

WE'VE SENT MILLIONS OF BOOKS



Since 1988, Books For Africa has shipped more than 7 million books to 22 African countries. The books are on once-empty library shelves, in classrooms in rural schools, and in the hands of children who have never before held a book. Children who are hungry to read, hungry to learn, hungry to explore their world in ways that only books make possible.

MILLIONS MORE ARE NEEDED.

Dear Friends,

The theme of this year's annual report is personal encounters, which might seem a bit strange for an organization that serves millions of children thousands of miles away. Personal encounters aren't limited to sitting down to a meal with someone or even seeing them face-to-face. A letter, a message, a photograph, a story related by a friend or relative—these are the things that bring world events closer to home. As we've discovered since Books For Africa began with a personal journey to a small East African town with empty library shelves, it's all about the people.

People all over the U.S. who donate books and raise funds to ship them and convince all their friends to get in the act. People in the Peace Corps and at rural schools in Africa who ask for the books and find ways to get them delivered to the most remote and out-of-the-way locations. People like the students at Bujubi Primary School in Mityana, Uganda, who read the books and say many, many thanks, but please, can you send some more?

People like a young couple from Ethiopia who moved to Bolingbrook, Illinois and a family in San Jose, California, whose son joined the Peace Corps. They're people just like you, and their stories are told in this report. As you get to know them, we think you'll want to know more about how you can get involved—personally. When President Benjamin William Mkapa of Tanzania addressed this year's annual gala—albeit by letter as he was unable to attend at the last minute—he said: "My wife and I had looked forward so much to being with you on this special day. As Africans, we cherish the warmth that personal encounters bring to friendships and partnerships as we in Tanzania have with Books For Africa."

Books For Africa has—personally—sent many containers of books to Tanzania, with more on the way. When President Mkapa described his regular visits to rural libraries where more than half of all the books were from Books For Africa, he also described the light in the eyes of the students. And when he spoke of what he called the greatest human achievement—the ability to share feelings and thoughts through language—he recognized the books you send that bring knowledge and ideas to the children of his country.

Join us this coming year in supporting exciting projects that will start reference libraries in Malawi, build a research library in Tanzania, and continue to send more than a million books to people in Africa. We can't do it without you—personally.

Sincerely,

Lane Ayres
President

Robert Kowalczyk
Executive Director

"The secondary students come and read books to us during lunchtime. The stories are funny."

MUTOME FRANCES
PRIMARY 2,
NSOGA PRI. SCHOOL

MAKING IT PERSONAL: TALES OF TWO FAMILIES

FROM ETHIOPIA AND BACK

Asratie Asfaw Teferra and his wife Askale Shiferaw had always known they'd help children recover from the wounds that war inflicts. No one lives in Ethiopia without being touched by a new generation growing up without all the things that war takes away—peace, parents, time to learn. If the war spares you personally, your choices are sorrow, anger, resolve, or some combination of all three.

As a young man in Ethiopia in the early and mid 1990s, Asratie continued his education, married a lovely young woman named Askale, and worked with various relief organizations, including the United Nations. He'd lost family and friends in the war, and like many Ethiopians, was dismayed by the lack of freedom and general conditions under the government.

Ever hear of the Green Card lottery? It's not something you buy tickets for at SuperAmerica. It's a U.S. policy that allows citizens of certain countries to enter a lottery for the chance at a Green Card, the magic token allowing immigration. Entrants must meet strict requirements of education and employability, and the odds against winning are huge.

Still, even when Asratie won the lottery, he was torn. On the one hand, there was much to do by staying in Ethiopia; it would be good to keep his wife and extended family together, close to home. Moving to the United States was a chance to further his own education, and at the same time, keep doing things for Ethiopia. Asratie and Askale talked and prayed and finally decided. They would move to Chicago.

Not long after making the move, they established the Ethio-America Community Service Agency (EACSA), a nonprofit organization dedicated to education and development in Ethiopia. Asratie found a job, and divided his free time between classes at a local college, working with his church, and making contacts and connections. When he and Askale discovered Books For Africa, they knew they'd found what they were looking for—the perfect partner for EACSA.

