

Dear parents, friends and supporters of Center Narovinu,



Welcome to the very last printed bulletin in this calendar year. The end of a year is always the time of charity and trade events. It is a season filled with packing and delivering Christmas orders, preparing company packages and sending goods to various Christmas events or school markets. Please support us again this year and give your loved ones, company partners or employees original presents from our Fair Trade Shop! We have many gifts to choose from including soapstone elephants and

hippos for good luck made in Kenya by the stonemason, Kisi, and decorated by women from the Island of Hope. We also have original bracelets made by children from the Island of Hope. These items make beautiful and symbolic presents for friends and supporters of global development projects.

On behalf of Center Narovinu

Simona Heřtusová

simona.hertusova@adopceafrika.cz

Fair Trade Shop Pass it on!

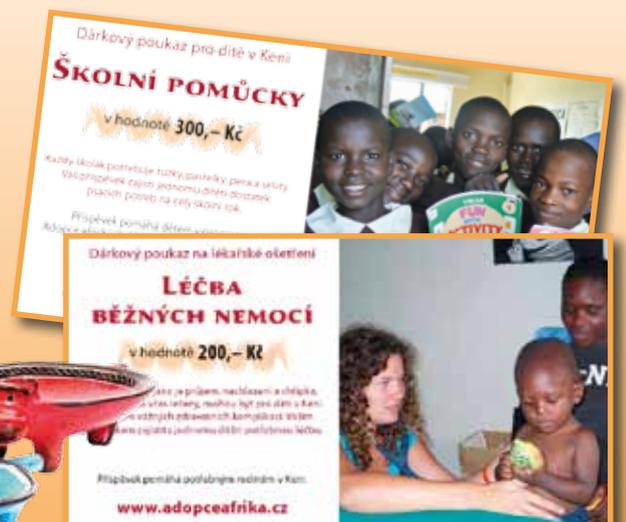
Direct import from Kenya without mediators

100 % of the profit will be used to support the children from the community center, Island of Hope.

Our self-sufficient and sustainable community center is attended by over 500 children daily.

You can check out and purchase the products in person at the Prague office of Center Narovinu (Sokolská 32, Prague 2, metro station I. P. Pavlova). We are open on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

If you order the goods via our e-shop, we will deliver it anywhere in the Czech Republic and Slovakia.



Gifts with a story www.AdopceAfrika.cz

Who is in the team of Center Narovinu?

We would like to introduce our volunteers in Kenya and Czech Republic



Hi, my name is Nina Hřčková, I come from West Bohemia, from former the district town of Tachov. Since 2012 I have lived with small breaks in Prague, where I'm working as office manager in research and media agency. I studied international development at the Faculty of Science at Palacký University in Olomouc and I spent several years on various volunteer projects around the world. During my bachelor's degree, I had the opportunity to go on a field trip to Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. When I learned about the work of Center Narovinu in 2014 and its focus on Kenya, or rather Rusinga Island on Lake Victoria, I was well aware of the area and the problems people face there. Out of curiosity about what exactly Center Narovinu was doing in Kenya, I signed up for a weekend seminar. The goal of the seminar was not only to provide information about the activities of the center but also to recruit new volunteers. They were primarily looking for volunteer coordinators, which at the time I could not commit to. Fortunately for me, there was an opportunity to get involved as an occasional translator of various materials from and into English. I still help translate to this day, which is why I have quite a good overview of what is happening in Center Narovinu. I'm glad I can contribute and be a part of great group of people, not only volunteers but also regular employees of the Center Narovinu, who meet twice a year to exchange valuable experiences.

