



The Africa Project is an Irvine based nonprofit organization dedicated to helping orphaned children in South Africa who have lost parents to AIDS.

OUR VISION

The Africa Project will serve as a model for other communities throughout the U.S. who wish to adopt a village and commit necessary resources to improve the quality of life in a community in Africa devastated by AIDS.

OUR MISSION

The mission of The Africa Project is to raise awareness regarding the plight of AIDS orphans and vulnerable children in Africa and to assist with food, clothing, school fees, medical care and other basic necessities. The Africa Project also seeks to fund special projects that create an enduring improvement in the community.

OUR PRINCIPLES

The Africa Project embraces the framework described in the Children on the Brink report, and has established the following guiding principles.

- Even the smallest of efforts can make a difference in the quality of life of children who have been orphaned or made vulnerable by AIDS.
- To create self-sufficiency for these children we must meet their basic needs such as nutrition, safety, health and education as a first priority.
- Investments in special capital projects such as creating access to clean water and building safe shelters will have an enduring effect on the quality of life of these children.
- We seek to develop strategies over the long term that will help create self-sufficient individuals and help build a thriving community.
- The Africa Project relies on and strengthens existing resources within the African communities to deliver goods and services. The Africa Project purchases supplies and goods in the African communities to strengthen the local economy.
- Because the welfare of the family represents the single most important factor in building a protective environment for orphans, The Africa Project includes assistance to the extended families of orphans.
- Through its efforts, The Africa Project seeks to model how other communities may take a similar interest in changing the fate of the millions of destitute African children left to fend for themselves as a result of this pandemic.
- As an all-volunteer organization, 100% of all funds collected will go directly to support the children and community.

OUR FUNDING PRIORITIES

Commitment #1 - Support placement of orphaned children in foster care homes within the community.

With an unemployment rate of more than 90% most families are ill equipped to take care of their own children let alone those orphaned by Aids. The support that we will provide will enable caring adults in the community to meet the needs of the children while they wait for foster grants – which often take a year to acquire. While of course institutions may provide support for orphans, research has well demonstrated that children are best supported in traditional family units. The Africa Project believes that by facilitating early placement, family and community structure will be enhanced and preserved.

Commitment # 2 - Fund the enrollment and attendance of orphans in school.

A child who has lost one or both parents, or is living with a sick or dying parent, needs a consistent, structured and supportive environment. Schools may be the only source of this for these children. And of course regular attendance in school provides children with a sense of hope for the future. As parents fall ill or die, financial support collapses and the children left alone cannot afford the required school fees, uniforms or basic school supplies. \$100 per child will provide adequate resources to pay for the annual school fees and to purchase the required uniforms and school supplies.

Commitment #3 - Support the development and implementation of home based Health Care

Accessible health care is critical for healthy growth and development of children. The Africa Project is funding and facilitating the implementation of a home health care project designed to assess the physical, emotional and social needs of children and families in the Nkandla region.

Commitment #4 - Provide Emergency food aid to children and families as well as to support social services and urgent educational and health related needs.

A consistent reliable source of nourishment is among the most basic and essential needs for the physical and mental health of any growing child. Since parents stricken with Aids are often unable to work, the family's food supply is difficult to maintain. After the death of a parent, older siblings are often left to care for the younger ones. The Africa Project will support these children by providing financial resources that will be used to purchase food parcels. Unfortunately, many of these children and families are dealing with critical issues that require resources beyond their means. This might include funeral costs, building safe structures for child headed families, or paying medical fees for a sick child or parent. We will provide financial resources for critical needs as they arise.

Commitment #5 - We will support special projects.

Special projects include renovating a high school that is in ill repair and providing sleeping quarters for children who cannot return home each day as they have to travel too far by foot from home to school.



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