After less than five years in the Chicago area, they had developed enough of a network to help them support a shipment of 25,000 books to Ethiopia. One of Asratie's professors at the College of DuPage helped organize books and financial contributions from students and faculty. The Teferra's pledged a portion of their own income, even though it made coming up with a down payment for a house that much more difficult.

In March of 2002, an entire container of books headed from Books For Africa's warehouse in downtown St. Paul to a partner organization in Ethiopia. The books have been distributed to 23 schools and libraries in the towns of Dessie and Kombolcha. This fall, the Teferra's are following the books back home, just for a visit. They're sure to find the books they sent being put to good use, and as with all these stories, find the need for more.

ALL IN THE (EXTENDED) FAMILY

When the Peace Corps assigned Jerry Montgomery to the Bujubi Primary School near Mityana, Uganda, they didn't just get Jerry. His parents Les and Pat Montgomery, along with the rest of the family and friends in the

San Jose area, got into the act. The net result is what Les estimates to be roughly \$2 million worth of books and materials in the hands of students in primary school in Uganda.

Along the way, they involved the Peace Corps, schools and churches on both sides of the Atlantic, the Department of Defense, the U.S. Embassy, and of course, Books For Africa. While many of these partners are typical of Books For Africa projects, all of them at once gives new meaning to the term "extended family."

Pat Montgomery left her classroom after 35 years teaching and said, "Let's send my stuff to Jerry." That's how it all got started. After sending half a dozen boxes of Pat's books and teaching materials and hearing how much they meant on the other end, the Montgomery's sponsored a shipment through Books For Africa in November 2001. They decided to combine a visit to Jerry with the arrival of the books, meeting up with David Ssagala of Bega Kwa Bega, who had arranged to transport the books to Jerry's school.

The back-breaking work of loading the books from the sea container into the trucks was followed by a long, dusty, pothole-filled trip to the school near Mityana, more than two hours from Kampala. Students in their pink school uniforms came to meet them, excited by these giant trucks full of books. The plan was to unload all the books here for sorting, then distribute them to about 20 schools in the area. Jerry and the other teachers and students from the school all pitched in with the unloading, helping to empty the trucks in little over an hour.

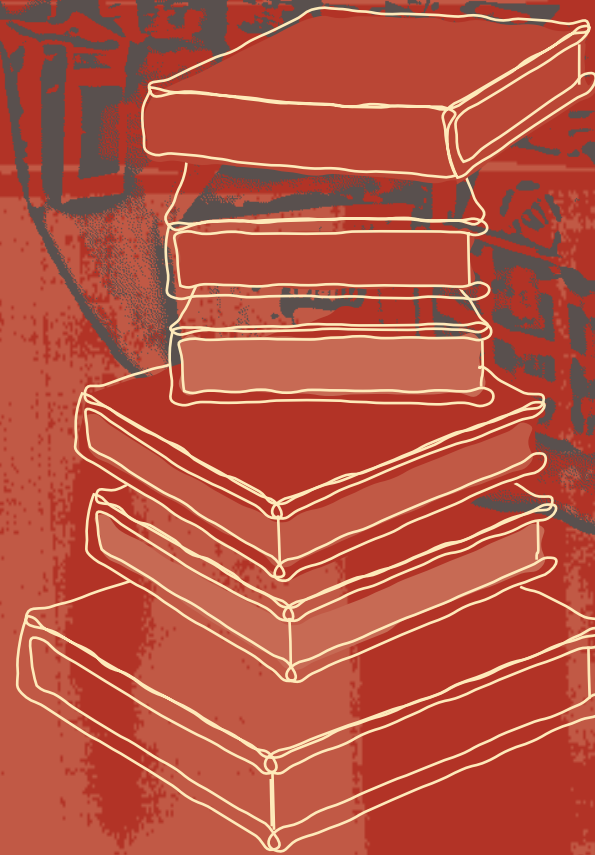
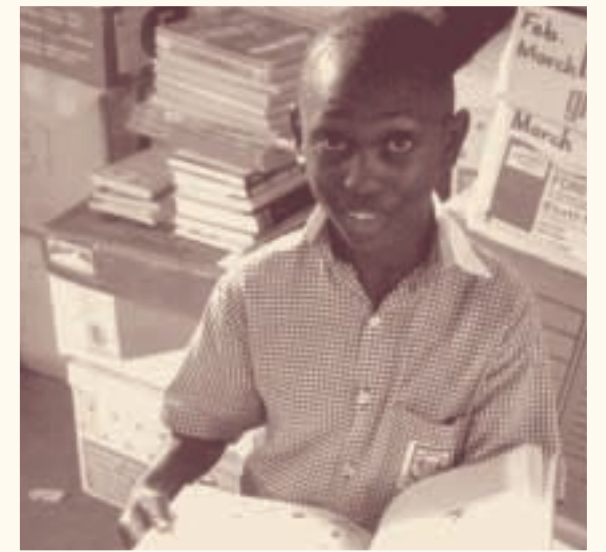
When Les and Pat returned to the states, they started gathering more

