

Kageno Roots

Planting the seeds to grow places of hope.



A Quarterly Newsletter

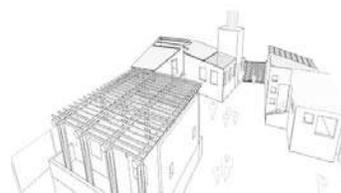
volume 5 winter 2006



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

2006 Achievements

- Installation of a VSAT for internet access & education
- Design & construction of the Kageno Nursery School & Library
- Launching of K-Blog - the official Blog for Kageno
- Dreyfus Health Foundation PSBH Workshop
- Operation Crossroads health assessment and vaccination program
- Official opening of the Kageno Nursery School & Library
- Welcomed aboard Kageno Rwanda Country Director Levi Ngilimana
- Kageno Harambee - A Village Event gala dinner & silent auction
- World AIDS Day mobilization/awareness event with 1500 in attendance
- Hired a nurse to care for the Kageno Nursery School children
- Welcomed aboard our Kageno Kenya General Manager Debra Oweggi
- Raising fees for 8 children to attend primary, secondary school & University
- Nursery school expanded from 128 - 200 children
- Welcomed aboard Kageno Worldwide Director of Operations Karl Baker
- Official launch of the Kageno Kids Art Exchange Program
- Launched feeding program providing 1 meal/day for each child attending the Kageno Nursery School



*The Kageno Nursery School & Library from conception to completion**

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 2006.

Two Hundred nursery school children were given a chance to lead healthy and productive lives by receiving a nutritious meal and clean water every day in a safe, new school thanks to a group of incredible individuals from Texas.

Pearson, the international media company, donated books for the new school library and Natalie & Gabby Stern - 12 & 15 year olds from New York City, donated funds to hire a nurse and purchase medicine to care for these children.

John Kurap and Kevin Messacar organized a group of 7 medical students, through Operation Crossroads, to carry out a medical assessment and to provide vaccinations for all 200 children.

The Dreyfus Health Foundation sponsored a 3-day workshop for Kageno Kenya. Twenty eight community members were trained as problem solvers in a program called Problem Solving for Better Health (PSBH).

The training emphasized communication and collaboration locally and internationally to accelerate progress towards better health for all people. The training focused on innovative and flexible approaches that emphasize individual and group responsibility, new ideas, action and the optional use of locally available resources. The participants were guided on proposal writing and developed their own proposals and realistic action plans. The proposals were on projects related to the problems that they are facing in the community and the possible solutions for the problems and methodology that would be used in solving the problems.

During 2006 Kageno has expanded its number of employees to 18 in Kenya, a new Country Director in Rwanda and a new Director of Operations for Kageno Worldwide in the U.S.. High speed internet

access provided by our new VSAT on Rusinga Island has dramatically improved communication and productivity as well and has provided more learning opportunities for students attending Kate Spade computer classes.

Please visit K-Blog periodically to monitor progress as 2007 unfolds. *K-Blog* can be accessed through the website www.kageno.org - Frank Andolino

If you would like to help us make a difference, please visit www.kageno.org Donations can be made on-line to one of our specific programs or to support the organization as a whole. Thank you.

We must become the change we want to see in the world.-- Mahatma Gandhi

** Designed by Rob Place*

Kageno Outreach

There was an increase in awareness of the Kageno Mission in 2006 not only in Kenya and Rwanda, but in the United States as well!

In addition to a financial contribution to Kageno made by the United Nations International School (UNIS) in New York following a Kageno Kids Art Exchange presentation, Catherine Shi and Morgan Firestein from Chris Doyle's class at Bronxville High School in New York City raised \$467.77 selling African trade bead necklaces.

Twenty-eight Laptop computers were collected thanks to the efforts of 10 year old Olivia Herrington from Catherine McMennamin's class at the Nightengale Bamford School in New York and thanks to the efforts of Brian Lissak, 10 boxes of toys and clothing were collected from children attending York Avenue Preschool.

In Dallas, Texas The High School Economics Class at Shelton School had a breakfast bar and raised \$1,338.85. The class will donate this money to sponsor an orphan from the Kageno Nursery School program for 3 years.

The following are more heartwarming examples of how children from Menlo Park, California, Short Hills, New Jersey and Rochester, New York mobilized resources and spirit in their communities to support children in an impoverished community on the shores of Lake Victoria, Kenya.

"KIDS AGAINST POVERTY" COLLECTS SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR KAGENO

Watching the children of Phillips Brooks School, Ca., walk down the aisle at their recent Thanksgiving service, their small hands carrying school supply donations for the Kageno Community Center, was such a wonderful, inspiring, heart-filled moment. Twelve large boxes were filled to overflowing with everything from pens, pencils, crayons, markers, paper, workbooks, to baseball bats and soccer balls. Through an organization called "Kids Against Poverty" (KAP) formed by our three boys, ages 11, 10, and 10, along with their 2 good friends, families of our school community were called upon to help our boys fulfill a dream of helping the children of Kageno.