Greetings to all good-hearted people! **My name is Hanka Malenová** and I have been helping Center Narovinu as a volunteer coordinator since August 2018. In my free time I like sporting activities, hiking, reading, taking pictures, cooking and henna painting. I have been a vegetarian for several years. I studied pastoral studies and social work at Charles University

in Prague. I work at an after school club, so most of the time I have children around me. Working with them is incredibly inspiring, creative and fun. I value Center Narovinu precisely because it provides help to the most needy and the most vulnerable - the children. No one has chooses where to be born, where to grow up and where to live. It makes me happy that even today there are people who selflessly provide help to others. My favorite part of coordinating is th e-mail and telephone contact I have with adoptive parents. Being part of Center Narovinu has been a way for me to meet great people at least twice a year, gain insight into everyday life in Kenya and thus shape the values of my own life. Most importantly, I know I am using my free time in a meaningful way.



My name is Philip Muchesia Imbenzi. I am the father of three children - 2 daughters and 1 son. I live in the Kangemi slum, which lies about 10 km from the capital Nairobi. I come from the countryside, from the Kakamega area, from the village of Shinyalu. I work in Kangemi occasionally. I work as a volunteer coordinator at Center Narovinu. Within the framework of coordination, I make sure the children write nice letters, I also take pictures of them and visit them in schools and sometimes also



at their homes. If I have time and money, I love traveling and meeting new people. I really like working for Center Narovinu. What I don't like, on the other hand, is when I see people fighting and hurting each other.

How did the videos of the children in the long-distance adoption program turn out?

Dear adoptive parents,

Last year, we asked you if you would like us to take a video of your adopted children. I would now like to briefly share with you how this plan turned out.

A lot of you were really interested in the idea. Altogether, we were contacted by 78 adoptive parents. We started to distribute the first videos in December 2018, each of the which showed the children's everyday lives both at home and at school. The very last video was successfully delivered in July 2019. Each video cost 2,500 CZK. The documents were shot by George, who is gifted in making children comfortable enough to talk about themselves without being shy.

You can check out the videos at: <https://www.centrum-narovinu.cz/video/adopce-africkych-deti-projekt-pomoci-na-dalku> . The greatest reward for our effort was the reaction of adoptive parents who were grateful to see their adopted children in their natural environment. Some parents were really moved by the videos and they watched them over and over. Thanks to the videos, they were able to see with their own eyes how impactful their support was for these children. You can read some of the parents' reactions at www.centrum-narovinu.cz/zpetne-vazby-adoptivnich-rodicu . We really appreciate your feedback and I believe that one day, we will be able to repeat this wonderful experience :)

Hana Jodasová

Club of Friends of Adoption

In the third trimester of 2019 (as of September 1, 2019), drawing from the Club of Friends of Adoption account, we were able to support 56 children who had lost the support of their previous d'adoptive parent. This account serves as a place where you contribute regular and irregular amounts under V.S. 800 and where extra payments given by adoptive parents from completed adoptions go. The total amount used to support these children was 222,800 CZK. These children did not have to miss any school and were able to continue their studies. Thank you very much for your donations to the Club of Friends of Adoption.

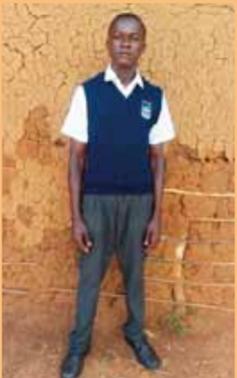
Hana Jodasová

We would like to introduce you 19-year-old Felix, an university student.

Felix Owala (41463) has been in the adoption program since May 2008. Since then he has had two adoptive parents. His

tuition was paid until the end of high school and Felix is now looking for new adoptive parents.

He passed final exams at his high school with good results (grade B). Thanks to his results he was granted a scholarship, which covers part of the study costs and accepted to Dedan Kimathi University of Technology for a bachelor's degree in Geoinformatics. We are trying to find a new adoptive parent for Felix, which would allow him to complete a 4-year university degree. If you would like to support Felix, please contact his coordinator Helena Havlišová, tel. : 602 768 605, email: helena.havlisova@adopceafrika.cz



Interesting extra payments for children in the adoption program



procedure, we checked if the child needed a bike and if he could use it to commute to school.

Our colleague confirmed that Godwin really does need a bike and it would help him a lot. On top of that, the school is relatively far from his home and he usually comes home during the day for lunch. Bikes are allowed at his school too, so there were no obstacles in buying a bike. Look how happy Godwin is in the picture.

