



# Seeds of South Sudan HOLIDAY NEWSLETTER

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[seedsofsouthsudan.org](http://seedsofsouthsudan.org)

## Thanks to Your Awesome Support, Seeds Met its Fourth Term Tuition Goal!

**Seeds is incredibly grateful to our terrific sponsors and donors.** You stepped up to meet our unprecedented need to pay for a fourth term in 2022. As of mid-October, our \$42,000 fund-raising goal was surpassed with \$46,800 received! We were able to cover the tuition for Term 4, which started October 3. Hitting this milestone means we can once again raise funds and sponsorships to educate more anxious refugees waiting in Kakuma and pay all the tuition, room, board and expenses for all of our current K-12 students.

In her compelling video interview, college freshman **Adut Atem** said she was grateful for the unwavering support of Seeds and her sponsors in financing her education. "I would see other (high school) students chased away if their tuition was not paid," Adut said. "Thank God I have responsible parents (Seeds and her sponsors.) They don't need anything from us."

Because of Seeds' support and the values she has learned, Adut wants to give back to the people of South Sudan. She spent a year volunteering in South Sudan in 2020 and found great needs. "Most girls don't know their rights, (such as refusing early marriage.) I would like to teach girls their rights and menstrual hygiene." Also, some cows have TB (which infect the children) and the parents do not know they are sick. Children under five are dying because of this. "I would like to teach them how to handle the cows and make better use of resources, such as fertilizer."

Your ongoing support ensures that ethical, caring students like Adut will continue to be educated to fulfill our mission: becoming "seeds of change in South Sudan."



Adut Atem

## Service Trips Delivered Training, Forged Friendships

**Seeds students and staff exchanged valuable lessons and formed fast friendships with 16 people who visited Kenya this year.** The first group of seven, in July, brought sewing machines to teach the students and led leadership and Bible study sessions with the young men and young women in Nakuru. A team of two also took school supplies to Kakuma Refugee Camp and interviewed several refugee orphans who were prioritized for sponsorship because of ill health.

The nine participants in the September trip conducted a health screening of 84 students and staff to check their eyesight and for serious heart and gastrointestinal issues. **Jill Flateland, RN**, is listening to the heart of **Nyuon Mayen Nuul**. Jill was

See *SERVICE TRIPS* on page 2



**Our Mission:** To educate refugee children to become 'Seeds of Change' for South Sudan



## Service Trips *Continued from page 1*

checking for heart murmurs caused by malaria and intestinal worms from infected water.

Jill found eight people with heart murmurs and another eight with worms. Pharmacy student **Bior Wek Dut** also assisted with the health screening. He and Jill purchased medicine to treat the worms and a sty in one student's eye. There is no treatment for a murmur, but it is important for people to know they have heart damage.

Some of the funds raised for the trip were left with Seeds in-country management, so students could be taken to doctors for health issues and optometrists to receive glasses. Thanks to a grant from Montview Presbyterian Church Mission Life, the September team purchased a keyboard that team member **Mary Hanson** played for church services and singalongs. Grants from Montview and the St. Philip Lutheran Church Endowment made it possible to treat students to seminars and a buffet lunch at the Rift Valley Sports Club on both trips.

In July, the Young Men's Leadership workshop, led by **Alan Farb**, taught team-building through an exercise to build a bridge starting from opposite ends with only one person allowed to communicate with the other team. They did meet in the middle!

The Young Women's Leadership workshop, led by **Sue Counterman**, discussed growing into womanhood and explored leadership themes through poetry



and discussion. Pastor **Heidi McGinness** and **Helen Worthan** of the Holy Stitchers raised funds to buy three sewing machines. The team taught sewing and created tote bags with students at Home Base. One machine is a foot-powered treadle. It will be taken to Kakuma Refugee Camp the next time a group travels there overland.

In September, **Tom Pond** taught interviewing skills and **Ed Holroyd** taught how to write a resume and cover letter. The students were thrilled that the Americans traveled to Africa to see and teach them.

