

Where do all of the books come from?

Books are collected at the BFA warehouses in St. Paul, Minnesota, and Atlanta, Georgia, from donors across the United States. Individuals, book companies, publishers, schools, and libraries donate all sorts of books from children's story books to post-secondary textbooks and everything in between.

Books are sorted and packed by volunteer groups. Then, 20 pallets of books are carefully loaded into 40-foot sea containers and shipped across the Atlantic Ocean to African NGOs, universities, and foundations that distribute them to local schools.

Who is reading BFA books?

Students at Fair Children/Youth Foundation in Musanze, Rwanda

Students are ready to read at the Eric James Harms Memorial Library at the Wisdom Primary School in Musanze, a program of Fair Children/Youth Foundation (FC/YF).

FC/YF serves students of all ages in the north of Rwanda, an area of the country that has been brutally affected by genocide and civil unrest. In addition to a large English-immersion primary school, a nursery school, and a revolutionary school for deaf children, FC/YF hosts adult literacy programs and other community development programs. In an area of Rwanda where general education is not easily accessible, education for special needs students is nearly impossible to find. But at FC/YF's Center for Deaf Children, hearing impaired students are given the opportunity to go to school with their hearing peers.



Kenya

The students of St. Aloysius Gonzaga High School now have a full library thanks to the efforts of several long time BFA supporters. St. Aloysius, in the Kibera Slum just outside of Nairobi, Kenya, serves students who come from families affected by AIDS. Many of these students would not be able to attend school without the opportunity that St. Aloysius provides. By providing donated educational materials, school operating costs are lower and students whose parents cannot support them financially have the opportunity to go to school.



The Gambia

Books For Africa Founder, Tom Warth, knows that if we can end the book famine in one small country like The Gambia, we will be one step closer to ending the African book famine. In February 2012, Warth and a number of other Books For Africa supporters, including representatives from the Sir Emeka Offor Foundation of Nigeria, Course Hero, and Hand in Health, marched across the country to deliver books to Gambian students.

BFA Shipments in FY 2012

July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012

| Country | Containers | Country | Containers |
|--------------|------------|-----------------|------------|
| Nigeria | 55 | Malawi | 5 |
| Ghana | 35 | Senegal | 4 |
| Ethiopia | 20 | Angola | 2 |
| Kenya | 14 | Cameroon | 2 |
| Tanzania | 14 | Comoros Islands | 2 |
| The Gambia | 11 | Egypt | 2 |
| Uganda | 7 | Somalia | 2 |
| Zambia | 7 | South Sudan | 2 |
| Rwanda | 6 | Swaziland | 2 |
| Sierra Leone | 6 | Benin | 1 |
| Liberia | 5 | Sudan | 1 |

TOTALS: 205 container units, 616 computers and laptops, 1 agricultural library and 15 WestCore law libraries; 2.2 million books to 22 countries

Number of container shipments sent since 1988



Zambia

This Reading Club in Livingstone, Zambia, will have a lot to discuss with all of the new BFA books they received last fall! "The students will benefit from your contribution both now and in the future. In times of limited resources, contributions such as yours make an incredible difference in what's available to our students," said Reverend Mubuyaeta Imasiku, a Zambian school administrator. These students received books thanks to a partnership between the Happy Africa Foundation and Books For Africa.