

Who is Dolfine? She is the ten year old girl who had an idea for a business that would support the needs of her family. She asked her mother to buy two small stoves and four packets of flour. She woke at 4 a.m. to mix a batter and cook it into small cakes on her stoves. As the sky lightened she sold them door to door before rushing on to school. Her work paid for her older sister's school fees and food for her family.

She is the daughter of a cobbler raised in Nairobi and was destined for a different life than most girls around her.



Dolfine was the high school student who again set her mind to lessening the financial burden on her parents. With a father who valued education for his daughters, Dolfine was sent to a

private boarding school. There, she kept a small garden and sought permission to stay on through vacations so that she might tend to her vegetables and sell them. She paid her own

school fees with her produce sales.

Dolfine is the college student whose tuition was paid for through a chance meeting with a man who offered to be her sponsor. Did he see the promise of this young woman's future?

Dolfine is the college graduate who was a teacher for 21 years in a school run by the Kenyan government. She was the teacher who noticed many of her students dropping out of school because one or both parents died of AIDS. They could no longer pay the fees to attend.

Dolfine is the mother of six who lost two daughters; one from starvation and the other from chickenpox complications and then lost both sons; one from AIDS and the other from surgical complications.

She is the wife who was thought by her community to be cursed because a woman without sons is worthless in her homeland.

Dolfine is the woman who lifted herself from this darkness because she believed she was called to help the widows and orphans of her community.

She is the one who left her

***"I have always struggled to make ends meet until it has become a part of my life. That is why I think I am able to manage this big (Korando) family without efficient funds. But in all I want to thank God for the strength and for the people he has sent to be my friends, like you, who help lift my shoulders when I am not able to move."***

secure government job and pension to start Korando Faith Widows and Orphans Group in 1998 in Kisumu District, Nyanza Province, Kenya. This group was formed to alleviate poverty and promote socioeconomic empowerment for widows and orphans.

She went to Lake Victoria to find them. This is the place where the fishermen pay widowed women, desperate for money, and orphaned girls as young as nine years old, for sex.

Dolfine is the woman who told the disbelieving community that AIDS is a real disease and one from which they could protect themselves.

She gathered them to educate and to teach them skills that would take them away from a life of prostitution and stop the cycle of ignorance around this disease.

The widows and orphans make soap and bricks, crafts and jewelry. Under Dolfine's direction, the women became the heads of small households of orphaned children.

Together with her husband Patrick, also a former teacher, Dolfine opened the Madoma Primary school with ten students in 2003.

Dolfine's homestead has become known as the Korando Center and currently serves over 300 orphans who attend school there.

Learn more in our next newsletter about Dolfine's work and the projects that support the growing Korando Center and the people it serves.

# A MEAL A MONTH

As you know, years of drought, the AIDS pandemic, substance abuse and poverty have brought tremendous hardship to Kenya. The Korando Faith Widows and Orphans Group struggles to provide refuge from the hardship. But there is much work to be done. Both children and adults frequently go hungry. They need our help.

I am challenging you to join me in sacrificing one meal a month, to choose one meal (your significant meal of the day) and do not have it. Instead, I am asking that you put the money for that meal aside and send it to Ripple Effect Project on a monthly basis.

How much you donate depends on what and how you eat. Most of us spend \$5 to \$10 (or more) on our significant meal of the day. For example, if your dinner averages \$10 worth of food you would pledge \$10 a month for the year, and you would then send Ripple Effect Project \$10 a month.

Pledging A MEAL A MONTH will be a continual source of desperately needed funds for the Korando Faith Widows and Orphans Group. But don't just simply send Ripple Effect Project the money. Going without the meal is as crucial as the money. I ask that you set aside the time that you would normally be eating to project positive loving thoughts out to Kenya. I ask that you focus your thoughts on putting an end to the drought and the AIDS pandemic in Africa. I also ask that you think about the children of Kenya that you are helping.

I further ask that you spread our appeal for A MEAL A MONTH. Get your friends to join you. Go on Facebook. Go everywhere. Tell everyone.

100% of the funds raised will go directly to support self-sustainable projects of Korando Faith Widows and Orphans Group. Ripple Effect Project is a 501c3 non-profit organization and donations are fully tax deductible. Please make donations payable to:

Ripple Effect Project  
PO Box 1956  
Waterville, ME 04903

Sincerely,  
Anonymous REP supporter

## FUND RAISING EVENTS

2011 - Upcoming

### A Meal A Month

*Please see insert for further details.*

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Ripple Effect Project Yard Sale

Saturday, June 25, 7 am – 4 pm  
135 Silver Street, Waterville, ME

Please save high quality, unwanted household items.  
Donations will be accepted during May and June.  
Drop-off dates and location to be announced.

2010 – Successes

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Ripple Effect Project Yard Sale

Thank you to the 30 volunteers and the many generous donors who helped make the sale a great success. The Ripple Effect Project is especially grateful to Andrew and Stefanie Jones and Alek and Karla Fortier for once again offering their prime location for this event.

### Benefit Concert

In spring of 2010, The Ripple Effect Project hosted a benefit concert featuring Christopher Williams and Ellen Tipper at the Unity Performing Arts Center. Proceeds of the concert will be used toward the goal of digging a deep-water well for the Korando Center in Kisumu, Kenya.

### UNH Fraternity Fundraiser

Thank you to Lambda Chi Alpha for donating the proceeds of their spring 2010 fundraising event.

**Ripple Effect Project**  
PO Box 1956  
Waterville, ME 04403  
RippleEffectProject@gmail.com

## RIPPLE EFFECT PROJECT *Wish List*

- \$23,000 to dig a deep water well for the Korando Center
- Volunteers to help with upcoming fundraising events
- Your great ideas for future fundraisers

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## Volunteer Corner

Thank you to Ruth Jones for all of her hard work in organizing our 2010 Yard Sale.