The volunteers felt equally blessed that they were able to meet, coach and visit with these remarkable, thoughtful young people.

## TWO NEW SCHOLARS STARTED UNIVERSITY THIS FALL

**Alek Garang Thuch** and **Aguil Lual Deng** both started university studies in Nairobi in September. Alek is studying community health and Aguil is studying medical records. Both graduated from the Njonjo Girls National High School in March 2021 (Class of 2020). They traveled to South Sudan and volunteered with people from Arok Garang's home region who had been displaced by flooding. Two other recent graduates started their university studies last January. **Thuch Kuir Thuch** began studying electronics at the Rift Valley Institute of Technology. **Adut Atem** (see page 1) is studying banking and business at Mt. Kenya University in Nakuru. Both Thuch and Adut graduated high school in 2019 and spent a year in South Sudan.



Alek Garang Thuch



Aguil Lual Deng



Thuch Kuir Thuch

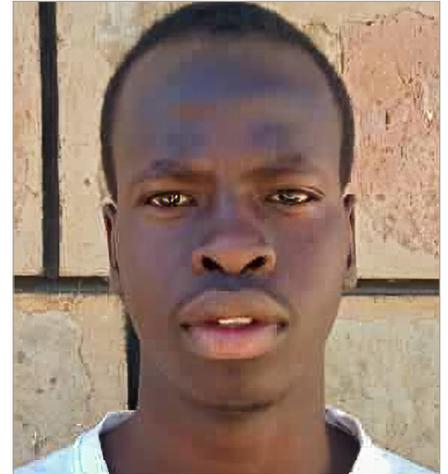


## FIVE SEEDS SCHOLARS GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL LAST MARCH

Five students from three Kenyan high schools graduated in March and are now teaching at Kakuma Refugee Camp. These students bring valuable expertise to share with the children.

The UN provides room and board in exchange for their teaching services. The new grads were originally scheduled to graduate in 2021, but after schools closed during Covid, they completed their studies and exams in March 2022.

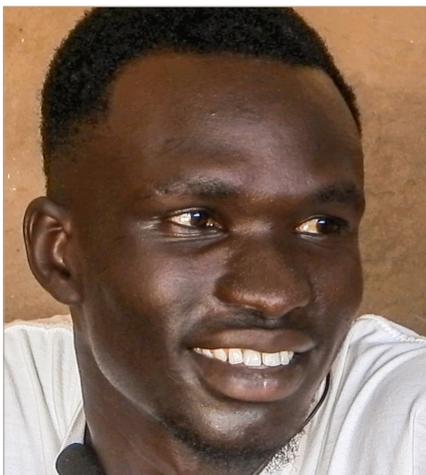
The students and their high schools are: **Bol Machar Akech**, **Chol Lual Deng** and **Dut Chol Atem**, St. Joseph Boys National High School; **Arok Maketh Arok**, Menengai Boys High School; and **Maghai Malueth Chuol**, Koelel Boys National High School. Congratulations to these new grads and their sponsors for reaching this wonderful milestone!



Arok Maketh Arok



Bol Machar Akech



Chol Lual Deng



Dut Chol Atem



Maghai Malueth Chuol

 1 Chronicles 16:8 Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples! 



Seeds of South Sudan

PO BOX 232, ARVADA, CO 80001

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## Come See and Hear our Kids at the November 13 Luncheon!

**WHEN:** Sunday, November 13, from 12:30 to 2 pm

**WHERE:** Montview Boulevard Presbyterian Church  
1980 Dahlia Street, Denver, CO 80207

**WHAT:** See videos and hear stories about our students and the service trips. Buy beautiful Kenyan beaded necklaces, tote bags from Kenyan fabric and bid on a French Dinner for Eight in an East Denver home.

**WHY:** You'll be inspired to learn what our students and volunteers have to say!

**RSVP:** to John Gonder; [info@seedsofsouthsudan.org](mailto:info@seedsofsouthsudan.org) or at 303-949-6890.