The dream to help the children of the Kageno Community Center all came about because last year our family had the good fortune of traveling around the world for a year. Our



In the front row is Brock (11), back row is Carter (10) and on the right is Riley (10)

travels took us to many corners of the earth including Rusinga Island in Kenya.

While staying on the island we were able to visit the Kageno Community Center and in particular visit the school children and facilities. We will never forget arriving at the school and being welcomed by lovely, youthful voices singing to us in English, about what the children wanted to be when they grew up. As we looked around the schoolroom we took in the simplicity of the facilities and after a lengthy discussion with one of the teachers we learned about the limited materials and supplies available to these enthusiastic children. Our whole family was deeply affected by our visit to the Kageno Center and meeting the teachers and children. Our boys left Kenya thinking there must be a way that they could help with the education for these children so in turn these children could help their own community in future years.

Upon returning home our boys formed "Kids Against Poverty" with its purpose being to collect school supplies, and raise money to help schools and children in need. Their first project for KAP was to work with their elementary school here in Menlo Park, California to organize a school supply drive for the Kageno Center. The school kids decorated the shipping boxes, created a poster to send with the supplies and then made their donations as part of the giving associated with Thanksgiving. Our garage is now filled with boxes and supplies for Kageno that will be shipped to Kenya early in the new year and this is just the beginning of KAP. A few people can't fix the problem of world poverty but each of us can make a difference in the lives of the people of the Kageno Community Center ... even 10 and 11 year olds!

Short Hills Trade Beads

Over the summer, six Short Hills New Jersey children made bracelets, using African trade

beads, which were sold at the Kageno Harambee Event Benefit, held in New York City on October 30th, 2006. The children were taught how to make the bracelets by New York City artist Jayne Hinds Bidaut, Director of the Kageno Kids Art Exchange Program. The children, ages 5 - 13, included Elyssa, James and Alena Nitti, Stephanie Tager, and Ali and Isabella Morreale. The children, enrolled in the Millburn Public Schools, wanted to help unfortunate children in Kenya and Rwanda by volunteering their time, while enjoying the creation of their colorful designs. Each bracelet contains a silver charm with the Kageno Kids logo. African trade bead bracelets will be available for sale, coming soon, through the Kageno Kids website.



James Nitti, Stephanie Trager & Elyssa Nitti

Very Special Earrings

Eight year old Bianca Bozzelli from Rochester, New York writes... "After seeing the Kageno Website, I felt I really needed to do something to help these poor, starving, sick children. I decided to make some beaded earrings to sell to my friends and family to raise money." Bianca sold 50 pairs of earrings ranging in price from \$1 - \$2.00 and raised \$68.00 for the children of Kolunga Beach. Bianca is the niece of Kageno co-founder & Executive Director Frank Andolino.



Bianca Bozzelli

Kageno Spotlight

Kageno is growing at a rapid rate and it is only by building a strong foundation now that we will be able to sustain this growth. A crucial part of that foundation is a strong management team. The three highly qualified individuals in this quarter's spotlight are some of the newest members of our team. We welcome Karl, Levi and Debrah and wish them much success in their new roles.

New Faces at Kageno



Kageno Worldwide Director of Operations Karl Baker

Karl Baker - Director of Operations for Kageno Worldwide

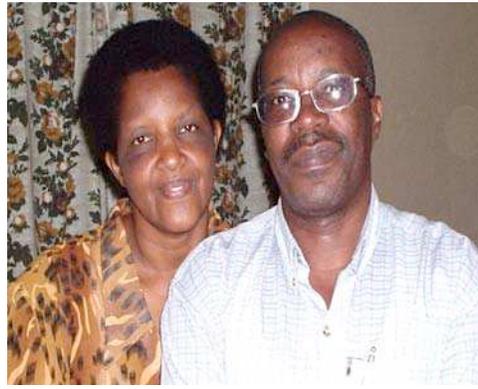
The newest member of the Kageno team is Karl Baker. Taking on the role of Director of Operations for Kageno Worldwide, Karl will be based in the U.S., but travel to East Africa at least three times a year.

Karl was raised in Scotland, England and in the United States. His education is in History and Philosophy with a Masters in Forestry. He spent the last six years living and working in East Africa.

From 2000 to 2003 he worked for U.S. Peace Corps in Kenya as an agroforestry volunteer. For the last three years Karl worked for the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Nairobi, working with refugees from all over Africa with projects in Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya.

Karl brings a new perspective on development and has been personally involved in several project areas ranging from orphans, to refugees, to health centers and to agroforestry. He will divide his time between grant writing, fundraising and day-to-day operations management.

