

Friends of St Jude's

Fighting Poverty Through Spreading Awareness

The School of St Jude

Dear Friend's of St Jude's,

March 21, 2009

I always like to emphasize how Friend's is for everybody. Not everyone always believes me, so I have tried to shake it up a bit every once in a while...from big and small to old and young, we have had personal initiatives, birthday parties and market sales. What we have not featured yet is some of our more glamorous Friend's. This newsletter will highlight some extremely determined and dedicated Friend's who decided to go big, dancing the night away and making concerts to delight the whole community. Hopefully this Newsletter will also act as a source of inspiration, as well as enjoyment, as you can see how much fun Friend's can be, and how your events can be as big or as small as you want.



Glamour for a good cause...since 2007, Julie, Yvonne, Julie, Caroline and Angela have been "flying the banner for the St Jude School here in Perth, Western Australia"

Glamorous Friends....

After getting inspired by a program featuring The School of St Jude and our fight against poverty in Tanzania, five determined women decided to do their part...in style. Since 2007, Julie Cromey, Yvonne Fitzgerald, Julie Hepworth, Caroline Buck and Angela Teasdale have organized the annual Perth Charity Ball to benefit The School of St Jude.



This year the five friends organized a "Las Vergas" night, raised \$13,000 (Aus Dollars) for the school and most importantly had over 160 guests and media coverage all learning about The School of St Jude. While guests enjoyed a four course meal and danced until midnight, everyone was aware of why they were here: " Each table had a St Jude Book on and we played the guests a small DVD of the school which Yvonne put together....hopefully this helped raise awareness to the school."

After all this hard work and great results, I had assumed that Yvonne, Caroline, Angela and both Julie's would want a breather. Not so they tell me. In

fact, "the plans are already under way for the ball in 2009 and we are looking at trying to get a sponsor for the event so more profit can go to the school....fingers crossed !!!" Thank you so much ladies. This is truly a story of determination and dedication, which has brought support and glamour to Tanzania. The awareness that you have raised is invaluable to the continued success of our school.

Glamorous Friends....



These students are from Horsham primary school, and "they did a song "We are Australian" in sign language . It is a song which celebrates our diverse cultures in being all Australians getting along as one. A great sentiment! They are only in Grade 2 and are already very proficient in sign language". What an amazing outlook and program.

Looking Forwards...

When times are difficult, as times at the moment are for us at St Jude's, it is stories like this that keep me going. It is efforts of friends, schools, work colleagues and families that band together so that we can keep providing for the children here, far off in Arusha, that keeps my team going. Thank you for your support, and for not giving up. You can be rest assured that we are doing the same from our end. If you have a story that you would like featured, or have held an event, big or small, formal or informal, please send me some pictures. I would love to share your efforts with all our supporters.

With Love

Gemma

In this next story I am proud to feature an extraordinary woman, who has managed to touch the lives of hundreds of children, bringing them a message of love, community and appreciation. Lea Crammond, a music teacher at Horsham Music Academy, planned, executed and hosted the Horsham Music Academy fundraising concert which raised \$2000 for The School of St Jude, and brought awareness about our work here in Tanzania to hundreds of students and parents alike.

In only three weeks, Lea managed to organize the surrounding schools to collaborate with Horsham and celebrate a love for music and a love for each other. While I feel it is such a privilege to have Friends like Lea, she came right back at us and said "It was a privilege to organize this concert for you...Let me finish by adding that I think what you are all achieving is just so important for each and every one of the beautiful young lives you are touching. We feel so blessed to have the lives we live in Australia and we are keen for the children we have participating in your fundraising concert to have a conscience so that they too will appreciate what they have and consider improving the lives of others."

Leah is already planning her next event for November, with the support of the surrounding schools. What an amazing Friend you are, and a big thank you from all of us here at St Jude's to all the students at Horsham. What we achieve is only possible because of Friend's like you.



Horsham West Primary school students dance to a piece called "Marios Pizza".