Chief, Rusinga Island West.

"I want to take this opportunity again to congratulate you and appreciate you for what you have done for this community." - Philemon Ouma Angwanga, Assistant Chief - Kamasengre East Sub Location.

For more information about World AIDS Day on Rusinga Island, and to view photos from the event, please click on this link:

<http://www.kageno.typepad.com/>

New Developments in Kenya

Through the generous support of our donors, participants of our Rusinga Island project have seen significant improvements in nutrition, health, education, and income generation. Many of our programs have achieved self-sustainability and we are in the process of transitioning control of these initiatives to the community. Programs with enduring needs like access to healthcare will continue to receive Kageno's unwavering support.

Moving forward, our efforts will focus on the development of the Kageno project in Banda Village, Rwanda. Your support of Kageno equates to a direct support of these people, their community, and their individual and collective potential. Because of Kageno's interventions, Banda Village is becoming equipped to create businesses, generate employment, invest in their environment, and foster clean living.

We hope that you will continue to support our efforts in helping impoverished communities become places of opportunity and hope. As always, thank you for your encouragement and kindness.

Kageno Outreach

Kageno outreach was particularly strong in 2010 as volunteers from around the world contributed not only cash but their time and talents.

Rachel Goldstein A volunteer's perspective

Going forward, I can't imagine my life without Africa in it. Despite months of preparation and anticipation, the depth of love I would come to feel for its people was entirely unexpected. When I first arrived in Kigali, Rwanda it was night and the city was lit with the same glow I remembered Jerusalem had. Fear of the unknown was matched by traveler's curiosity; anxiety of misfortune met by pursuit of enlightenment.



Left to Right: Jordan Mallah, Lara Ross, Alexandria Ruperti, Rachel Goldstein, John Neal, Freddy Budaramani, Douglas Neal, Jim Henslee and Mary Jo Urbanek.

Joined by my dear friends Lara Ross, Kageno's founder, Dr. Frank Andolino, and our yoga teacher for the trip, Jordan Mallah, I looked forward to our mutual discovery of self and society. In addition to us four, five other individuals from around America would be coming along for this truly unique African adventure.

Upon arrival to Rwanda we were greeted by Frederic Budaramani. Gracious and strong, Freddy is part of the Kageno family on the ground. He quickly proved to be both knowledgeable and insightful in our intense journey. More so than that, he provided a sense of confidence and safety that many of us didn't expect to need. Servicing Rwanda, Uganda, and Kenya, his company, East Africa Explorer, will

certainly be a reference I pass on to my fellow globetrotters.

Banda Village is an area that contains one of the highest population densities in Rwanda, with approximately 500 people per square kilometer. When Kageno began its work there, the community was prone to a myriad of problems related to extreme poverty and Rwanda's legacy of war and genocide. With little access to drinking water, a rapid spread of HIV/AIDS, and nearly 100 percent of the population engaging in subsistence farming, health and harvest were both on the decline.

Deep within the Nyungwe Forest National Park we went, a 4.5 hour ride from Kigali. Sitting shotgun next to Freddy for much of the trip, I recalled the history of the land and its people and was struck by how disconnected that information seemed from what I was observing. Holding hands, hugging, and smiling from one ear to the next, the sense of affection in the air was thick. New York City is saturated with people who possess everything yet feel nothing. Now here I was, across the globe, consumed by the enlivened spirit of individuals who owned nothing yet embodied everything.

Seeing the entrance sign for Kageno was a small but poignant moment for me. Enthusiasm and emotion mixed as Freddy navigated the rugged bumps and harsh rocks of the road. (Professional but full of harmless teasing, it was his carefree presence that ensured my sanity for those 40 minutes.) We landed in the pit of the village where we were greeted by dozens of people---our welcoming party---dancing and drumming to our arrival. Engulfed in love and excitement, the kids clamored to touch our hands and stood proud when using the few English phrases they knew.

