

Cosmos Education to Receive Computer Donations.

Cosmos Education Kenya is always looking for an opportunity to increase our involvement and contribution to the school community in Kenya and in so doing inspire empower and engage the students even more. One of the ways is through our outreach programs where we support our school network with educational literature and equipment.

A unique opportunity was presented August 2005 when the Executive Director, Bridgit Syombua was in Scotland to attend the 3rd world youth congress which was hosted by peace child international.

During the congress the delegates were grouped up into clans and each clan assigned to an organization in Scotland where they would get hands on experience by assisting in carrying out a project

She was assigned to clan 28 and they were sent off to Kelso High school to work on a project called Africom.

Africom is a project run by the students of Kelso high school, where they source for computers from the community and proceed to fund raise to cater for costs to ship them to a developing country. A partner organization working on the ground in the receiving country is charged with the responsibility of receiving and distributing them. On this occasion the students with the help of clan 28 were preparing a shipment to Tanzania

During this time several negotiations were held between the executive director and the Africom team on the possibility of having a similar shipment sent to Kenya where CE, Kenya, which has a vast school network and experience on the ground would distribute them. The idea was met with great enthusiasm and it was agreed that the next shipment would be sent to Kenya and CE Kenya would be in charge of the distribution.

This was made easier as there was an opportunity for the delegates at the congress to win a grant of up to \$1000 USD, an initiative made possible by Scottish council for voluntary organizations(SCVO)and Lloyds TBS foundation all though Peace Child International.

Bridgit presented a proposal for the grant which was then accepted and CE Kenya was awarded \$1000 USD which would go on to purchase a container for the shipment.

The project is underway with the group from Africom having obtained over a 100 computers already and another 150 or so is expected to arrive in Kenya come April 2006.

CE Kenya is already undertaking preparations on the ground, carefully identifying and preparing the schools to benefit from the donation to ensure that the computers will be of utmost benefit to them.

Cosmos Education Kenya would like to extend a deep felt gratitude to all the parties who were instrumental in making the project come to a fruition, to begin with the Scottish council for voluntary organizations SCVO and Lloyds TSB foundation for awarding us the grant, the Africom team- Lisa, Becky, Hailey, Adam, Peter, Robyn, Marnie, Kirsty, Ishbel, Gaven, Bob Stevenson and Douglas Angus –for all the hard work and availing the computers, clan 28 - Husna, Gul, Pascal, Rio, Sneeha, Alex, Nicky Yasir, Kate, Faid, Amelia, Raj and Alex Dessoic -for all their input and support and most importantly Peace Child International for the unique opportunity to be at the congress and their continued support to youth led development.

It is our sincere hope as CE Kenya that this new found partnership with Africom will continue to grow and see more students in Kenya having an opportunity to learn about computers.