

Manhattan Monthly Meeting
Religious Society of Friends
15 Rutherford Place
New York, NY 10003

February 20, 2021

Monthly Meeting Clerks,
New York Quarterly Meeting,
15 Rutherford Place
New York, NY 10003

Re: Request for funds towards construction of 2 Classrooms at Davanga Friends School, Kenya

As Co-clerk of Manhattan Monthly Meeting (MMM), I extend our sincere thanks to Meetings and individuals within New York Quarterly for their past contributions towards building Davanga Friends School in Kenya.

On behalf of Manhattan Monthly Meeting, I would like to give an update on the school and ask your Meeting for a contribution towards construction of the remaining 2 classrooms. In this time of a global pandemic and with the rainy season in the forecast, it will be difficult to find space for classes now being held outside under trees. The meeting has an urgent need to finish construction of these classrooms and request your financial support. See pictures attached.

Davanga Friends School foundation was started by Manhattan Monthly Meeting in 2009 with donations from World Ministries of New York Yearly Meeting and New York Quarterly Meeting (through special fund raising "capital campaign"), and other friends. As of now, the school has six completed classrooms, a common room for teachers, a bore-hole (well) for water and pit latrines. There are currently 270 students, in classes Pre-K through 8th grade. This student population is much too big to be accommodated in the available space. The four classrooms have been partitioned, and for the time being Pre-K class and Kindergarten use the nearby Friends Meeting House. The foundation has been laid for two more classrooms, but we have been unable to complete them due to a lack of funds, a bit more than \$10,000. Presently, we have \$5,000:00 in hand and working towards the aforementioned goal.

Margaret Mulindi, Co-Clerk of Manhattan Monthly Meeting is in Kenya. She visited the school during the past year and bought uniforms for more than 80 children orphaned by HIV (Aids) at the school, with funds supplied by Manhattan Monthly Meeting. The funds which Manhattan Monthly Meeting supplies annually are sufficient for uniforms but not to build the classrooms.

We deeply appreciate your Meeting's support of this project.

Yours in faith,

Gloria Thompson, Co-Clerk
Manhattan Monthly Meeting