Seeds of South Sudan
FALL NEWSLETTER
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seedsofsouthsudan.org

Come Hear Seeds College Student Ajang Mayen in Denver October 18

Mark your calendars and join us Sunday, October 18, from 12:15 to 2:00 pm at Montview Blvd. Presbyterian Church, 1980 Dahlia Street in northeast Denver. Ajang Mayen Nuun, a junior majoring in accounting on scholarship at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, BC, will be our keynote speaker. Ajang has applied for a short-term visa which was initially rejected but it is being appealed. So Ajang will appear either via Zoom or in person depending on the outcome of efforts to earn a National Interest Exemption for his appearance. Either way, Ajang is a charismatic individual whose story will inspire you.

You will enjoy meeting other Seeds sponsors and donors and can shop at our African market for baskets, place mats, and stowaway bags. You can also sign up for a French Dinner for 8, a popular event provided by two members of Montview Church in their home that includes a flight of wines, hors d'ouvres, dessert and authentic French food.

Ajang Mayen

TWENTY NEW ORPHANS JOIN SEEDS IN AUGUST

Thanks to a generous donor and new sponsors, 20 happy refugee orphans left the bleak Kakuma Refugee Camp in August and started school in Nakuru, Kenya. Fifteen of the orphans were sponsored for one year by an extraordinarily generous Seeds sponsor and donor who was concerned about the lack of food and medical care at Kakuma after USAID was terminated. Others stepped up to become long-term sponsors for the other five students.

Geu Ayuel Warabek enrolled at Carol Academy.

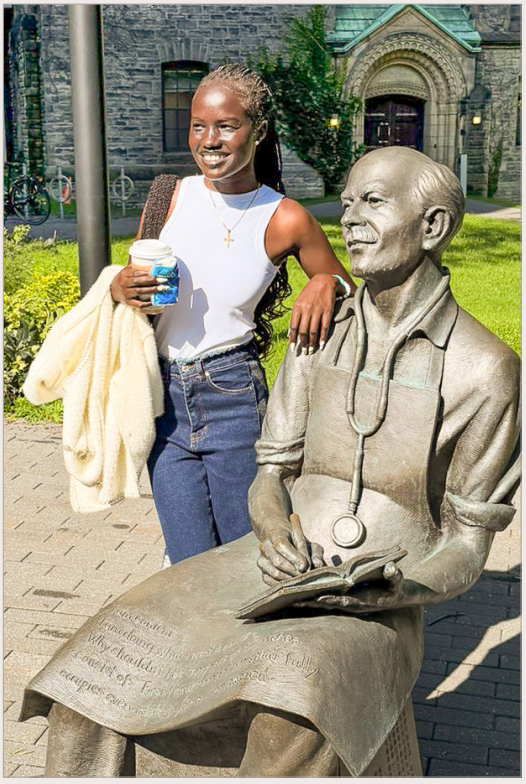
Nineteen of the new Seeds students were enrolled at Roots Academy, a K-6 school in Nakuru where most students begin their educational journey with Seeds.

One student enrolled at Carol Academy, also in Nakuru. They now receive three meals a day, a high-quality education and medical care. These new students bring to 236 the number of orphans that Seeds has educated since 2009. Sponsor cards for the 15 will be available for review at the October 18 annual luncheon at Montview Church.

These 19 Seeds students were enrolled at Roots Academy. From front row, left: Akuach Mading Anhiany, Mading Kelei Nhial, Geu Malith Kuir, Aluel Machar Manyok, Akoi Deng Mapior, Malang Atem Kuol, Malang Mamer Arok, Goch Thok Garang and Ahou Geu Kuir. From back row, left: Dau Garang Dau, Dau Deng Atem, Alek Mayen Kuir, Athok Mayen Deng, Nyandeng Thiong Atem, Aduk Chol Mamer, Akuany Mabil Garang, Adut Geu Kuir, Akuach Dau Kuir, Nyibol Mawut Mapior.

YAR DENG MAYEN WINS SCHOLARSHIP TO THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Yar Deng Mayen has started classes at Trinity College at the University of Toronto, one of the highest-rated universities in Canada. Yar scored a B+ on her high school graduation exam, placing her in the top 2% of the nearly 1 million students who graduate high school in Kenya each year. She aspires to be a radiation therapist. Yar began her studies this fall in general sciences and will apply to join medical radiation sciences in year two. Yar is a shining example of the caliber of students in the Seeds program who work hard and will made a positive difference in South Sudan.