books in the San Jose area and shipped two more containers which arrived in July, 2002. Those were followed by two additional containers to Uganda cosponsored by Books For Africa which arrived in September 2002, with all four containers being shipped via the U.S. Department of State's Humanitarian Assistance Program. All told, the Montgomery's had a hand in over 100,000 books making their way to Africa.

Their church is processing a proposal from the local Ugandan school staff to help fund a 30 x 60 foot teacher training center, complete with solar power, as well as funds for a town library next year. Jerry has also helped his school to submit a proposal to the U.S. Embassy in Uganda that will help with renovations to the existing school. Two of Jerry's brothers have also decided to help out in Uganda, —David spent the summer of 2002 with a CrossRoads Africa project to build a hospital near Kampala, and Nathaniel hopes to do a photo documentary of Uganda and the various projects this winter.

"We would never in a million years have attempted this before Jerry joined the Peace Corps," says Les Montgomery. "I've learned that a close working relationship between someone here and someone in the field can really accomplish something worthwhile."

If you'd like to accomplish something very worthwhile, get in touch with Books For Africa. We'll be happy to help you help the children of Africa—personally.



BY THE NUMBERS

Some simple math helps explain why Books For Africa is so effective...and how you can help. Supporting a single container of books can help over half a million children!

1 Sea Container = 30,000 pounds = 25,000 books

Freight cost per container = \$8,000

Number of readers per book = 25

Number of readers per container = up to 625,000

Number of containers shipped in FY 2002 = 47

Average cost per reader = 2¢

2001-2002 HIGHLIGHTS: LOOKING BACK

ROTARY PARTNERSHIPS

For the past 14 years, Rotary Clubs in the United States, Canada, and England, along with their respective district foundations and the Rotary International Foundation, have joined forces with Books For Africa as partners in ending the book famine in Africa. Local clubs typically raise funds as well as donating books, and members become personally involved. This past year, Rotary Clubs in Minnetonka (MN), Wayzata (MN), Sun Lakes (AZ), Fall River (MA), New Bedford (MA), Fort Haven (MA), East Providence (MA), and Dartmouth (MA) raised the necessary funds to ship containers of books to Rotary Clubs in The Gambia, Uganda, South Africa, and Ghana.

TANZANIA INITIATIVE MEETS GALA GOAL

On May 13, 2002, Books For Africa celebrated its Tanzania Initiative with a gala event at St. Paul's Radisson Riverfront Hotel featuring drumming and dancing from Kwasi Nunyakpe's Oak Park students and the Hayor Bibimma Dance Theatre. Honored guests included Tanzanian Ambassador Mustafa Nyang'anyi, Kenyan Ambassador Yusef Nzibo, and Minnesota's Fourth District Congresswoman Betty McCollum. Over 300 guests were welcomed with greetings in absentia from Tanzania's President Benjamin William Mkapa and his wife First Lady Anna Mkapa. The initiative's goal—raising enough money to ship 10 containers of books to Tanzania—was met by the proceeds from the event.

