



IMAGINE...

A Newsletter from The IMAGE Project

Our mission is to empower Maasai girls and women in Tanzania through education and economic opportunities.

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Upcoming Events:

7/23/10: Second Annual Fundraiser Event at the Historic Carlson House at Firefly Acres in Rush City, Minn.

12/31/10: Student sponsor fees due by the end of the year.

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2009 Annual Report Summary



2009 was a great year for The IMAGE Project thanks to your commitment and generosity. In calendar year 2009, we raised approximately 30 percent more than in 2008! Donations came primarily from individuals throughout the United States; we also received a small foundation grant.

With your generous donations in 2009, we were able to:

- Send 70 girls to secondary school
- Hold primary classes at Namnyaki School (the school was the Kwale village women's idea and the build was funded through The IMAGE Project)
- Purchase school supplies for primary and secondary students
- Facilitate growth meetings for girls in primary and secondary school to provide emotional support and share ideas for personal, educational and economic growth
- Assist women with agricultural projects (e.g.,

- provide seeds and tools for vegetable growing)
- Teach illiterate women to read and write
- Purchase goats for women in three villages
- Start chicken projects in three villages
- Train women how to care for chickens, including giving vaccinations
- And much, much more!

Education is critical to our mission to empower Maasai women and girls in Tanzania, and the allocation of our 2009 expenses reflect both this priority and reality. Almost 60 percent of our expenses in 2009 was directed toward secondary education. Fourteen percent was directed toward primary education. The breakdown of our 2009 expenses is summarized in the following chart:

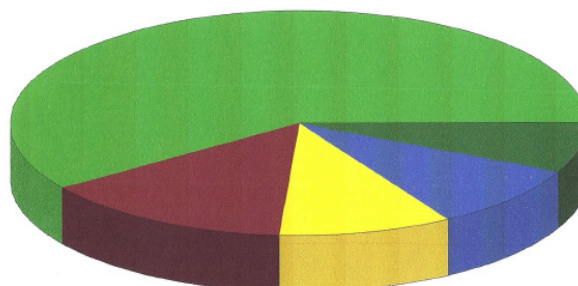
Our focus this year has been on increasing the number of secondary students we sponsor, expanding the chicken projects, continuing our growth meetings for all ages, and developing and expanding relationships with the Maasai in the Iringa area.

It is because of our generous donors that we can do this work. Thank you for your continued support!

-Deb Pangerl,
Executive Director



Expense Summary 1/09-12/09



S-Secondary Education	%59.73
P-Primary Education	14.31
G-General & Management	9.76
E-Economic	9.26
F-Fundraising	6.95

The IMAGE Project is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Inspiration Travels

Last year, during the devastating drought, we were sad to see some of the women we had been working closely with in Kwale leave in search of more vegetation for their cows and livelihood for their families. Two of these women, Mary and Monica, moved with their families hundreds of miles away, near the mountains outside of Morogoro. Luckily, we have been able to keep in touch with them. We visited their new home during our trip last November, and we continue to be able to reach them by cell phone! Tasia, The IMAGE Project's coordinator in Tanzania, also remains connected

to these women. In May, Tasia sent an exciting report. In their new community, Mary and Monica have organized seven women to collectively purchase and care for 12 chickens and three goats. Because of the lessons they learned while living in Kwale, (The IMAGE Project invited a local veterinarian to explain the importance of vaccination and demonstrate the simple administration of the vaccine), these women have successfully vaccinated their chickens and goats. Their children are attending school, and Mary and Monica are using their children's school books to continue to



practice learning to read and write and to teach the younger children who are not yet attending school. Mary and Monica are strong and determined women who The IMAGE Project is proud to support in their journey of self-empowerment. They inspire and motivate us.

Village Voices

Maria, a mother of six children including the twins Paskwita and Paskalina:

I am very proud of The IMAGE Project! My kids know how to read and write; they can even speak a little foreign language (English). I can now call myself a woman, I know who am I and I can think of the ways to improve my income. I am no longer depending on selling milk only, rather I can do business, grow and sell crops and make jewelries. I am a responsible mother! I know how to read and write even though it is not very excellent! I can afford to give my children necessary needs. God bless those people who have been helping us!

From Mariam (an elder Maasai woman): Even though I did not go to school, I am very proud of The IMAGE Project—it has made a great change in my life and that of my children! Even though my older children got married with a very young age, I am very proud of my two children Jesca and Joyce! Jesca is now doing her final exam and Joyce is now in form two! I thank The IMAGE Project to rescue Jesca from getting married because her father was already received cattle for her dowry four years ago! Without the kindness of people in The IMAGE Project, Jesca was now a mother of two or three children and having a very bad life! Thank you, God, for your work!

Rachel: I have no mother who is a person close to children in Maasai culture! I thank God for all people who has been supporting and take care of me in my education! I am a graduate of primary school! I hope to continue with secondary education and I am sure I will pass my exams with God's power! The IMAGE Project is a very big source of hope in my life! It has rescued me from early marriage and gives me a better chance to prepare a better life for my future. Please send my thanks to everyone in the project!

You're Invited to the 2nd Annual "An Evening of Possibilities"

By Mindi Limberg

On a warm evening last July, 125 people relaxed on the lawn of the Historic Carlson House at Firefly Acres in Rush City, Minn., sipping cocktails and enjoying hors d'oeuvres. The conversation centered around women halfway around the globe who waited with great hope to hear what the evening would produce for their future. It was our first annual fundraising event—"An Evening of Possibilities." The successful event raised more than \$4,000.

The IMAGE Project is preparing to host our 2nd Annual Event on Friday,

July 23, 2010 from 6-9 p.m. It will be held again at the Historic Carlson House at Firefly Acres in Rush City. Guests will be inspired by an account of The IMAGE Project's progress and by stories written by Maasai girls and women whose lives are touched by the IMAGE Project. There will be a silent and a live auction to include TWINS jackets, game tickets, African baskets, jewelry, crafts, and more.

We would love to have you join us. It's a great chance to learn more about what we can do to make a difference in the lives of the Maasai women and girls. Tickets are \$20 and include hors d'oeuvres and two drink tickets. (\$10 is tax deductible).

Let's begin to IMAGINE the possibilities we can create when we come together! **Please contact Deb Pangerl at 612.267.5622 if you'd like tickets or have any questions.**

