

Hello Friends!

I hope this email finds you well and in a cheery Christmas-is-approaching mood! Exciting things have been happening in our ministry here in Kenya and also in the US.

In the US:

Most notably, we are very excited to announce that we have been approved by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization! This is something we have wanted and worked towards for a long time and we are so thankful for this new status. This ultimately means that we can now issue tax deductible receipts on our own and we no longer need GHI to do that for us. Starting now, if you donate directly to Dala Development instead of GHI, **100%*** of your donations, go into the ever-expanding work that Dala Development is doing, increasing the impact of every dollar that comes in. We are jumping for joy!

How this impacts you: If you currently send donations to GHI, please change the payment to be made payable to "Dala Development" and mail to [2879 Keebler Rd, Maryville, IL 62062](mailto:2879KeeblerRd@MaryvilleIL62062).

In celebration of this exciting change, we have completely redesigned our [website](#) and we welcome you to visit it. Under [Sponsorship](#) you will find several new options for giving in specific ways. [About](#) summarizes how we got started and how we have grown and increased our focus on Health and Education over the last several years, it's something we did not articulate previously so you may be interested in learning how we got to where we are today. It is relevant to note that our [Donate](#) page only lists a mailing address for checks, we are currently researching donation processing services for online donations, that will come soon. If you would like to set up ACH auto-withdraw, please email me and I will be happy to help you with it.

In Kenya:

Dala Development organized and hosted two full medical camp last month, one of which attracted several hundred participants. Several free services and screenings were provided plus educational talks on cancer, being your own healthcare advocate (if they don't advocate for themselves they many times don't receive proper care), and more. This month there was another medical camp, smaller but just as helpful to the people who came for services.

The team in Kisumu has been working very hard to develop long-term and short-term goals, action steps, and everything involved in ensuring that Dala's work expands meaningfully and effectively.

The teachers in the village closed the school last month for term break and they will open again in January. In Kenya, the school year starts in January and ends in November. Our school ranked in the top ten in the local area! The students performed well and they continue to express great enthusiasm for learning.

Political news:

We are thankful to report that the repeat election on October 26th was peaceful--heavily protested--but peaceful. Despite clear problems with the voting process, the current president Uhuru Kenyatta was re-elected. He was sworn in but more than half of the country does not recognize him as the president. The opposition leader, Raila Odinga, will have his own swearing in as the People's President on Kenya's Independence Day, December 12. There has been a lot of police brutality following nearly all gatherings supporting the opposition. We continue to pray that next week will not be marred by violence and that people will be permitted to assemble, as is their constitutional right.

Now:

As we approach the end of the year we can look back with satisfaction and gratitude. Our staff has worked diligently and faithfully, and lives have been impacted by them. We are grateful for our staff. You, our supporters and encouragers, have also been wonderfully faithful in making all of this happen. None of the work we do in Kenya--none of the lives changed--could happen without you. **Your prayers, donations, and love fuel the work we do and we are so incredibly thankful for YOU!**

Christmas Blessings and Love from Kenya.
Dan, Emily, Neema, and Imani.

Merry Christmas
Swahili: Krismasi Njema

Dholuo: Sikuku Maber

**GHI charges a percentage administrative fee to each donation for their very worthy effort in keeping the non-profit books in order prior to Dala Development becoming a 501(c)(3) organization. Now that Dala Development is a tax-exempt organization itself, we can avoid the fee and ensure that 100% of your donation goes to Dala Development.*