



Congo Helping Hands, Inc.

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"Strengthening the Heart of Africa"

January 6, 2008

A young girl comes home from the library. She carries a picture of the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. She tells her mama about his struggles and accomplishments. She translates the key points of his famous speech into their native tongue for her illiterate mama. That's my dream.

**Your support of the Bulape Cultural Center
Helps "rural poor children" access the internet**



The internet has changed our lives forever. You may lament about the bad associated with the internet. But when you put the good and the bad on the scale, the internet has brought us far more positive changes. It has increased our quality of life. The educational value of the internet is unbelievable. With your help, the internet will help better educate and build the dream of the poor village children of Bulape.

We opened the Bulape Cultural Center last June. The Cultural Center has a room for a small computer center. It is envisioned that this room will have four computers and a combination printer/scanner. Two of the four computers will have access to the digital world of the internet. That's our vision for the future of the Cultural Center.

The village of Bulape is about 25 miles from the nearest cell tower in the town of Mweka. You can place a call to the outside world with a cell phone. But you must stand still in the right place, face the right direction, and hope that a cloud or something does not interfere with that weak signal. It is near impossible and impractical to hold still a computer connected to a cell phone and in the precise position while accessing the internet. We must bring the internet to the Cultural Center.

We plan to install an external directional antenna on the roof of the Cultural Center to collect the weak signal. The external antenna will be connected to an internal antenna which will broadcast the signal into the computer center. This setup will create a cellular hotspot in the room. Now, cellular phones can easily and consistently connect to and stay connected to the outside world for phone calls and the internet.

Students from the schools in Bulape will be able to come to the Cultural Center to use the traditional library and the virtual library on the internet. The internet will improve the quality of their education. Both the student and the teacher will benefit from access to the internet. Equally important, they will be able to send and receive email messages. Also, the internet could be a source of income to offset the operation and upkeep of the Cultural Center. Access to information via the internet will help in poverty reduction and promote democracy in their society. Villagers will have access to news about their country, their government, and the world.

Access to the internet will change their lives forever and for the better. You can make a difference! With your help, prayers, and financial support the internet is within reach of the rural poor children of Bulape.

Blessings,

Woody M. Collins
President
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