# Seeds of South Sudan news update



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Seeds of South Sudan P.O. Box 232 Arvada, CO 80001



Thanks to new sponsors and at least one existing sponsor, the six boys and one girl shown on this page will be coming to Nakuru in January to begin studying at Roots Academy. They were recommended by South Sudanese elders at the Kakuma Refugee Camp for their academic ability and care for others. All were interviewed in July 2017. Their long wait to join SoSS is over!

## a season For GRATITUDE

IN THIS HOLY SEASON, Seeds of South Sudan Founder Arok Garang, as well as board members and volunteers wish to thank You, Seeds' many sponsors and supporters, for your generosity this past year. Seeds was blessed with generous donors who made it possible for the us to pursue the purchase of Home Base for our Kenya-based staff and students.

Another blessing is that new sponsors and some existing sponsors have stepped up to support more students, making it possible to bring 17 refugee children and youth from Kakuma

Refugee Camp in 2018. Five of the new SoSS students began at Roots Academy in January and another 12 started at Roots in May, 2018. These young people not only are receiving a high quality education to match their bright

Asante Sana - Thank you very much!

minds, they have become part of the SoSS family where they receive emotional support, new shoes and clothes and a home to return to in Nakuru, Kenya when schools are on break.

To date, SoSS has been able to rescue 89 refugee orphans from the crowded Kakuma Refugee Camp and educate them through high school.



From left, Adum Garang, Ajang Lual, Mading Deng, Marol Deng, Nuul Deng, Thiong Dau and Thon Dhieu.



NUTURE AND EDUCATE REFUGEE CHILDREN
TO BECOME LEADERS OF SOUTH SUDAN seedsofsouthsudan.org / non-profit 501(c)(3) Tax ID# 45-4843694





From left:
Deng Dau Atem,
Awan Mawut Mapior,
Mariak Thuch Thiong,
Geu Ayuel Warabek
and Thuch Majak.
Congratulations!







# celebrating our newest HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

# Five 2017 High School Graduates

In 2019, Seeds of South Sudan is celebrating its 10th year of enrolling promising South Sudanese refugees into boarding schools in Kenya. One sign of the organization's maturity is that many of these students are graduating high school. They need more education or training in order to fully contribute to building a prosperous South Sudan.

# SUPPORT THE ADVANCED EDUCATION FUND SO THEY CONTINUE TO LEARN

## 2018 Graduates

The nine students pictured at right are graduating from several high schools across Kenya. They took final exams in October 2018 and will learn their scores in January. Of the 14 graduates on this page, some want to study international relations or communications at a university, while others want to learn a skill and obtain a certificate. Students can become nurses with a two year community college degree. Others can receive training and a diploma to become plumbers, electricians and carpenters.

Your donation to the SoSS Advanced Education Fund will give these students an opportunity to continue their education in a trade school, community college or university. It will cost \$2,400 a year for these students to pay for tuition and books or tools, as well as food and lodging for a year. Any amount helps. Please send a donation in the enclosed envelope (printed newsletter) or online at seedsofsouthsudan.org or send a check to Seeds of South Sudan, P.O. Box 232, Arvada, CO 80001.

### SOSS SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS IN 2018

Seeds founder Arok Garang spoke to the following schools this past year.

- Mead High School Longmont
- Alexander Dawson School Lafayette.
- Cheltenham Elementary School DPS
- Skinner Middle School DPS
- St. Elizabeth's School Episcopal School in Denver
- Sagewood Middle School Douglas County

**Help us spread the word!** Our board members can speak at your service club and Arok is a compelling speaker at schools, especially middle and high school and college. Contact info@seedsofsouthsudan.org or call 303-949-6890 with your speaker request.

## Luke 2:11 — "For to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."



















From left: Adut Aluong Atem, Ayuel Mabil Atem, Ayuel Warabek Geu, Chol Akech Nyingut, Deng Dhieu Deng, Longar Jima Atem, Madit Deng, Mamer Bior Aleer, Yar Lual Deng.

# HOME BASE UPDATE

The SoSS board is continuing to work with our US attorney and Kenyan attorneys on a contract to purchase Home Base, the large home in Nakuru. Kenva where our staff and high school graduates live year-round and all students live four months a year. The Kenyan government requires documentation from each board member for SoSS to be officially certified as a Foreign Non-Profit Operating in Kenya. Note: the Kenyan government shortened the third school term by one month, so students are at home in November and December as well as April and August. We will continue to provide updates on the home purchase in coming newsletters.

#### CONGRATS TO ROOTS ACADEMY GRADS!

These students have completed eighth grade and will be continuing to high school in 2019. The Kenyan government assigns them a school based on their eighth grade exit exam.

Ajang Mayen Ajak Atem Adum Kuir\* Deng Lual Thuch Garang Ajak Abuoi\*

\*Adum Kuir was Head Girl and Ajak Abuoi was Head Boy in 2017.





## HONOR A LOVED ONE WITH A GIFT TO SOSS

#### **NEED A GIFT IDEA FOR THAT SPECIAL SOMEONE?**

Giving a gift to Seeds of South Sudan solves the problem of sizes and colors! When you give a gift in honor or memory of a loved one, SoSS will send an attractive card as an acknowledgement to the person honored, or to a family member of the person designated in a memorial. The government of Kenya recently reduced the third school term by one month, so SoSS must now feed and house students for four months during the year when school is out: April, August, November and December.

## Your gift can be any amount. Here's how far your gift can go to help one Seeds student:

\$50 pays for a medical treatment for a student

**\$150** covers personal expenses for one student for a year

5300 buys a uniform and shoes for new students and those entering high school

**\$500** covers food per student at school and Home Base

**\*750** covers food and other expenses at Home Base when students are on break (four months a year)

**\*1,500** Education Sponsorship (tuition, room and board for one student: 1 year)

**52,400** Community College Cost per year, including books, tools, room and food

**53,000** Covers one year of university education (tuition, room, board)

Please make your donation securely online at https://seedsofsouthsudan.org or send a check to Seeds of South Sudan, P.O. Box 232, Arvada, CO 80001

## Save January 27 for the SoSS Annual Luncheon

Join us Sunday, January 27 at Montview Boulevard Presbyterian Church, 1980 Dahlia Street in Denver, to celebrate Seeds of South Sudan's accomplishments during the past year and learn about plans to educate and train the SoSS scholars who have graduated high school in 2017 and 2018. Once again, Relish Catering will be providing a delicious

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Seeds of South Sudan Annual Luncheon

Sunday January 27 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Montview Blvd Presbyterian Church 1980 Dahlia St., Denver 80207 luncheon at 12:30 p.m. The program will continue until about 2 p.m.

Arok is traveling to Kenya for Christmas and he will be spending time with our SoSS kids at Home Base in Nakuru. Come January 27 to hear from Arok about the students'career goals, the postsecondary opportunities for our high school graduates and other new information gained on his visit.