

# MESHA'S VILLAGE

## July Newsletter - Issue 4

Education never ends. - Swahili Proverb

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### **Tanzania Recap:**

The Potter family (minus our younger sister, Ashton) just returned from Tanzania and what a trip it was! It was wonderful to share such a special place with our parents for the first time. While there, we were able to check in on our 6 existing kids as well as enroll 2 new children in school, bringing us to 8 sponsored children! All of the children are doing well and each of them are excelling in their classes. Thanks to sponsors Shaina & Gabe, we were able to enroll Ethan, an energetic 3 year old boy with a spitfire personality; sponsors Caroline and Fred enabled us to enroll Tatu, a curious 6 year old girl who always has a smile on her face.



### **Back to School Brunch:**

We are hosting a Back to School Brunch on **September 14th** from 11am - 2pm at the home of Tom & Linda Potter. Tickets are \$20 and includes various brunch bites, access to our silent auction, and **bottomless** mimosas and Bloody Mary's! Tickets can be purchased via Venmo (@meshasvillage), PayPal ([meshasvillage@gmail.com](mailto:meshasvillage@gmail.com)), cash, check or credit card (<https://app.moonclerk.com/pay/207pydjb5gpe>). We can't wait to see you there!



### **Interview with our secretary, Linda Potter:**

*Why are you passionate about Mesha's Village?*

'I can vividly remember how excited my girls were when they each got their first library card, got their first A on a test, and saw their artwork hanging on the fridge. I had the privilege of being a stay at home mom for 10+ years and spent most of that time at my children's school. I was their room mom, chaperoned field trips and contributed to funds in place for families that needed a little extra help. My level of involvement in my childrens' education didn't stop when they moved on from grade school. While my role may have changed from room mom, the support was still there. The idea of a child not having the opportunity to attend school and have the support they need is heartbreaking. Mesha's Village gives children with no mean, who wish to learn, the opportunity to do so. In my opinion there is no greater gift than the opportunity to learn; knowledge is power! I am passionate about Mesha's Village because it makes me proud that my girls have been raised to understand not only the value of an education but the importance of giving back.'

*What makes Mesha's Village special?*

Our girls fell in love with Mesha & his sweet, little smile and instantly knew they had to do more. My girls raise awareness & money that is utilized to fund tuition, uniforms, meals, and school supplies. The impact of a proper education goes beyond one student. By educating the

young minds in these communities, they can teach those younger than them the value of a quality education. Mesha's Village allows people to make an impact not only on a single child, but on an entire community.

*What was your favorite part of the trip to Tanzania?*

Our recent trip to Tanzania was filled with lots of emotions; I was curious, humbled, and in awe of what Madison and Jordan have built there. I vividly remember one point when I looked over at Madison who was speaking Swahili and thought to myself, "who is this child and when did my children start to lead our vacations?" The time spent giving back to those less fortunate was so rewarding, however, I really wish there was at least 1 day that I did not cry. I loved meeting the kids, their guardians, the teachers and the Haradali school director. The visit made me realize that even if you touch the life of one person, it can make such a difference, even if just for that special moment in time. Getting to visit Arusha in person made what the girls have talked about for the last couple of years all make sense... I put faces to names, made sense of what "Africa time" really is and gained a greater appreciation for what I have than I ever thought possible. I look forward to many future visits and staying connected to this special place & community.

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If you or anyone you know is interested in sponsorship, becoming a Mesha's Village member, or making a one time donation please visit [www.meshasvillage.com](http://www.meshasvillage.com) or email [meshasvillage@gmail.com](mailto:meshasvillage@gmail.com).