

Tim Carroll

From: Georgia Morris [morris.georgia@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2011 3:39 PM
To: tcarroll@chilmarkma.gov
Subject: application to rent Community Center for a fundraiser

Dear Chilmark Selectmen,

I am writing to ask that my organization's application for rental of the Chilmark Community Center be considered at the upcoming selectmen's meeting on October 18th.

Our non-profit organization, Media Voices For Children sponsors an island group, the Kenyan Education Fund, which was started in 2004 to help educate former child laborers out of the coffee fields of Kenya. Since that time, over 200 children have had their school fees paid by the Kenyan Education Fund. You may have seen donation boxes in stores around the island. On November 26th, the Saturday after Thanksgiving, we hope to have a fundraiser at the Community Center to raise the deficit we have pledged for this year.

We began with a small group from one village of coffee pickers, sending them to primary school. (We met these children while shooting a documentary on global child labor). Now we sponsor strictly secondary educations, as primary is now free in Kenya, but poor children cannot afford high school. Our students are orphans, street children and former child laborers. The current number of students we sponsor in high school is 34.

All the money we raise is given to ANPPCAN (The African Network for the Protection and Prevention Against Child Abuse and Neglect), who administer the funds to schools and follow the progress of the students. In September we met with our trusted friends at ANPPCAN and went on our own to the children's schools to monitor their progress and interview the children. Parts of these interviews will be shown at the fundraiser. The students are earnest, grateful and amazingly high achieving!

Vineyarders have been contributing to these kids' educations for 8 years and we plan to show the results of their generosity at the fundraiser.

We at Media Voices For Children, an Internet News Agency for Children's Rights, (and Galen Films), continue to film stories about children's issues and work to advocate for children of poverty and abuse, both abroad and at home.

We plan to have a chili dinner and program for all ages, including, hopefully, the Flying Elbows (though that is not yet confirmed).

I will be attending the selectmen's meeting of the 18th and look forward to answering any questions you may have.

Thank you.
Sincerely,
Georgia Morris