

## 2006 Year in Review

### Starfish learn and serve during school holidays

2006 Highlights

- Starfish students attend two camps at Diguna and volunteer at community center
- Starfish Africa's efforts highlighted in The Nation, Kenya's national paper (see "Student Spotlight")
- Michael Mickus completes Arizona Ironman, exceeding his expectations for Starfish Africa fundraising
- Starfish Africa 5k takes place the morning of Peter and Carrie Kingston's wedding

### 2007 Vision

- New student selection will accept x students
- First two Starfish students graduate from high school
- Kenya visit by select board members
- Second Annual Starfish 5k Fundraiser
- Partnership with Kenyan volunteer organizations create new opportunities for our students to serve during breaks



Shared meal time



Taking turns with kitchen duty



Preparing a skit for the talent show

In 2006, Starfish Africa students attended two camp sessions at Diguna Mission Station, AIC. Each day the students attended lectures, played sports, met in small groups, took turns cleaning the kitchen, and participated in praise and worship—sometimes even helping lead the music! Following December's camp, a smaller group of Starfish participated in volunteer work organized by a community group at the Nairobi Chapel. This group of students washed clothes, fed, and cared for children under three years of age.



Outdoor discussions



Grace W\*\* cheering at the soccer game



Diguna's beautiful campus



Daily small group meetings with Field Manager David Omondi

### Student Spotlight: Alfonse Nzioka Daily NATION



"Eastern Province's top KCPE candidate, Master Alfonse Nzioka,

has received a four-year scholarship from a Nairobi-based organisation. Confirming the sponsorship, a field manager with Starfish Africa Limited, Mr David Omondi, said his organisation has already identified

Master Nzioka as a beneficiary.

Master Nzioka, who sat his KCPE examination at Kwa Ngumu Primary School, was also the second best pupil countrywide. He comes from a poor family. When the *Sunday Nation* visited his home near Salama, Makueni district, after the results

were released, we found the boy hungry as the family had no food. However, the good news made his family slaughter one of its two chickens to celebrate. Master Nzioka has been selected to join his dream school - Starehe Boys' Centre, and later study surgery at university."

Starfish Africa  
 c/o Graeme Rein  
 700 Hearn Street, Apt. 203  
 Austin, TX 78703  
 Phone: 917-697-2784  
 E-mail: TrevorASmith@gmail.com



"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."  
 Matthew 25:40



The mission of Starfish Africa, as an organization motivated by Christian faith and desiring to answer the Biblical call to care for the less fortunate, is to transform the lives of talented African students by sponsoring their continued academic excellence at elite educational institutions, thereby equipping them with the skills required to transform their home communities, their countries, and their continent.

We're on the web!  
[www.starfishafrica.org](http://www.starfishafrica.org)

## Organizational Update

Starfish Africa has been searching for new Starfish for the 2007 school year in Kenya. These efforts have taken SA's David Omondi far and wide in the pursuit of academically capable but very needy students.

The Starfish Africa 5K, a running (and walking) race, was held in Southern Maryland on July 3, 2006. The race coincided with SA President Peter Kingston's wedding, and over \$2,500 was raised for Starfish Africa. The bride, Carrie Offenhacher Kingston, won the women's division!

Michael Mickus, brother of current Board member Brian Mickus, conquered the Ari-

zona Ironman on April 9, 2006. His time of just over 11 hours easily beat his personal goal of 12 hours. In parallel with his athletic pursuits, he has raised well over \$14,000 to benefit Starfish Africa. His goal was to raise \$7,000, and so he doubled his goal! Congratulations to Ironman Michael Mickus.

Two new Starfish Africa board members have been elected—Carrie Kingston and Jordan Smith. Carrie works with \*\* and is an international board member for Tulip, a Christian Kenyan girls home. Jordan works for Mercer Management Consulting and spent last year with SSP, a student sponsorship

group in South Africa.

Board members Rob Currey and Trevor and Jordan Smith spent April and May on the ground with Starfish Africa in Kenya. Alongside Field Manager David Omondi, they met with partner schools and spent a week with the students at the Diguna camp during the school break.



*"I am happy to inform you that there are monkeys in our school. They come from a nearby forest called Karura. During leisure time, we play and watch the monkeys jump from tree to tree."*

Damaris Wanjiku  
 Starehe Girls Centre

*"I find the school compound full of wisdom, and my fellow students are also friendly and hard-working. Our teachers too are friendly and usually give hope to the hopeless like me by advising us never to give up at all."*

Quinter Adhiambo  
 Starehe Girls Centre

