



École Élémentaire Sunshine Hills Elementary
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April 18, 2019

Dear Parents,

Over the past nine years, our school has been working with an organization aptly called "A Better World." Thanks to the generosity of the Sunshine Hills community, we have been able to raise \$200 000 to support children in Africa. In addition to the difference we have made in the lives of these children, taking on these projects has taught our students, first hand, about global social responsibility.

To recap our journey of global citizenship to date, our fundraising has provided ...

- 2009-2010: a **school** in Makeni, Sierra Leone.
- 2010 – 2011: **water wells** for our school, and **animals as sources of alternative income** in Makeni, Sierra Leone.
- 2011-2012: a **medical clinic** for children displaced by civil war and living in make-shift camps in Kostj, Sudan.
- 2012-2013: a **school** for orphaned children in Nakura, Kenya.
- 2013-2014: a **school** for the displaced children in Kostj, Sudan.
- 2014-2015: a **school for deaf children** in Umutara, Rwanda to allow them to acquire the skills to lead productive lives.
- 2015-2016: **four new primary classrooms** at Kipkeremwo School in Kericho, Kenya.
- 2016 – 2017: a **rehabilitation clinic** in Gisenyi, Rwanda to provide life-changing surgery and follow up recovery/therapy
- 2017-2018: **two classrooms** at the Ghajary Khana Girls' School in Shebergan, Afghanistan

We will never know the full extent of the impact we have had on helping all of these children and their families better their lives and improve their opportunities for a brighter future.

This year we are turning our eyes and hearts back towards the children of Afghanistan. Our 2019 global social responsibility goal at Sunshine Hills is to raise \$5,000 to provide libraries at the Ghajary Khana Girls' School and at the Khatoon Qalai School. These schools have helped to bring the opportunity for education to girls for whom education was previously forbidden in that war-torn country. To raise the needed funds, we will be holding one event, our tenth annual April **Walk-a-thon**, on **Wednesday, April 24th**. We are very appreciative that **Mme Stephens**, who despite having retired last year, has volunteered to spearhead this year's campaign and help us continue the tradition she started 10 years ago! We look forward to having her as our special guest!

During the Walk-a-thon, the primary students will walk **3 km**, which simulates the distance that many children in Afghanistan have to walk to get safe water. The intermediate students will walk **6 km** which represents the distance that many children have to walk to an inadequate, outdoor school. We are hoping that these comparisons will make the walk more meaningful for our students. Students will be closely supervised by staff, and our Grade 7 students will marshal along the Walk-a-thon route.

We sincerely welcome any parents who are available to join us for our walk. We will be meeting at the front of the school at 1:15 on April 24th.

Attached is a pledge sheet and envelope where your child can collect pledges for the Walk-a-thon. We are encouraging each student to participate, in any way they can, to help us reach our goal of raising \$5000! Pledges are due by **Monday, May 6.**

Thank you so very much for your support in this worthwhile cause.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kramer, Mme Ross, Mme Tang, Ms. Tsougrianis
Sunshine Hills Social Responsibility Fundraising Team