2002

2002-2003 LOOKING FORWARD

MALAWI PROJECT

Begun in 2000, Books For Africa's Malawi Project reached a major milestone in 2002 and will continue in 2003. One of the project goals—placing an all new, 25-book reference library in every secondary school in Malawi—is being met with a \$50,000 grant from Rotary International, matched by \$50,000 from Rotary Clubs in Minnesota and Wisconsin and their respective district foundations. The books are being made available to the project by World Book, Inc., at 50 percent of their production cost and represent more than \$7 million dollars in retail value. Shipment from the United States to Malawi by the U.S. Department of State is scheduled for late 2002 or early 2003. Funding for the primary school libraries is pending with Coca-Cola Africa.

BFA'S ILLINOIS PROJECT

A partnership is being developed between Books For Africa and Follett Educational Services of Woodbridge, Illinois, which could enable Books For Africa to quadruple the number of books it ships annually. Follett is the largest buyer and seller of used textbooks in America and has donated thousands of books to Books For Africa in the past and will continue to do so in the future. These donated books are currently being shipped from Illinois to Minnesota for eventual transport to Africa, which is costly and time consuming. A study exploring the feasibility of establishing a satellite program in Joliet, Illinois, is underway and includes identifying funding sources for startup costs and initial operations.

NYERERE LIBRARY

"When we get to the position where a man and wife can sit together in the evening each reading or reading to each other, when their children are encouraged to learn out of school by reading books which are easily available, then we shall have made a big breakthrough in our development."—*Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere, founding president of Tanzania*

Books For Africa is working closely with the Mwalimu Nyerere Foundation and the Equal Opportunity for All Trust Fund in Tanzania to create a Presidential Memorial Library and Resource Centre in honor of the late Julius Nyerere, the first president of the United Republic of Tanzania. The library will be both a lending and research library and will include papers, photographs, and other artifacts of Nyerere's legacy, as well as a conference and training center. Books For Africa is the fiscal agent for tax deductible donations to the Nyerere library in the U.S.



"I believe that in Africa, in the United States, and in every part of the world, children by the age of about ten years old should and can have the tools to be life-long self-learners. But that requires that we get them into schools at an early age, and keep them there, with adequate materials... Surely, we can get every student his or her own book."

Secretary of the Treasury Paul O'Neill from his address to the *Carnegie Endowment for Peace* last June

CONTRIBUTORS

7/1/2001 – 6/30/2002 INDIVIDUALS

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7/1/2002 – 6/30/2002 ORGANIZATIONS

Over \$170,000 Tew Foundation	\$2,500 - \$4,999 Association of Nigerian Engineers in Minnesota Bayport Foundation EACSA Follett Educational Services Lerner Foundation Marylanders for Progress Okpella Development Association Operation Bootstrap Africa Pax Christi Catholic Community Saint Ignatius Loyola Church Sarlo Family Supporting Foundation The Delray Beach, Florida/Moshi, Tanzania Sister City Committee Thirst For Learning WEM Foundation
\$48,000 Ghana Book Trust	\$1,000 - \$2,499 Alsadu Hemmings Motor News Hey City Theater Homedale Foundation Katherine B. Nason Charitable Lead Annuity Trust Kopp Family Foundation Land O'Lakes Lutheran Partners in Global Ministry Planned Parenthood Federation of America Rotary Club of Stillwater Summit Mortgage UNESCO Association of Colorado University of St. Thomas
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THANKS TO OUR FOUNDATION AND CORPORATION DONORS

Books For Africa is fortunate to receive ongoing and continuing support from foundations and corporations whose consistent generosity has enabled us to send over 7 million books to African children.