Our volunteer home boasted no electricity or running water. Bucket showers with boiled water in one and cold water in another (to allow for individual temperature control) turned out to be soothing versus cumbersome. And in comparison to the latrines we used for bathrooms, the showers were downright luxurious! Our meals were premeditated by Frank who flew in a variety of supplies and utensils. Every night was something different:

Japanese, Italian, Indian, and a few homegrown Rwandan dishes. The care and precision that was utilized in planning for this trip was remarkable and it only heightened the wonderment of the experience.

Each day we focused on fulfilling two volunteer commitments we made to Banda: planting a local garden and engaging in a community yoga class led by Jordan. Over the course of five days, the wise people of Banda village taught us cityslickers how to hoe, weed, plant, fertilize, and tend to the land. In spite of the physical exertion, the endeavor was not only rewarding but altogether beautiful.

And after 12 years of practicing yoga, these classes were the first I attended where women posed with babies strapped to their backs. Rewarding. Beautiful. Life.

One child in particular that I wanted to meet was Maliselina. For the last two years, my lifelong friend Felice and I had been sponsoring her. Desperate to find the young girl, I had put everyone working for Kageno on high alert. When the opportunity did come for us to sit face to face, it was with endearing shyness and quiet elegance that she and her mother accepted me. By the following day's end Maliselina was attached to me. (As a 37-year-old, single, Jewish woman, I needn't explain why I immediately fell in love with her, right?) Kageno's sponsorship program is designed to support children until they are eight years old. With only one out of five children surviving past the age of five, help for these kids and their mothers is crucial. Although I only have one more year left to sponsor Maliselina, I know the aid I have given her mother and, in turn, the guidance she has bestowed upon her is a better foundation than many of her peers have.

With all the perceptions and misconceptions about Africa, what I can say for certain is that the power it has long been said to hold is undeniably felt.

To read more about Rachel's experience please visit her blog and new website at:

<http://www.agentofchangeevents.com/>

Kageno Outreach

(Continued)



Anouck plays with the children outside the Kageno Volunteer House

Anouck Lepere visited Banda Village, Rwanda twice in 2010 and found amazement in both experiences. Touching on her own passion for architecture and design, Anouck worked closely with our agricultural director to implement a landscape design plan for the Kageno site. (A plan that was established by Julie Farris and Sarah Wayland in 2008.) In addition to landscape development, Anouck spent her evening hours drawing guidelines for a new playground at the recently opened



The new playground at the SL Nursery School

nursery school. It was upon her second trip to Rwanda in 2010 that Anouck donated the funds necessary to begin con-

struction on the playground. And while this may seem like a simple project, it is not without poignancy. Currently, there are but two playgrounds in the entire country. With that said, initial concept discussions were a bit difficult. But when Anouck returns to Rwanda in 2011, she will find one of the most stellar playgrounds.



Anouck and Bonnie show off their artwork at the SL Nursery School

Along with project planning for the playground, Anouck and her dear friend Bonnie Morrison took time to paint pictures on the nursery school walls. These images now serve as a personalized reminder for the Banda children of their Kageno visitors.

US Virgin Island Students visit Kageno Rwanda



US Virgin Island students posing in front of their work at the SL Nursery School

In August of this year, Kageno Rwanda hosted another group of visitors in Banda Village. Consisting of ten students from the US Virgin Islands, this trip was a well-deserved one for the group. After two years of raising money to fund their African excursion, the students quickly fell in love with Banda Village and Banda Village in love with them. Though they

spent less than a week with Kageno and the community, their aid in agriculture, enthusiasm for tradition, and willingness to interact with all levels of the community made an impression that will truly endure.

The Best Tour Guide in East Africa



Freddy Budaramani, East African Explorers Safaris

None of the trips mentioned on this page would have been possible without Freddy Budaramani. By far the best tour guide in Rwanda, Freddy was introduced to Kageno in 2005 when co-founders Rob Place and Frank Andolino visited Rwanda to scout for the next Kageno site. Since that initial encounter, Freddy has remained our Rwandan point person and has become a genuine friend.