The adoptive parent of Benard (41189) decided when adoption had finished to give an extra payment to the family of her adoptive boy.

The amount was dedicated to help them start their own business. After long discussions, the family decided to use the money to buy 50 plastic chairs for which they planned to lease for various weekend events such as weddings, funerals, and graduations. Thanks to money for their "chair business"

they were able to expand the food stand operated by Benard's mother. The chairs are pictured here.

Extra payments are on-time payments, which are sent maximum 3 times per year. Adoptive parents send the amount of regular tuition fees and the money is used most often for food and clothes for families in difficult situations. It is also used for laptops for high schools students and bikes for students who have long commutes to school on foot.



Extra payments specially serve to support kids in their studies. Extra payments are sent to our account, then we send them to our Nairobi office where our coordinators deliver them and help kids with purchases if needed. Afterward, they send back feedback as a evidence that the purchase was completed (picture, letter, ticket). 6% from extra payment is discounted from the total amount for our administration in Prague and in Kenya.

Alexandra Yaklyushyna

We search for new partners in Island of Hope project, at community center Rusinga Island, Kenya

We are searching for new partners in the Island of Hope project, a community center on Rusinga Island, Kenya. Since 2003, we have been developing the center with the help of the local community. The center provides quality education and basic health care to very poor people and kids from the area of Kamasengre on Rusinga Island.

Project in numbers:

- Employees: 46
- Kids in the orphanage: 88
- Kids in Montessori kindergarten: 91
- Kids in basic school: 248
- Secondary school students: 80
- PCs in IT classroom: 48
- Registered number of clients in the clinic: 19,719
- Hospitalized patients in the clinic: 157
- HIV patients in active treatment: 519
- New HIV diagnosed patients: 123
- New TBC diagnosed patients: 22
- New registered pregnant women in pre-natal ambulance: 121
- Kids born: 194
- Breeding pounds for Nile Tilapia: 4
- Breeding cages for Nile Tilapia directly in Victoria Lake: 12
- New fish harvest: 1
- Fish sold: 15 tons
- Seminars for students: 3
- Weekend seminars for teachers: 2
- Volunteers from Europe who work directly in Kenya: 11
- Institutions which cooperate with project in Kenya: 3

Why cooperate with us?

This project is extraordinary due to the comprehensive approach to solving issues directly and locally with Kenyan community. We strive for self-sufficiency and long-term sustainability with help of an experienced team and with their proven know-how.

Issues affecting developing countries are also our issues and it is up to us to try to solve extreme poverty. Part of our project's strength lies in the largeness of its vision. We deal with healthcare, sexual education, prevention and education, agriculture, craft crops, sustainable technologies, education with innovative approaches from kindergarten to secondary school, social care, and women's rights.



True partner cooperation between the local people and individuals from Europe is key. This cooperation promotes mutual enrichment, breaks down myths and stereotypes, facilitates creative views and solutions, and encourages critical thinking and respect for cultural differences.

With the help of different partners from non-profit and private domains, the local people are able to build favorable conditions for themselves and develop an approach to self-sufficiency and long term sustainability. The project supports the self-sufficiency of the local people.

Many possibilities how to cooperate.

1. Partnership for development — the most flexible and individual cooperation. Choose your area of interest and help develop it with us.
2. Child Sponsorship — project of distant adoption & adoption of a child for 600 CZK (basic school) or 1200 / 1400 CZK (orphanage, secondary or high school) monthly.
3. Support of teacher or doctor — payment of monthly salary 6500 CZK monthly.
4. Fair trade shop — we import high quality Kenyan coffee and tea, hand made products and more. We prepare gift boxes for your clients or employees and sell gift certificates which supports education and health care and development for the Island of Hope.
5. Non-financial gift — possibility to donate whatever surpluses from your company.



