

Sample

Mission Statement and Vision

Verein "Kinder in Kenia"

The Founder

Grene Schait-Maleko was born in Kenya in Massai Mara, a dry region near the border to Tanzania. She was forced into marriage by her father at the age of twelve and had three children. Grene Schait-Maleko realized early on that without an education, she was unable to escape dependency, lack of prospects and poverty. She left her husband against the will of her family in order to give herself and her children a chance for a better future. With a heavy heart, she left her children with her mother and fled to her

grandmother in Tanzania where she attended a convent school for eight years. She then worked as a nurse at the convent's hospital. Being separated from her children caused her much grief, and whenever possible, she would get on her bike and cross the border to go see them. After successfully finishing her training as a nurse in Dar es Salaam, the capital of Tanzania, she returned to her hometown. She lived together with her children, worked at the local hospital, and also received training as a midwife. Being reunited with her children and having achieved economic independence were sources of great joy for her. Her salary enabled her to support her entire family. However, tragedy struck when her mother and her sister died. When her sister's children moved in with her, she starts working at different places. Her last employment as a nurse was in Kikambala, Kilifi District. She is soon accepted by the village population and, in her free time, acts as a counsellor to mothers in social and health issues. Thanks to the support of the people of Kikambala, the Kenyan government granted her a piece of land. There she grew vegetables and would later establish a project farm. In 1979, she fell in love with a Swiss citizen. She married him in 1983 and moved to Switzerland, where she had her fourth child. She lived in the region of Zurich and worked in several hospitals and an old people's home. She repeatedly travelled to Kikambala and supported the local population with donations and small loans. In 1994, she moved to Basel and founded the charity organization "Kinder in Kenia".

The association

"Kinder in Kenia" was founded in Basel in 1995 by Grene Schait-Maleko and formally registered in the commercial register. The aim of the association is to advance the situation of nourishment and health care in Kikambala, Kenya. Additionally, the association offers training positions in the project's tailor school. As of 2009, the association has 25 members.

The club house is located on Mattenstrasse 56 in 4058 Basel. All members of the associations work voluntarily. The president is Grene Schait-Maleko (Mama Massai).

The future of the association

The association is still depending on its members, who support “Kinder in Kenya” with their contributions. In personal talks and through our information material, we seek to gain new members to ensure the continuity of our projects. We feel it necessary to free Grene Schait-Maleko from the day-to-day business. We would like to hire an employee who would take care of the office work. In order to pay this employee’s salary, we are looking for help from external sponsors. Thus Grene Schait Maleko could get more in touch with contributors, develop new projects and travel to Kenya to check on our projects. With the proceeds from her Kenyan store and her takeaway, Grene Schait-Maleko also financially supports “Kinder in Kenia”.

Collecting donations

Whenever possible, we seek to talk with people, be it over the telephone or at markets where we are present with our takeaway or the “Kinder in Kenia” sales booth. We contact individuals, churches and charity organizations as well as commercial enterprises and inform them on our projects with brochures.

Donations

We invest all our strength to make sure that our donations are transformed into effective and sustainable aid. A Kenyan herself, Grene Schait-Maleko knows very well of the misery in her country. Her vast experience in health care, her knowledge of local bureaucracy and rural mentality helps us to direct our aid to where it is most needed. The association “Kinder in Kenia” is keeping administrative costs as low as possible.

The full amounts of sponsorships for children and adolescents are used directly in Kenya.

Membership fees and donations support our other projects in Kikambala and our administrative costs.

Administrative costs

The association „Kinder in Kenia“ does not pay salaries or any other compensation to the President and staff.

Costs such as office rent, telephone, Internet and office supplies are covered through sales from our takeaway and Kenyan shop, membership fees and donations. We always welcome donations in kind that help us reduce our expenses.

On request, our donors are granted insight into our bookkeeping.

ZEWO seal of quality

The association ZEWO monitors charitable organizations and also provides certificates. Obtaining and keeping such a certificate costs money and administrative work. "Kinder in Kenia" is a small association who offers the donors full insight into its business. Therefore, "Kinder in Kenia" does not aspire to a ZEWO certificate.

Important

- Cooperation with local population
- Forward-looking projects and sustainable development
- Advancing education
- Family planning and hygiene

We do not want to give anything away for free, but to help others to help themselves. Young people in our project have to learn and work in order to keep their employment.