For more information about Freddy and to set up a East Africa tour visit:

<http://www.eastafricaexplorer.com/>

By supporting Kageno, you directly affect the lives of people living in these communities, giving them hope and opportunity. Kageno's interventions give the community the ability to develop skills and start new businesses, create jobs, invest in their environment, control the spread of infectious diseases and ultimately live better, healthier lives.

Kageno Partnerships

Rwanda Peace Corps Volunteers



Jarod and Sarah Ring

My name is Jarod Ring and my wife Sarah and I are Peace Corps volunteers that will be spending two years volunteering with Kageno Rwanda. We came from Arkansas and have now been in the country for six months. Our path to Rwanda began while in college where Sarah graduated with a degree in Health and Nutrition from the University of Arkansas and I from Arkansas Tech University with a degree in Emergency Administration and Management. Since graduating in 2007, Sarah has worked closely with a few pre-schools. I went on to work for the American Red Cross as their Health and Safety Coordinator. After a few years in the workforce, we decided we wanted to be a part of something bigger, something that directly benefited those who weren't as fortunate as us. After much consideration and prayer, we made the choice to join the Peace Corps.

Upon our arrival to Rwanda in February 2010, we began the arduous task of learning Kinyarwanda, the language of Rwanda. We also started familiarizing ourselves with the local culture and the technical skills we would need for the duration of our service. Ten weeks later we were en route to Banda Village.

While we are health volunteers we knew going into this endeavor that our responsibilities would not be limited to that scope. Kageno is active in projects ranging from IGAs to health to education to agriculture (all of which we hope to be an integral part of). Sarah is already eager to get involved with the new nursery school and I will certainly be affiliated with the health center. It has taken but three short

months for us to fall in love with every facet of Banda Village---the community, the people, the scenery. Powerful and motivated, this community has a chance to free themselves from the cycles of poverty, disease, and devastation. As the biggest supporters of Kageno, Banda Village can now see the benefits of self-sustainment and education. After all, Kageno is a place of hope and I believe the community is taking hold of that perspective.

Today, Sarah and I feel a newfound sense of fulfillment and peace. We are wholly proud to be a part of global development and have a leader like Kageno to guide us throughout. This opportunity is not taken lightly by my wife or I and we look forward to joining Banda Village in realizing its full potential.

New Kageno Board Members



Jordan Mallah with the children in Rwanda during his visit in February

Jordan Mallah recently joined the Kageno Worldwide Board of Directors after returning from an awakening trip to Africa in early February. It was there that he witnesses firsthand the active role Kageno has in Rwanda. A true source of inspiration, we are honored to have Jordan join our team.

In addition to Jordan, we would also like to welcome Paolo Martino, Rachel Goldstein and Chad Wolf to the Kageno Board of Directors. All of the new board members have visited the Rwanda project and bring a wealth of experience and excitement to our organization.

To see a full list of all our wonderful board members please visit: <http://www.kageno.org/1-who-we-are/3-governance>

Table for Two Supports the Kageno Rwanda Feeding Program



This past July Table for Two agreed to provide the funds for our feeding program in Rwanda. In addition, they have also provided funding to start a pilot briquette making project similar to the one that was started in Kenya.

Table for Two (TFT) is centered on the idea of "transferring calories" from one part of the world that is in excess to another part that is deficient. This is achieved by partnering with university and corporate cafeterias that serve nutritiously balances TFT meals. To fund school meals in Uganda, Rwanda, and Ethiopia, a 25-cent charge is added to the price of TFT's foods.

When buying a Table for Two branded meal, you are providing yourself with a sensible diet and fitting a student with a meal they would have otherwise gone without.

More than five million school meals have been served to date thanks to over 300 corporations, government offices, schools, restaurants, and convenience store chains implementing TFT's program.