Karl is married and has a one year old daughter named Marwa.



Kageno Rwanda Country Director Levi Ngilimana & his wife

Levi Ngilimana - Country Director for Kageno Rwanda

Levi Ngilimana is the new Country Director (CD) for Kageno Rwanda. Levi comes from a background in agriculture. He was educated in agronomy at the University of Yangambi in the Congo. His post education has taken him to many European countries for seminars and study tours including Italy, France, Belgium and the Netherlands. A few highlights are courses taken in poverty reduction, project management and program administration.

Levi started working as a project manager on a large scale rice project where he supervised over 2000 people. He has also worked for the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC), UNICEF and a host of other Non Governmental Organizations (NGO's). Levi has worked with returning Rwandese after the genocide, good governance programs, rural development schemes and for the last six years as a technical advisor in Cyangugu Province—responsibilities were rural development, Provincial Support Programs (PPS), and general coordination for the provincial program.

Levi comes to Kageno as a highly qualified development specialist. With over 25 years of experience performing activities mostly related to rural development which have contributed to positively reforming the living standards of rural populations, Levi's ability to manage projects and achieve goals within a time frame, coupled with his being fluent in French, English, Kiswahili and Kinyarwanda, will be a tremendous asset to Kageno.

Levi is married with four children.

It is with great pleasure that Kageno Worldwide is able to welcome such a knowledgeable

and experienced individual to be the CD of Rwanda. Karibu (Welcome) Levi.

Debrah Oweggi - Kageno Kenya Project Manager

Debrah Oweggi joined the Kageno Kenya team as Project Manager in early October. Debrah hails from Nairobi where she was working as a Personal Assistant to the Managing Director of Frise Holdings, Ltd.

Previously, Debrah has worked with the International Medical Corps (IMC) collecting data for a research program in the Kibera slum. The study focused on the Prevention of Mother To Child Transmission (PMTCT) and on tuberculosis. Debrah has also spent time as a volunteer working with the street children of the Westlands area of Nairobi with an organization called Seeds of Peace.

When asked what it was like moving from "the big city" to Western Kenya, Debrah replied "Moving to Rusinga from Nairobi was a bit like moving to a foreign country; many very different but nonetheless exciting experiences. I am getting used to the Rusinga way of life. The community is warm and giving, and I truly believe that the solutions we as Kageno and the community are working on will make a positive transformation in our lives."



Kageno Kenya Project Manager Debrah Oweggi

If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.

John Quincy Adams

Kageno Harambee

“ A Village Event ”

Gala Dinner and Silent Auction
October 30, 2006 at Guastivino's.

Nearly 250 people gathered from around the globe for the Kageno Harambee dinner and silent auction held at Guastivino's, in New York City. In the true spirit of an African Harambee or fundraiser, people came from Chicago, Michigan, Dallas, California, New York, Canada and Africa to offer their support and help fight the effects of inhumane poverty.

The evening began with a performance of native African dancing by The Children's Storefront School. It continued with a silent auction where attendees bid on a wide range of wonderful items including everything from Kageno Kids art, jewelry, health and beauty products to African safaris, weekends in Tuscany and beyond.



The Children's Storefront School Dancers

Meryl Streep was the Master of ceremonies; her love for Africa and commitment to Kageno was displayed by her warm and thoughtful introductions. Guest speakers included, Pamela Fiori editor of Town and Country, UNICEF board member and recipient of the Audrey Hepburn Humanitarian of the Year Award, Liya Kebede - Supermodel and World Health Organization's Goodwill Ambassador for Maternal, Infant and Child Health, and award winning author Uzo Iweala. They shared their personal experiences with Africa's heartbreaking problems and their commitment to Kageno's mission.



Meryl Streep



Pamela Fiori & Liya Kebede

The evening culminated with a dramatic reading of letters from African children describing their lives and the challenges they face daily. Performers included Meryl Streep, Drena DeNiro, Julianne Nicholson from Law and Order, Elizabeth Berkley and Kissy Simmons from The Lion King.



Uzo Iweala & Kissy Simmons



Drena DeNiro & Elizabeth Berkley



Julianne Nicholson & Kageno Co-founder Alphonse Okuku

The event raised nearly \$250,000 dollars and will help fund our ongoing programs in Kenya and new programs in Rwanda.

We are most grateful to all the people who attended and to those who helped make this event possible. It is only with your support that Kageno is able to transform communities suffering from inhumane poverty into places of opportunity and hope.



Kageno Co-founders Frank Andolino & Alphonse Okuku

A few words from Alphonse...

I was delighted to have the chance to visit the US in October. The visit and interaction with the International Kageno family has pioneered my way forward for more development plans and participation within the Kageno community on Rusinga Island.