6. Consultant hours provided by your specialists (company volunteering).

7. Shared marketing (percentage from sales) — connection of both your and our name in common advertisement campaigning.

We offer win-win cooperation:

- Enforce the name and goodwill of your company.
- Tax optimisation. Your financial donation can be discounted from your tax base or you can apply it as tax deductible costs.
- Propagation of your company.
- Good feeling — helping those in need.
- Possibility of direct involvement in the development of a particular meaningful project. Co-create it and progress it with your own experience and creativity.
- Possibility to visit Rusinga Island in Kenya and see personally how the project works.

Support the development of the Island of Hope project with your experience and your financial and personal gifts. Be personally and actively involved in the project's creation and development. Thank you.

If you want more information about our project or you want to meet, please contact Mrs. Dana Feminová, CEO and head coordinator of our development cooperation projects.

Contact: Dana Feminová, mobil 777 711 911
e-mail: dana.feminova@adopceafrika.cz



How much does education in Kenya cost? Is the amount of contribution from adoptive parents sufficient for this? Why do students create debts?

How does the Narovinu Center solve this situation?

We hope you will find the answers to these sensitive questions here in our article and we will also explain the issue of debt in high schools and colleges.



The problem of debt can sometimes arise during high school. At the end of November, eighth grade students take the 'Kenyan Certificate of Primary Education.' Then, based on the results of these examinations, they look for a suitable high school. Of course, the rule that usually applies is: 'The better the results, the better the secondary school'. The child therefore applies for admission to the best school where the school's admission conditions are met and then he/she waits for his/her admission answer.

If the child is not admitted, he/she has to apply elsewhere. Unfortunately because of this system, it is not possible to select in advance which school the child will attend.

Every year in October we reach out to all adoptive parents with a request to increase tuition fees. Based on our past experience, if a high school student receives 7.200 CZK / 300 EUR per year, the tuition fees are preferentially paid as well as part of the examination fees. The student, however, does not always have enough funds for all the necessary textbooks and aids and has a limited choice of schools. This student also usually lives in a boarding school (most of the secondary schools are boarding schools). Unfortunately, more and more often, the family overestimates its financial possibilities and the student becomes indebted to the school. As such, the student is not admitted to the final examinations and is not given that vitally important final report.

Sometimes, students find out they have debt only after graduating from the high school and after passing their d'National Comparative Examination of Secondary Education' (Kenyan Certificate of Secondary Education = KCSE). The school simply tells them that they will receive their final certificate only after

they pay their school fees. This debt is not very high and in most cases it can be paid either by family or with the help of adoptive parents. These cases are handled individually with the adoptive parents.

More difficult situations await students during their university studies. College and university are very important for the employment of students in the labor market. Since high school in Kenya has a general focus (similar to grammar school), it is very important for students to get some specialization to help them find jobs in the labor market and get a quality job.

College and universities can be expensive. It may happen that the student will get excellent results from their KCSE score, and a scholarship at a university in which case the basic amount of 7.200 CZK / 300 EUR per year would be sufficient. In most cases, however, the amount of tuition is much higher and the student requires double that amount - CZK 14,400 / EUR 600 or CZK 16,800 / EUR 660. We realize that for some of you, the amount of 7.200 CZK / 300 EUR per year is already the maximum amount you can afford and not every situation allows for an increase of this nature.

We definitely do not want the proposal of increased payments to be the reason for your student's support being discontinued. Don't worry if you can't increase your payment. It is better for both the student and his/her family to have at least partial support rather than losing support altogether. We appreciate your current support, which is of great benefit to your child. Therefore, take this notice as merely a request, which is purely voluntary but at the same time very important for students.