We at Kageno are truly grateful to Table for Two and hope that our partnership will continue and grow.

To learn more about Table for Two, please visit their website at:

http://www.tablefor2.org/tft_usa/

Kageno has proven that a comprehensive program that is initiated and led by the community can break cycles of poverty and lead communities toward sustainable, healthy, and productive futures. Kageno involves community members at all levels of assessment, design, implementation, and evaluation of programs that provide access to clean water, food, sanitation, health care, education, and income generation.

Kageno Harambee “A New Decade of Hope” Dinner and Auction

November 1st, 2010 at Espace

On November 1st 2010, Kageno hosted their 7th annual Harambee event, raising more than \$225,000. Harambee is an east African tradition of community self-help events. These events have long been crucial in east African culture as a way to build and maintain communities.



Summer Cocktails June 22, 2010 at the Max Lang Gallery in New York City

On June 22, Danielle Levine hosted a Summer Cocktails event to raise awareness and funds for Kageno's nursery school in Rwanda. The event was held at the Max Lang Gallery in New York City and featured photographs taken in Africa, a sponsorship table, and a village market. More than 200 people came out to support the event and it raised more than \$35,000.



A Day of Wellness

April 11, 2010 at the Urban Zen Center

On Sunday April 11, Donna Karan's Urban Zen Foundation hosted A Day of Wellness in support of Africa to raise funds and awareness for Kageno's health programs. The day included individual yoga therapy sessions, Reiki, massage treatments, a meditation session led by Eddie Stern, and a discussion of the CLEAN detox program by Dr. Alejandro Junger.



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*Your gift will bring opportunity—to an individual, a family, a community— and with it, the hope for a better life!*

**Thank you to all who attended and made these events such great success!**

# Asante sana (thank you)

*The following individuals have been very generous to Kageno in 2010...*

## **Tribal Chief (\$10,000 and above)**

Meryl Streep, Silver Mountain Foundation for the Arts  
James & Barbara Block  
Anouck Lepere  
Lillian Vernon Foundation  
Louis Peter Re & Kent Belden  
Frank Andolino  
Christina Ehrlich  
Edith McBean  
The Austin Family Fund  
The Jeffrey A. Altman Family Foundation  
The T. Rowe Price Program for Charitable

## **Tribal Elder (\$5,000-\$9,999)**

Mary Ellen Mclane  
Damian Weyand  
Caroline Sidnam  
Jeffrey & Sandra Justin  
Elizabeth Stern

## **Tribal Warrior (\$1,000-\$4999)**

Marie Gallo, Ashley Park Design  
Roshanak Bakhtiar-Cummins  
Dr. & Mrs. Brendan Boylan  
Tracy Bufferd  
Lillian Chan  
Teresa Conners  
Marc and Debra Cooper  
Allen & Elizabeth Cutler  
Nick & Marybeth DeFabrizio  
Jessica Diehl  
Terry Tsiolis, Dtriplemc, Inc.  
Floresta USA, Inc.  
John & Judith Hannon  
Heidi Theobald Family Trust  
Ian Hortin  
Brock, Riley & Carter Burgess,  
Kids Against Poverty  
Jin Bok Kim  
Kevin Kollenda  
Matthew Lauer  
Hank Lowenstein  
Camille Lowther  
Kevin & Jackie Magid  
Barry & Sheryl Mallah  
Paolo Martino & Lillian Vernon  
ME&RO, Inc.  
Miles Nadal  
Samira Nasr, Sousteric, Inc.  
Douglas Neal

John & Cheryl Neal  
One for One  
Wendy Parr  
John & Melinda Pelo  
Julian Peplow  
Carrie Phillips, BPCM Worldwide  
Gary & Iris Posternak  
Barry Schwartz  
Tracy Stewart  
Robert & Melissa Soros  
Andy & Kate Spade  
The Holtzman Family Foundation  
The Perelman Family Foundation  
Tides Foundation  
Justin Talbot  
Alfred Torres  
Urban Zen  
Stephanie Von Watzdorf  
David Wassong  
Maria Winkler