Our heartfelt thanks to longtime supporters, including

The Tew Foundation
The Patrick and Anna M. Cudahy Foundation

The Margaret Rivers Fund

The Bayport Foundation

The Kopp Family Foundation

Pax Christi Catholic Community

The Lerner Foundation

The Homedale Foundation

We also give a warm welcome to new supporters during fiscal year 2001-2002

The Beim Foundation

The Eastman Kodak Company

Follett Educational Services

Cargill

Sarlo Family Supporting Foundation

Hey City Theatre

As we begin a new fiscal year, we are pleased to announce the following new donors

The Hagen Family Foundation

The Irwin Andrew Porter Foundation

The H.E. and Helen R. Warren Foundation

“My favorite subject is math. It is fun to be able to use these books with my studies. I like taking the books home and even show my parents what I am doing. I shared my one book with 6 other students before. Now I have my own.”

KAIRANGA EPPY, NAKIRUNGU PRIMARY SCHOOL, MBALE, UGANDA

FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	2002	2001
ASSETS		
Current Assets	\$325,578	222,559
Net Property and Equipment	30,722	14,367
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$356,300</u>	<u>236,926</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities	39,479	27,535
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	179,259	121,720
Temporarily restricted	137,562	87,671
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>316,821</u>	<u>209,391</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$356,300</u>	<u>\$236,926</u>

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

	2002	2001
SUPPORT AND REVENUES		
Tew Foundation contribution	\$172,500	\$171,474
Other contributions	464,508	384,372
Interest Earned	5,020	4,558
Warehouse/Office space contributed	67,420	67,420
Books contributed	9,161,568	8,031,331
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUES	<u>9,871,016</u>	<u>8,659,155</u>
EXPENDITURES		
Program operating expenses - overseas	9,595,750	8,477,066.
General and administrative expenses	118,448	94,975
Fundraising Expenses	49,388	41,065
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>9,763,586</u>	<u>8,613,106</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	<u>\$107,430</u>	<u>\$46,049</u>

Year ended June 30, 2002

*Copies of the full audit and the IRS 990 are available upon request.

**Change in net assets in 2002 includes a \$55,000 increase in the value of in-kind book inventory.

***The Charities Review Council, an independent organization that researches and reviews national and local non-profit organizations that solicit funds in Minnesota, has found that Books For Africa has met accountability standards in all four areas: Public Disclosure, Governance, Financial Activity, and Fundraising.

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**MAKE
IT
PERSONAL:**
Support Books For Africa

HOW TO HELP

For every \$50 you contribute, Books For Africa can send 160 high-quality new and used books to Africa to be read by approximately 4,000 children. Here are the many ways you can help:

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Books For Africa relies on volunteers to help sort and pack books, plan special events, produce publications, raise funds, and speak to groups. If you would like to put your special skill or talent to work for the children of Africa, please call us at 651-602-9844 or email info@booksforafrica.org.

CASH GIFTS

Your cash, check, or credit card gift to Books For Africa can be designated for a specific program or directed to where the need is greatest. All gifts are tax deductible, as specified by law. For your convenience, gifts by credit card can be made directly online at www.booksforafrica.org.

MATCHING GIFTS

Check with your employer about matching gifts. Many corporations and other organizations match employee donations dollar for dollar to the charity of the employee's choice. Some employers match gifts of retired employees and employee spouses. Others also make financial contributions to match employees' volunteer hours to the charity of their choice.

GIFTS OF APPRECIATED STOCK

Books For Africa and you can benefit from gifts of stock (provided you have held the stock for 18 months or longer). You can eliminate capital gains taxes, avoid income tax on the gifted stock, and receive tax deductions for the full value of the stock.

WILLS AND OTHER PLANNED GIFTS

Books For Africa can be named a beneficiary in your will and receive other deferred gifts such as life insurance. These gifts are not subject to estate taxes.

SPEAKERS BUREAU

If your employer, club or group would like to learn more about Books For Africa's mission and work, we are happy to present our program in person.

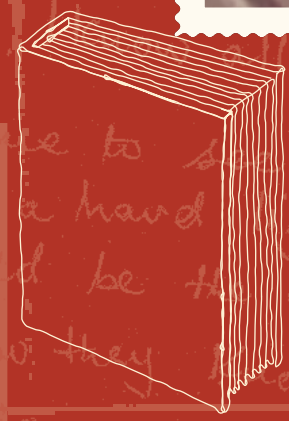
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