

# KUCETEKELA FOUNDATION

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Dear Friends,

I hope you are enjoying a wonderful holiday season and that the New Year has started well for you and your families. The 2007 Zambian school year ended in mid-December and I am writing to give you an update of our program.

Our Kucetekela Foundation scholars finished an impressive academic year with a flourish. Each of the secondary schools held award ceremonies, and our students earned many individual awards. The ceremonies were held at the secondary schools, and many parents and mentors attended. The awards won by KF students included:

- *Overall Best Student* – Leopards Hill School
- *Overall Best Student* – Ibex Hill School
- *Most Well Behaved Student* – Leopards Hill School
- *Individual Subject Awards* in Math, English, Geography, Civics, French, Office Practice, Information Technology, Religion, German, Environmental Science

We are all very proud of our student achievements and thank them for their dedication.

There were also many noteworthy efforts by KF volunteers in the U.S. during 2007. In August, Mike and Tom Barry led a group of 13 total climbers to Mt. Kilimanjaro to raise money for KF. All 13 climbers made it to the summit and the top of Africa! In September, J.G. Guidera competed in the Dewey Beach Sprint Triathlon in Delaware and raised money through his effort for KF. We are grateful for the involvement of all these volunteers and hope they will inspire others to get involved too.

We have high expectations for our program and students in the 2008 academic year. We are excited to report that we have offered scholarships to 10 students (5 boys, 5 girls) who will start 8<sup>th</sup> grade in January 2008 thanks to KF support. These students have earned a KF scholarship through their hard work in the classroom and after a rigorous application process. Our previous group of 10 students will be moving on to 9<sup>th</sup> grade, therefore making a total 20 students in the KF program.

We are also excited to announce that KF has formed a partnership with a third secondary school, the *Chalo West School*, which is located in Lusaka, Zambia. Chalo West is a private secondary school with high international academic standards and a diverse curriculum and student body. We are pleased to partner with Chalo West and hope for a successful relationship. Three KF students, all 8<sup>th</sup> graders, have been placed at Chalo West for the 2008 academic year.

We continue to strive to grow and improve our Foundation's program. In 2007, our applicant pool has increased in number and quality, which we hope to continue in 2008 as well. We have taken on our program's first two interns in December 2007, and hope to increase the opportunities for volunteers and interns in both Zambia and the U.S. in 2008. We wish to maintain and enhance the impact and roles of KF mentors in 2008, following the great success achieved in this past year.

The cost of the KF scholarship has increased for 2008. A full year scholarship for a student in the KF program will cost **\$5,100**. The tuition and boarding fees have increased for 2008, and we had previously underestimated the costs of school books and other supplies needed for our students. Furthermore, we have planned several events for our students, which is included in the scholarship costs. These events will include a new student orientation, a luncheon with mentors and parents, an outing for all KF students, and a lunch for the 9<sup>th</sup> grade students featuring a Zambian physician who will talk about career decisions.

We remain thankful for your continued support and look forward to sending more updates as the school year progresses.

Yours gratefully,

Oliver M. Barry  
President and Co-Founder