

Spring
2015

Nurturing Minds NEWS



"It was thrilling to be a part of this when it was just a dream and now to participate and watch the growth of this amazing school" said Beth Goldstein, pictured above with her sponsored student, Jojina.

Thank You Volunteers!

There are over 100 volunteers from all over the United States who are helping to change the future for Tanzanian girls!

Volunteering within the United States

Beth Goldstein, from Newton, MA, started volunteering with Nurturing Minds after hosting the organization's first house party in 2008. Beth then joined with other volunteers to start the Northeast Chapter, which hosts and organizes annual fundraising events to benefit Nurturing Minds.

In October of 2014, Beth attended the SEGA graduation in Morogoro, Tanzania. Following her visit, she was so inspired, and wanted to become more involved, so she became a volunteer Sponsorship Coordinator. Thank you Beth!

Volunteering Overseas at SEGA

Dana Droller was raised in a family of educators, and grew up understanding the value of education. After viewing the video, "The Girl Effect", Dana knew that she wanted to be a part of educating girls worldwide. She then connected with Polly Dolan and knew that the opportunity to volunteer at the SEGA Girls School would be perfect for her.

Dana extended her original 5 month stay and has now been at SEGA for 9 months. She has helped SEGA with communications, public relations, grant writing, development of monitoring and evaluation tools, and even started the new monthly English Essay Competition. Dana says, "The absolute best part of my job is spending time with 195 incredible girls, every single day." She continues, "I can't imagine myself being anywhere else right now."

Do you want to volunteer? Let us know by emailing us at info@nurturingmindsinafrica.org

SEGA Campus Update

The new computer lab and a library are ready!

Thanks to USAID and our supporters, the recently completed multi-purpose building houses a computer lab with 50 new computers for the 195 students on campus. Plans are also in the works to offer computer-training classes to members of the community. This school-run business will help to meet the school's goal of becoming financially sustainable.

The new library is ready for books. From these smiling faces you can see the girls are thrilled to finally have a library on campus. We still need about \$4,000 to complete the library and purchase additional books. Help us complete the library and fill it up!



What's going on at SEGA!

195 Students

18 Teachers

100% of Form II students passed the national exam

96% of Form IV students passed the national exam vs 68% nationally

Career updates on 2013 SEGA Graduates:

5 Students are attending A-level schools

14 Students are enrolled in other educational programs

3 Students have paying jobs

1 Student is profiting from her own business

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Successful Fundraising Events!

Nurturing Minds supporters gathered all over the country to enjoy one another's company, partake in the fun festivities and support the SEGA Girls School.

Thank you to all who joined us for the parties!

The **Washington DC Chapter** held a house party in Alexandria, VA, on Tuesday, October 28, 2014. It was attended by 70 people and raised \$14,680.



The Rocky Mountain Chapter held its 6th Annual Nurturing Minds African Evening in 2014, raising \$80,000!

The 5th Annual Nurturing Minds African Evening held by the **Northeast Chapter** on Saturday, November 8, 2014, was attended by 150 people and raised over \$55,000.



Nurturing Minds supporter, Marie Stiefel, held a party at her home in Vero Beach, Florida, raising almost \$4,000!

The **Philadelphia Chapter** held a gathering at Nicole Miller in Philadelphia. The event raised nearly \$10,000 for Nurturing Minds and the SEGA Girls School.

The **New York City Chapter** partnered with Stanton Street Kitchen to host a fundraising event that raised over \$4,000!

Student Spotlight

Meet one of SEGA's new students.

My name is Farida Hassani. I am 14 years old and come from Mvuha. My parents passed away and now I live with my aunt. My aunt is a peasant and has no money to take me to school. Also, getting food is difficult because she just works on a small farm, with little harvest.

I am happy I got to come to SEGA and enroll in school. Here I'm studying many subjects. I like chemistry the most because I want to be a doctor or a science teacher.

After classes, I like working in the organic garden. At the garden we plant maize, vegetables, and tomatoes. I am in the Environment & Science club; it helps me learn more about gardening.

Without SEGA I wouldn't be able to go on with school. The last school I went to had no books at all. I come from a tough environment and this is very nice.

Consider joining up with a friend, a book club, social group, or just your own family sponsoring a student for \$750 a year which covers her basic needs, or \$2500 per year that will expand your support to help with teacher salaries and other operations costs.



Change our World, become a sponsor and support a student like Farida today!



Moving?

It's important for us to keep track of our valuable supporters (that's you!) If you have recently moved or changed your email address, please let us know at info@nurturingmindsinafrica.org.

SEGA Clubs Value the Environment

At SEGA every day is Earth Day!

Our sustainable campus, completely run on solar power, is thriving with organic gardens and a rainwater catchment system. The students understand the wider impact of protecting their environment and have formed a new Environment and Science Club.

The girls enjoyed recent activities held during the club meeting, which focused on the importance of pollution awareness and reduction.

The Anti-Elephant Ivory Club continues its important work of raising awareness in local schools about the huge poaching problem and the need to protect Tanzania's dwindling elephant population.



Top Left: SEGA's Environment and Science Club create and present on pollution, and why it is harmful to the environment.

Top Right: Solar panels have been installed on the new multi-purpose building.

Bottom Left: SEGA's Anti-Ivory Club poses for a photo to help promote the important work the club is doing in raising awareness about the consequences of poaching elephants.

Bottom Right: USAID teaches SEGA students about the NAFKA Project at SEGA's organic garden. The NAFKA Project is a USAID program designed to reduce poverty and food insecurity by increasing incomes for small farmers.