Projects in Kenya

Kikambala

Kikambala is a village of about 34400 people located in Kilifi District, ist ein Dorf mit ca. 34400 Einwohner und liegt im Kilifi-Distrikt in Kenia, ca. 30 km from the capital Mombasa. This is where we implement our projects.

Water

We drilled for groundwater on our project farm, built a well and installed a pump. For a small fee of 2 KSH per litre, the people of Kikambala can have buckets full of water. This helped improve the village's overall hygiene.

Furthermore, an intricate system of pipes waters the whole production area with minimal water loss.

Growing fruit and vegetables

At the project farm on the outskirts of Kikambala, we grow sweet potatoes, aubergines, manioc, corn, avocados, mangos, tomatoes, okra, rice, onions and spinach. One part of the produce is sold at net cost price to the village population, another part is sold at common local prices at markets in Kilifi District. The proceeds are used to buy more seeds, to maintain the infrastructure and to support other projects.

Project tailoring school

In 2001, a new building was erected next to the project farm to house a tailoring school. Young men and women are given the opportunity to receive training in tailoring after they finished school. After successfully finishing their training, they are given a sewing machine to either start self-employment or to work at the project's sewing studio.

Sewing studio

The same building houses the sewing studio and a small shop. Successful graduates of the tailoring school take on patchwork or crafting new clothes that are then sold at the small shop and at regional markets. We also seek to attract bigger assignments from local and international customers, producing among other things school uniforms and T-shirts. Our aim is to make the sewing studio financially independent.

Women's group

The women's group is an important project in Kikambala. The women meet regularly and trained by a professional in matters of hygiene, family planning, education and first aid. These meetings strengthen village solidarity as the women apply their new knowledge and pass it on to the next generation.

Sponsorships

The association "Kinder in Kenia" is actively looking for sponsors for children and adolescents in Kenya. These children are in need of help. They live in very poor families, are orphaned or were abandoned by their parents.

A monthly contribution can provide help where it is most needed. For example, by financially supporting a family, a child's nutrition and health care can be enhanced.

We also support foster families and, if necessary, pay school fees and provide school materials. In some cases we are also able to pay for children's attendance at boarding schools.

As soon as a sponsorship is obsolete, we happily inform the donor accordingly. Our sponsors also support adolescents, whose parents cannot afford the costs of two years of training and accommodation at our project's tailoring school. Financial gains from the sale of clothes and textiles are fully reinvested into the project.

Further projects

Donations and membership fees help finance numerous projects. An urgent project is the finalizing of a protective wall around our project premises.

Unfortunately, this measure was made necessary because break-ins and thefts by gangs have become more frequent. The protective wall will considerably hinder illegal entrance to the premises and make guarding the area easier.

We are also planning a carpentry school. We were given two woodworking machines that have already arrived in Kikambala. Now we need another building and hand tools for proceeding wood. We are positive that a training in carpentry will enable adolescents in Kenya to find work and make a living for themselves and their families.

This region of Kenya also lacks a maternity clinic. In order to receive consultancy and to give birth, expectant mothers have to travel great distances, sometimes on foot, sometimes in community taxis on hardly passable gravel roads. Therefore, we seek to build a maternity clinic with a proper service road.

Vision

All our projects are meant to be sustainable and to serve as good examples.

We want to continue our professionally managed tailoring school in Kikambala and to finance our training positions through selling clothes and textiles.

Our agricultural project is meant to further advance the food situation and to provide new jobs.

A building is being erected for the carpenter's shop for training adolescents and to manufacture goods that are sold at prices customary in the market.

A Kenyan employee of "Kinder in Kenia" is continuing her work as midwife and provides professional consultancy in matters of health care, family planning and nutrition.

Education is still one of the major factors in escaping poverty and creating new perspectives. Therefore, besides securing primary education for children, we also want to offer basic training in computers, bookkeeping and languages.

With all of our projects, we seek to establish financial independence from foreign sponsors. Our projects are meant to be self-supporting whenever possible.

Financial gains support other or new projects. We want to keep our administrative expenses at a minimum. Our members in Switzerland work without pay or are supported by external sponsors.

We will maintain the transparency of our charitable organization in the future. Our sponsors have insight into our bookkeeping and know exactly where their donations go to.

Our sponsors' commitments are long-term because they know that their contributions provide maximum support to their chosen project.