School fees

Schooling at secondary level in Kenya is not free. Many people find it very difficult to come up with the money required and their children can easily miss out at this level. TBCN is especially concerned with the children of church leaders, that they do not suffer educationally because their fathers have so little. Few church leaders are supported enabling them to provide sufficient for their daily needs. We also prioritize children of widows. Below is an outline of young people we are currently seeking to help. One thing we do want to know is that the children we support are involved in the local church, even if they do not profess personal faith.

There has been severe drought in north Kenya for a long time making the pressure on parents to raise fees even more difficult. We have brethren in fellowship with us among the Rendille, Turkana and Pokot regions.

1. There are three Evangelists among the Rendille. One of them has a number of children in need of help and is asking just for one of them. Another has a daughter who is deaf as a result of meningitis and who has completed secondary and wants to go on to be a teacher of the deaf. One of the church members is a widow whose daughter is in the nearest secondary school run by the African Inland Church. A family, where the mother and father are both members of the church, is very needy. We used to provide them with monthly support, but now the daughter stays with an uncle after completion of secondary in order to ease the situation of few resources. This daughter wants to go to a College to have some hope of future employment.

2. There is one pastor among the Turkana, who is not regularly supported. He has one son at University, one in secondary, and a third set to go to secondary. Without help these burdens are impossible to sustain.

3. One of the pastors among the Pokot has great needs. With a large family and the serious drought, he has had to care for an ailing father as well as provide school fees. One of his children is starting secondary school.

Apart from the added burden of drought almost all church leaders get little support from their churches. In many cases TBCN, through donors, seeks to give regular support, but at best it is only enough to survive. The following five brethren need support for school fees.

4. A pastor who is the sole leader of his small church in a drought prone area. With other children in school and college he needs help for a daughter.

5. A pastor who sends his daughters to a nearby day secondary school (which we encourage) needs help for at least one of them.

6. A pastor already has two children in secondary, with another just starting. He requests help to send a son to the nearest day school (i.e. non-boarding).

7. A pastor who struggles to pay college fees for two of his sons has requested support advances which would leave the family with little to feed on. Although he has not made a specific request we are very sympathetic to the need.

8. A pastor who depends on the little support we are able to give him has five sons. Two are in college, one dropped out due to lack of fees, and two more have completed secondary. Tertiary education is much more expensive than secondary, yet children who have only completed secondary have little opportunity on the job market. He needs help if his sons are to progress, while the father is engaged in important church planting.

We can give full information on request. Please either contact Trinity Baptist Church, Nairobi, or TRAIN(Kenya).

What are the amounts of money about which we are we talking? They vary depending on whether the school is day (we greatly encourage this) or boarding. This the cost may vary between £150-350 annually for secondary. Tertiary is much more expensive. We have been able to help with a number of these needs, but the needs are ongoing, 4 years in secondary and at least 3 in tertiary. We already need to be thinking of next year so that we are ready.