Since we never know in advance the exact date of entry, we ask adoptive parents to pay tuition fees uninterrupted or upfront, as

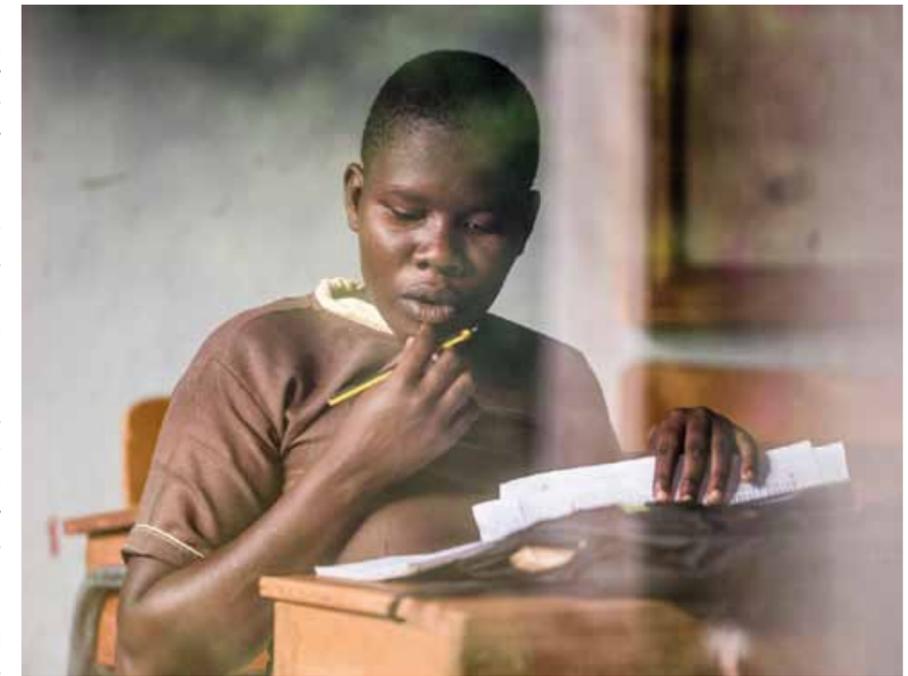


this money is collected by the student from the tuition fund. Upon entering school, students have to pay the tuition fee for the whole year and purchase all necessary aids, so it is ideal if they have the necessary amount already saved.

Since it has become common in the past for students in higher education to become indebted with their studies, we have introduced a rule that young people can only choose studies that they can manage financially with the help of their adoptive parents. In practice, the students get notice of the amount that the adoptive parent contributes to their studies in advance, and the student will find an appropriate field or course in which they can financially manage.

The rest of the money paid to the school needs to be obtained by the student's family. Unfortunately, sometimes the family is able to pay the rest of the money only initially, but later on is no longer able to do so. The student is then at risk of debt or expulsion due to failure to pay fees. Sometimes he/she will be able to take out a loan to pay off the debt, or sometimes the extended family will help, or in some cases, the adoptive parent also decides to help.

Studying at college, and especially at university, is therefore very costly and in a way, very unpredictable. Circumstances and fees may vary from year to year and students who believe that the support from their adoptive parent is enough, are sometimes surprised to find out that it does not cover certain school fees, exams, library fees, uniforms, school supplies, etc. If it becomes necessary to allocate money from adoptive parents to areas other than tuition fees, we will always consult the adoptive parents first.



It goes without saying that the adoptive parents are always active in deciding how to manage the money.

We hope that we have clarified and explained the situation. This topic is very challenging and sensitive for us. We continually strive to improve our practices by checking school admission letters and fee statements, by organizing information and meetings for students, by keeping the situation under control and by making the adoption process as smooth and comfortable as possible for all parties concerned.

Alexandra Yaklyushyna

Donate Education

Write the message

**DMS TRV OSTROVNADEJE 30
DMS TRV OSTROVNADEJE 60
DMS TRV OSTROVNADEJE 90**

to the number **87 777**

The SMS price is 30, 60 or 90 CZK, the recipient of your help will receive 29, 59 or 89 CZK. We will receive the amount monthly until you decide to cancel the order.

www.darcovskasms.cz

Write the message

**DMS OSTROVNADEJE 30
DMS OSTROVNADEJE 60
DMS OSTROVNADEJE 90**

to the number **87 777**

You will support our project on the one-time basis. Permanent SMS will not burden your budget and it will better allow us to achieve our long-term goals.

www.darcovskasms.cz



Kenya Project at Secondary Grammar School



At the end of each calendar year, we often evaluate what we did well and where we failed. Although it is not the end of the year, just the end of the school year, I would like to evaluate our yearly project about Kenya, organized as part of World School.

