

2025



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

Dear Prospective Sponsor,

Thank you for inquiring about sponsoring a child through the ***Ian Memorial Sponsorship (IMS) Fund***. IMS is an outreach of ***Africa Connect***, a non-profit that supports Connect Premier Preschool and Primary School, which serves the poor of the slums around the area of Kitale, Kenya. The school offers a free three-year preschool education to many desperate children from the surrounding areas who otherwise would be shut out of an education for lack of school fees. The school has now grown to include the first 4 grades in Primary school, and by the grace of God, will expand to a full primary academy.

The **IMS Fund** was established in 2013 to commemorate a promising young student after he suffered a tragic and untimely death. Ian Kipkoech, a graduate of the preschool of Africa Connect, received a sponsorship that enabled him to continue his education into the primary level. Ian was flourishing academically, physically, and spiritually at the time of his passing; it is our goal that many more children like Ian will be given the same opportunities to flourish.

Looking ahead to the new academic year, 2025, children in Grades 1 through 5 will attend ***Connect Premier School***, the newly established primary school on the campus of the ***Africa Connect*** preschool. Children in grade 6 will attend ***Seed of Hope Academy***, a nearby quality Christian primary school, and grades 7 – 8 - 9, now known as Jr. Secondary, will attend the best government schools in their locales. When you sponsor a child, you are not only paying for the education they will receive, but also food (their only meal of the day in many cases), a uniform, sweater and shoes, basic medical care, and basic school supplies in a nurturing Christian environment. The cost for supplying these needs for grades 1-9, modest by American standards, is \$450.00 for the entire school year. There is a necessary cost increase as the student moves into the higher grades. Monthly payment plans are available.

Please note that, in addition to sponsoring a child, **a one-time donation to the IMS Sponsorship General Fund to help cover additional needs of the children can be made at any point**. The economic situation in the country is increasingly dire - food costs have risen 600% since January 2023, and gasoline prices have recently doubled, effectively raising the price of everything. Also, schools traditionally insert additional fees mid-year to cover their rising costs. As a result, our sponsorship fees will likely fall short of fully covering our costs for this current year. Any gift to the ***Ian Memorial General Fund*** is always gratefully accepted and immensely appreciated.

Sponsors are assigned students near the end of each school year or very early in January of the new academic year. The neediest of the preschool children who are advancing to grade 1 are given priority, as well as older children in the program whose sponsors may not be able to continue with sponsorship. There are also several high school students, due to particularly desperate situations at home, who are enrolled in boarding school, which is at least twice the cost of a regular secondary sponsorship fee. Therefore, we assign two, or even 3 sponsors to a student, as necessary, in a shared sponsorship in order to best meet the needs of the child.

If you desire to sponsor a child through IMS, please complete the form at the bottom of the IMS Fund Information FACT SHEET and return it to Africa Connect, P.O. Box 598, Lee, MA 01238, or scan and email to ianmemorial@gmail.com.

When children are assigned, we will mail you an initial report on your sponsored child with a brief bio and photo, and information on how to correspond with the child. Annually, you will receive a letter or drawing from your child, an updated photo, and information about the life and academic achievements of your sponsored child.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions at ianmemorial@gmail.com.

Sponsoring a child is a wonderful opportunity to experience 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