INCREASE YOUR IMPACT WITH MATCHING GIFTS OR REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTIONS FROM YOUR IRA

Does your employer match employee gifts to charitable organizations? To find out, please check to see if they will match donations to Seeds of South Sudan. Seeds has a 501(c)3 designation from the Internal Revenue Service. Our IRS Tax ID number is 45-4843694, which is included under the return address on this newsletter.

Seeds supporters who are 73 or older must make a Required Minimum Distribution from their IRA by December 31 each year. A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) is a direct transfer of funds from your IRA to Seeds of South Sudan. This transfer is excluded from your taxable income, up to a limit of $108,000 per year.

To be eligible, the QCD must be made only from an IRA, and the custodian must transfer funds directly to Seeds of South Sudan —do not have the withdrawal sent to you.

The distribution is reported on IRS Form 1099-R, and you must ensure that the amount of the distribution is reflected as a QCD on your federal tax return (see Form 1040 for details).

To make a QCD to Seeds, contact your IRA custodian (or check their website for a form). Their customer service people can help. Determine your required minimum distribution amount (or the amount you wish to donate), complete the transfer form and obtain confirmation from the custodian that it is acceptable, then report the distribution on your next federal tax return and indicate the amount that was sent to Seeds as a QCD. Check with your tax advisor if you have questions. Thank you!

Kuir Mayen Kuir Now Works At an Airport in South Sudan

Kuir Mayen Kuir earned a Master's in Development Finance from the University of Nairobi and now works as a billing and settlement officer at the South Sudan Civil Aviation Authority in Juba, South Sudan. Kuir is the fourth Seeds student to graduate from university and find employment in South Sudan.

Dau Atem Dau obtained a job at a bank and Dau Machar Jok and Garang Manyok Giet taught at a seminary with their bachelor's degrees. Dau and Garang have returned to Kenya to earn graduate degrees so they can earn a salary teaching at a South Sudanese seminary. Two more college graduates have obtained law degrees in Kenya and are completing post-graduate work to obtain their law licenses. Dr. Aleer Jok Kuir completed medical school and is now working for a dialysis company in Nairobi for a year, so he can qualify for a 4-year residency in orthopedics.

Thanks to long-time sponsors and donors of Seeds whose support has led to such significant milestones for these former refugee orphans who have thrived in the Seeds of South Sudan family.

RECORD NUMBER OF SEEDS STUDENTS ARE ATTENDING POST-SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Seeds students can be more effective "seeds of change for South Sudan" (our mission) if they have degrees from a university or trade school. Seeds now has 32 students attending postsecondary schools in Kenya supported by sponsors and eight in Canada who have earned university scholarships from the government of Canada. One student, John Matiop, has a degree from the University of Western Ontario and is working in Canada to earn money for graduate school. Another student, Amou Mamer Thuch, is studying on scholarship at a university in Mexico.

These 41 students are the highest number completing post-graduate education in the 17-year history of Seeds! Thanks to all sponsors and donors who have contributed to our success in educating a generation of wise, caring, ethical leaders to rebuild South Sudan.

Galatians 6:2 Carry each other's burdens and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Seeds of South Sudan
PO BOX 232, ARVADA, CO 80001
501(c)(3) Tax ID# 45-4843694

SEEDS SERVICE TRIP CAN TAKE YOUR LETTERS TO STUDENTS IN KENYA

A group of 13 Seeds sponsors and volunteers will travel to Kenya in November to provide a health screening and workshops on interviewing skills and leadership training for Seeds students. The group can take letters and photos from sponsors. Send them to: **Seeds of South Sudan, P.O. Box 232, Arvada, CO 80001** for receipt by October 16. You may also email your communication to **letters@seedsofsouthsudan.org** by October 19.

Voices of Hope: Cultivating a Brighter Tomorrow

Sunday, October 18 | 12:15 to 2:00 pm

Montview Boulevard Presbyterian Church
1980 Dahlia Street, Denver
Fellowship Hall

Scan QR Code to RSVP

Hebrews 13:16 Do not forget to do good and share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.