Our students chose 'Kenya' as their topic and began to look for a suitable partner who would be able to help us connect directly with Kenya. It all started with a phone call with Ms. Heřtusovš from Narovinu Center in Prague. The center is directly represented with coordinators in Kenya. Ms. Heřtusovš suggested many ways to connect in a meaningful way with Kenya. Initially, we had no idea what that connection would look like, but at the beginning of March we met in person with students from Hope Island located in Victoria Lake. We spoke to them in English and took a tour of the school, which was established with the support from Narovinu Center. This all took place with the help of a long-distance phone call via Skype that Mrs. Feminova from Narovinu Center set up during her visit in Kenya. She also brought the students in Kenya four papers developed by three of our classes during their English lessons.

Our 5th grade students developed a paper on leisure time activities, our 2nd grade students wrote about customs and traditions in the Czech Republic, and our 7th grade students wrote about what they like most about the Czech Republic and what it is like to attend our school. Students from Kenya described the same topics from their point of view so we could compare how different our lives are.

We also introduced our Kenyan project and the work of Narovinu Center on the Island of Hope to the public by organizing two exhibitions in Educational and Information Center in Kojetín and in GOGallery in Přerov. The exhibition in Kojetín was accompanied by drawings from our students inspired by Africa. During the exhibition, we also organized a donation campaign to provide school and sport equipment for children from the Island of Hope in Kenya. We managed to collect a big

box full of crayons, felt pens, plastic, paper, balls, bats etc. Our 3rd graders also decided to make book marks with little figures from Czech bed time stories for the students in Kenya.

The students from lower grades also learned about Kenya from their older schoolmates. Every month, the older students informed the younger ones about various topics related to Kenya such as history, art and music.

Our project was growing and as the end of school year was approaching, the students started to think how they could thank all the partners. They came with an idea to organize event called End of Kenya Project. Friday, June 7th, 2019 was busy day in the inner yard of VIC. The drummers from Escola de Samba Brno came to support the children from Kenya and the students organized their last performance of their play Kenya is not pink. One also has to say this play was written by students from the 7th grade and was based on Sleeping Beauty theme. They turned the story into poem and organized a theatre play with support of their classmates and 3 teachers. It was great event and the visitors could also buy some souvenirs from Kenya and can drinks.

It has become a tradition in our projects to contribute to a good cause. This time the students decided to collect cans and donate the money to support the education of the children at the Island of Hope Community Center in Kenya. The tins were collected not just by students of our school, but also by people living in Kojetín, Chropyně, Kroměříž, Prostějov and Námčice nad Hanou. In all of these municipalities, there was at least 1 point of collection. In the middle of June, we re-sorted the cans and drove them to a junk yard in Kojetín where they offered us the best purchase price thanks to Mr. Hšnečka. We collected 400 kg of aluminum cans and 50 kg of metal plates. We would like to thank everyone who helped us collect the cans. After adding up all the money from the cans and other contributions, we got a final amount of 8,710 CZK to support the Island of Hope project. This money will be used for tuition fees which are obligatory in Kenya (total of 4,000 CZK), purchase of school desks and chairs (2,400 CZK), school gadgets, books and textbooks (1,310 CZK) and reimbursement of specialized examinations in the local hospital for people in need (1,000 CZK).

Finally, I would like to thank all the students and teachers from our secondary grammar school that took part in our project as well as to Narovinu Center, City Cultural Center in Kojetín, DDM (leisure time center), TechnisKojetín, the junk yard in Kojetín, the municipality of Chropyně, the public library in Námčice nad Hanou, Leisure time center Orion, GO Gallery Přerov, Sport-center in Prostějov, World of children in Kroměříž, Escola de Samba Brno and everyone else involved.

*Dana Dýmálová, Gymnázium Kojetín
(secondary grammar school), June 2019*