Upon my arrival in the US, everything seemed different from the airport. I kept on wondering if I was in the right place! The reception and care from my hosts both in New York and Texas was perfect. I felt as much at home in New York City and Texas as I do on Rusinga Island. In NYC, I got very involved in helping with the preparation towards the Harambee. I was very moved by how much people were willing to help with the preparations towards the event. We were going to bed late and waking up early. My visit to NYC taught me much about the impact of Team work.

On the fundraising day, I found myself sitting and eating with celebrities. I also had the chance to speak to the audience and make several new friends. The people I met were very interested to know about the progress and challenges of Kageno. Many thanks to all of the people who gave a helping hand for both Kenyan and Rwanda projects.

I returned home with a mission of translating my experiences in the US to my community. I have since, undertaken several trainings with Kageno staff and volunteers. I have also been continuing to provide support to the Kageno Staff on their roles and responsibility.

Asante sana (thank you)

The following individuals have been very generous to Kageno in 2006...

Tribal Chief (\$10,000 and above)

Dee Ann & Marshall Payne
Sarah & Ross Perot, jr.
Beth & Dan Plumlee
Jeffrey & Sandra Justin
Meryl Streep
Dr. Frank C. Andolino

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

Floresta USA INC.
Kassy & Liya Kebede
Dr. Madjid Matin
Pfizer

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

Dr. & Mrs. William Weber
Melinda Winn
Melissa & Paul Stewart
Donell & Phillip Wiggins
Gaby & Natalie Stern
Melissa Lowrey
Mark Robohm
Aaron Serafino
Jayne Hinds Bidaut
John & Janet Broyles
Susan Sarandon
Wayne & Loral Conrad
Christopher & Ann Mahowald
Erin & Al G. Hill III
Maryann & Frank Mihalo-
poulos

Robert DeNiro
Drena DeNiro
Robert & Melissa Soros
Jed Root
Joe Holtzman & Carl Skog-
gard
John N. Irwin
Kathy & Harlan Crow
Debbie & Mike Gray
Andrea Joyce
IBM
Hunton & Williams
Bea & Jon Plasse
Beverly Ruman
Tom Blair & Adrian Gon-
zalez Jr.
Paolo Martino & Lillian
Vernon

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

William Attard
Dr. Anthony Chillura
Ellen Schoninger
Talmage & Claire Boston
Pamela Fiori
Marc Gross & Susan
Ochshorn
Bet Todd & Bill Wilcox
Debbie & Royal Carson
Will Whitehead Foundation
Elizabeth Robertshaw
Irene Ruperti

Susan & Kim Wise
Anthony Stropoli
Marjorie Deane
Dr. Eugene & Mrs. Giannini
Bart & Kris Andolino
Dr. Susan DiMarco
Gunther & Isabel Greiner
Efraim Grinberg
Lois Hill
Dr. Carol Jaspin
Lisa Anne Lorelli
Jim & Barbara Moroney
Steven & Mary Ellen Nitti
John Okite
Dr. Deborah Pilla
Gary Popofsky
Raffaella & Karl Roma-
nowski
Dr. Mauro Romita
Alexis Stewart
Mark Thompson
Mary Uva
Kim Wise
Ira Yohalem
Dr. Nadina Lambert

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

Claire Chappell
Gigi Perez
Baumol Family
Foundation INC.
Frank & Emily Andolino

Robin Renzi
Barbara & Jim Moroney
Beth & J. Puckett
Micki & Mikie Rawlings
Kathy & Bob Wright
Peter & Bonnie Smith
Vedat Alaton
Michael A. Macko
Robert & Myrna Schlegel
David & Miranda Yee Lind
Michael Hilliard
Steve & Kathryn Liska
David & Elizabeth Zucker-
wise
Leeanne & Bruce Hunt
Robert & Laura Neely
Michal & Loyd Powell
John & Debbie Tolleson
Antonia Abraham
Alex Garbuio
Theodore Gerwetz
Angel Joseph
Robert Kopech
Kate Lear
Maier Foundation
David & Jennifer Mittereder
Robert Royer
Ann Smith
Alex & Emma Tager
Doria & Ka Luk Tai
Dr. Marla King



pawpaw leaf, July 2006

24" x24" cyanotype photogram

text: English, Kiswahili translation, Luo translation

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 on Rusinga Island, Kenya and Banda Village, Rwanda.

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

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

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

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

Mission Statement

Kageno **targets** villages suffering from inhumane poverty, AIDS, limited access to education & healthcare, and genocide,.

Living standards are **improved** by offering health services, access to clean water, improved sanitation, job creation, and environmental initiatives.

Kageno **builds** the framework that supports these changes through innovative community centers.

Through a mix of social programs, capitalistic ventures, and technology, under-served individuals are able to participate in the global community and therefore realize better living standards.

More Information

Please visit our website at www.kageno.org or contact us:

frank@kageno.org Frank Andolino

