



**I
M
S** **Ian Memorial Sponsorship Fund**
An Outreach of Africa Connect

*For there is hope for a tree, if it be cut down,
that it will sprout again, and that its shoots will not cease. Job 14:7*

PO Box 598 • Lee, MA • 01238 • ianmemorial@gmail.com • Ian Memorial Sponsorship Facebook

March 26, 2022

Dear Prospective Sponsor,

Thank you for enquiring about child sponsorship through the Ian Memorial Sponsorship (IMS) Fund. This fund is an outreach of Africa Connect, an organization that supports Baraka H.S.S. Academy in Lessos, Kenya. The school offers a free three-year preschool to many desperate children from Lessos, Bidii, Tuwan, and other surrounding slum areas who otherwise would be shut out of an education for lack of school fees.

The IMS fund was established in 2013 to commemorate a promising young student after he suffered a tragic and untimely death. Ian Kipkoech was a graduate of Africa Connect's preschool, who upon graduating received a sponsorship that enabled him to continue his primary education. Ian was flourishing academically, physically and spiritually at the time of his passing; it is the hope of the IMS Fund Committee that many more children like Ian will be given the same opportunities to flourish through this Memorial Fund.

Currently, most sponsored Primary school children attend Seed of Hope Academy, a quality Christian primary school for grades 1 through 8. When you sponsor a child, you are not only paying for the education they will receive but also safe transportation to and from school, food (the only meal of the day in many cases), a uniform, sweater and shoes, basic medical attention and basic school supplies. The parent(s) or guardian(s) are also provided the opportunity to participate in empowerment, business and vocational training, and Christian fellowship and discipleship through associated programs of Africa Connect.

The cost for supplying these needs is amazingly low by American standards. For grades 1-6, \$400.00 (*that's slightly more than \$1.00 a day!*) pays for the entire year of school! There is a modest increase in cost as the student moves into the higher grades. Sponsorship fees for grades 7 and 8 are \$425.00 per year. Payment options are available – please see the attached form for details.

Sponsorship fee for a secondary school student (grades 9 - 12) is \$450.00 per year. Sponsored Secondary school children attend various high schools throughout the region – some attend day schools, while those from the most destitute or risky home environments are enrolled in boarding schools. The cost of these boarding schools is significantly higher than that of a day school. Therefore, to offer the option of boarding school to those in greatest need, and to keep the sponsorship fees

affordable for our sponsors, some high school students, of necessity, will have more than one sponsor. Costs for boarding schools currently range from \$900 to \$1300 per year. Some of these students have 2 or even 3 sponsors sharing the cost. Your high school child, even with shared sponsorships, will know your name and write to you each year.

After reviewing this information, should you decide to commit to child sponsorship, we ask that you please fill out the form on the next page and return it to **Africa Connect, PO Box 598, Lee MA 01238**. We will assign a needy child according to your preference. You will receive in the mail an initial *Child Sponsor Report* with a brief biography and a photo, along with a copy of our policies on *Gift-giving and Correspondence (we highly encourage correspondence!)*. Each Spring, you will receive, through the mail, a letter from your sponsored child and an updated photo, and in the Fall, you will receive a *Child Progress Report* with updated information about their home and academic situation, as well as an opportunity to recommit to sponsorship for another year.

Please note that a one-time general donation to the Sponsorship Fund to help other children in need can be made at any point. Feel free to contact us with any questions at ianmemorial@gmail.com .

Sponsoring a child is a wonderful opportunity to see the heart of God for vulnerable children, and His heart for you, as you share in His compassion. I am very excited for you and thankful that you would consider partnering with us for the sake of a child.

For the kids and His Kingdom,
Sue Choquette,
Director, IMS Fund of Africa Connect