## **Tribal Family Member (\$500-\$999)**

Alexander W. Casdin Foundation  
Peter & Candice Wexler  
Jordan Mallah  
Andolino Orthodontics, PC  
Aryeh Bourkoff  
Paul Farmer  
Pamela Fiori  
Eugene & Blair Giannini  
Adir Abergel, Hair By Adir, Inc.  
Shalom Harlow  
Heidi Schuster & John Helfst  
Robert & Judy Hurlst  
Elaine Johnson  
Mark & Barbara Lyons  
Maria Zerilli Marimo  
Jane Mayle  
Jonathan Misk  
David & Jennifer Mittereder  
Morgan Stanley  
Bonnie Morrison  
Jeanne Moutoussamy-Ashe  
Max Osterwise  
RBC Capital Markets  
Edwin Retter  
Dan Rothmann  
Richard & Bette Saltzman FNDN  
Lara & Todd Ross  
Katrina Rouse  
Bradford Schlei  
David Schoenthal  
The Big Fish Fund  
The Edward H. Benenson Foundation, Inc.  
Douglas Topkis

Mary Jo Urbanek  
Kristi Woitasek

## **Tribal Family Friend (\$250-\$499)**

Frank & Emily Andolino  
Michael Apa  
Lynn Branecky  
Bruce Weber Nan Bush Foundation, Inc.  
Sarah Chapman  
Pippa Cohen  
Peter & Laurie Costantino  
Kenneth Cutroneo  
Arlene Dawson  
Hans Dorsinville  
Deborah Drucker  
Joshua & Holly Greenwald  
Allison Hader  
Jeffrey Hirsch  
Jeffrey Johnston  
Kenny Graham Yoga  
Kimberly Kravis  
Thuc An Le Tat  
Karl & Dorothy Bakker Lee  
Edith McBean  
Karina Muro  
Majorie Raines  
Louis & Nancy Re  
Daniella Rich  
Rachel Rosen  
George Sferra Jr.  
Rosita Shay  
Margo Stevens  
Beth Tiedemann  
Janet & Udi Toledano  
Terry & Patti Van Burkleo  
Vincent & Caroline Visceglia  
Joan & Bill Vogle

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Your gift brings opportunity—to an individual, a family, a community— and with it, the hope for a better life!

While the economic turbulence is affecting us all in some way, it is the people at the bottom of the economic ladder that are the hardest hit. High food prices have been devastating to the poor and disadvantaged, causing chronically malnourished people to cut back on their already inadequate diets.

Kageno urgently needs your support to help our community members meet their critical needs through these tough times. Donations, no matter how large or small, can make a big difference: from buying a chicken to helping build a school or a clinic. Every little bit helps

Donating

Your tax-deductible contribution will support the work we do to help people in need through our documented projects. These community projects will provide sustainable interventions in Kenya and Rwanda.

Please help us make lasting, positive change in the lives of people in need - donate now and change lives.

Please make checks payable to: **Kageno Worldwide** and address to:

Kageno Worldwide, Inc.
261 Broadway 10D
New York, NY 10007

kageno worldwide is a nonprofit 501 (c) (3) organization EIN # 25-1910983.

We are now able to accept donations online at www.kageno.org

Mission Statement

Kageno's MISSION is to transform impoverished communities into places of opportunity and hope – through the development of self-sustaining community directed programs in Education, Health, Ventures (Income Generation), and Environment. We believe it is essential to sustainable development to work with the community rather than giving simple aid or handouts.

Kageno identifies ravaged communities suffering from impoverishment, AIDS, genocide and limited access to health-care, clean water, and education. Working with local leaders to identify needs, we help villages build schools, health centers, pharmacies, and sanitation and clean water systems and develop programs to help them protect their fragile environments.

More Information

Please visit our website at www.kageno.org

or contact us at : info@kageno.org

