
Project Haven House

A Community Service Project and Humanitarian Effort to Kenya

A 501(c)(3) of the US Internal Revenue Code, Tax ID # 80-0636910



Project Haven House is a student-led, humanitarian effort that will involve the entire Strath Haven Community. The project will allow Strath Haven to fulfill one of the core aspects of our mission statement: to “promote leadership in the global community” and to actualize our vision to “develop a world-class school district that provides students with the skills to succeed in a changing global environment” (Wallingford Swarthmore School District Mission Statement). While the classroom offers many opportunities to learn and connect with the larger world through technology, Project Haven House provides students a range of opportunities for direct engagement with a community very different from their own: Nyumbani Village in Kenya. Students will learn about this community and directly participate and contribute to its long-term success. Project Haven House represents more than a simple humanitarian effort; it builds an international bridge between the School District and a community in need. The project will serve multiple purposes:

Benefits to Strath Haven Community	Benefits to Nyumbani
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Open a window into another community, thus providing our students with a deeper understanding of cultural diversity while also recognizing our common human experiences2. Gain a deeper understanding of how we become agents of change3. Engage the high school community in a worthy service project	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Funding for educational and housing needs in Nyumbani, a village in Kenya for orphaned children and elders

Why Nyumbani as Strath Haven's Community Initiative

Nyumbani has established itself as a leader in the fight against childhood HIV in Africa. With Boards of Directors in Kenya, the United States, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Spain, and Italy, they have established various communities and outreach programs in the vicinity of Nairobi. Nyumbani's efforts (spearheaded by Angelo D'Agostino, a physician and Jesuit priest) have been recognized and supported by educators, philanthropists, business leaders, politicians, and citizens from around the world. And Nyumbani needs continued support to attend to the needs of children and adults.

Strath Haven teacher Sean Kullman has been actively involved in international Nyumbani efforts since 2007. In that role he has worked in the village and maintains regular contact with Sister Mary Owen, Nyumbani Executive Director, and members of the international community. Sean has also secured a relationship with The Children's Hospital of Pennsylvania to receive future assistance. Sean is working with Saint Joseph's University to expand this endeavor and access funding resources.

Through the assistance of Father Patrick Samway of Saint Joseph's University, Sean has already secured the assistance of Michael Mungai Nyumbura, a current junior at Saint Joseph's University and former Kenyan street-kid. He is the Co-Founder and Co-Director of *Dagoretti for Kids*, an organization "striving for children in difficult circumstances and protecting their rights." Michael will come to Strath Haven and speak about his experiences on the street and about how the small contributions from a woman in Allentown lead to his Kenyan education and eventual four-year scholarship to Saint Joseph's University.

Strath Haven can truly make a difference in the lives of many by focusing on the needs of Nyumbani Village. By establishing a relationship with this particular village, Strath Haven can work with an internationally established entity to establish a niche for meaningful humanitarian outreach. Nyumbani Village, established on 1000 acres, is a community where Strath Haven can make real inroads. More houses need to be built and schools need continued support and development. By working within an already established framework, Strath Haven can contribute and enhance an existing international initiative.



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