

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **KENYAN NURSERY SCHOOL NEAR COMPLETION THANKS TO OTTAWA SUPPORTERS**



**July 15, 2013 – Ottawa.** In just two years, with the help of generous supporters in the Ottawa-area, Elimu an Ottawa-based charity has raised three classrooms, and is very close to finishing a community nursery school for a rural village in Kenya.

Elimu volunteer, Suzanne Stoltz of Riverside South credits the success of the project to the unrelenting generous support of individuals globally and to dedicated local Ottawa-area partner Global Child Care Services. Suzanne introduced Ms. Nina Chung, Elimu founder, to Global Child Care Services two years ago. “We’ve gone from a patch of dirt and kids in a mud hut that leaked in the rainy season to a three room proper school in just two years.” explains Ms. Stoltz. “Nina asked if I could approach my children’s child care centre to host a fundraiser to help build Upendo Nursery School. This was such a tangible initiative with so many positive outcomes possible I told her to think ‘bigger’ than a bake sale.”

Suzanne’s children attended Canyon Walk School Age Program in Riverside South, which is operated by Global Child Care Services; her connection there led to a meeting with Arlene Ross, the non-profit agency’s executive director. In the two years that followed, the small Kenyan community came together and built the school largely by hand. Each time another infusion of cash came, another phase was completed.

“Upendo Nursery School is truly Global’s ‘passion project’, and is being built through a really wide variety of small fundraising activities driven by our staff, and often involving the children and our client-parents. Our fundraisers have included everything from the raffle of a single donated hand-made item which might bring in \$20, to a children’s art auction which raised \$600, and activities of every description in between. It’s a dollar-by-dollar approach with which we’ve had great success, and it’s gratifying for us to see the school spring from the ground so quickly.” With that approach and a huge dose of enthusiasm, the agency has managed to raise \$20,000 towards the project.

Elimu only needs \$4,000 to finish the the school. Saturday’s fundraiser BBQ is in partnership with M&M Meat Shop in Manotick with Elimu volunteers who will also be helped by staff, children and parents from programs of Global Child Care Services.

#### **Elimu Charity BBQ**

**Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Outside M&M Meat Shop (Manotick)**

**990 River Road : 10 AM to 3:30 PM**

For information on Elimu and how to donate visit **[www.elimu.ca](http://www.elimu.ca)**

Elimu is a registered Canadian charity. BN 828374134RR0001



**Upendo students enjoy morning porridge as they watch their school office being built.**