

DARE TO DREAM



Dear Family and Friends,

It has been 3 months since I've been back in Kenya, but good news: I'm back. These last 3 months have been eventful, relaxing, and cold.

Before you continue reading the rest of the update, I just wanted to say a thank you to everyone who housed me, treated me with lunches, dinners and coffee. But most of all thank you to all who have continued being a friend and support to me and my vision. I've said this before, but it's true. Without you I could not have done this.

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- Loans
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- Let's get this party started
- 3 Year mark

Mbita Farm

I have mentioned something about our farm before on Facebook and we also have it posted now on our website. But I wanted to bring it to your attention again in our update.

Dare To Dream is all about empowering families through business training, micro loans and mentorship. We do this so that they can be self-sustainable, so that they are able to take care of those in need. Like the orphans.

Dare To Dream has been relying on donations from overseas. But this is something that I have found personally to be one of the hardest things about doing this work. I believe in giving and living a life of generosity, and blessing people around you. But I also believe in working hard and doing what you can.

I have always been looking for ways to make Dare To Dream a bit more self-sustainable. And now finally I have



found a way we can start doing that. We are starting a farm, not a farm with animals or anything, but we are going to grow onions and beans.

In Kenya there is always a demand for onions and beans. We have leased a piece of land from a widow in our community and have plowed the field. We then divided the land into 3 sections where we will start to do crop rotation. With the help of [Bejo Zaden Nederland](#) we received high quality onion seeds, which will be planted first.

We are planning on selling a high quality product at normal market prices and with the profit, we will start sustaining the project. Our goal would be that the program will eventually be locally funded by 75% and 25% from outside sources.

If you would like to help us build this farm and make it sustainable please contact us.

The farm we will be hiring a local and give him or her a full-time job. The proceeds of the farm will be funding a large part of Dare To Dream Mbita.

Loans

In the 3 months that I've been out of Kenya, the program continued, including the loans. We still have 10 active loans running. In my absence we were able to give out 1 new loan because of the repayments of the other loans. This was another great reminder that the money that was donated to one person is now serving several people.



This is Kennedy, our latest addition to The Dreamers and very motivated

CMN

Last year I mentioned to you that I was going to move to a new city, and work with a new organization. Well this organization is called [Church Missions Network](#) (CMN). My role with this organization will be to implement the Dare To Dream program into their network of pastors and churches. In the first 6 months, I will mainly focus on

If you are willing to support Dare To Dream, you can make your one time or monthly donation to:

Conejo Church, P.O. Box 792, Newbury Park, CA 91320, Note: Support Dare To Dream, (and the name of the project or personal support)

Bob de Groot, NL 34 RABO 030 56 31 020
BIC: RABONL2U, Note: t.a.v. Bob de Groot, Support Dare to Dream (and the name of the project or personal support)

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I'm excited for all the new opportunities and places where I can serve. Like this organization called New Life. It is an organization who receives orphans and helps place them into new families. There are many orphan babies who need to be fed at the right times. During the weekends most volunteers enjoy their weekend, so I decided to step in and help on Saturdays with feeding the babies and playing with them.

This is one of the many new things that I can help with now. For the rest, follow me on Facebook or Twitter to be updated almost daily on what happens here.

Let's get this Party Started

Another team coming from Los Angeles is coming over. This time it's going to be a group of 8 people and they will



stay in Kenya for 10 weeks. My role is to host them throughout different parts of Kenya during this time. We are planning on going to 4 different locations, 3 rural areas and the other is here in Kisumu.

The team will be doing different projects like building a fence for a church, painting the children's ward in the local hospital, building an aquaponics system and many other smaller projects.

If you would like to help the team in these projects with finances or materials please contact me by sending me an email. If you don't have my email you can always fill out a contact form on our website, which can be found here: www.projectdaretodream.com/contact



CMN delivers rice and beans to several of their churches, so they can feed the orphans and the widows

getting to know the organization and the people I will be working with. From there, we will start training people in our business trainings and eventually we will support their businesses with loans.

In the meantime I will make sure Mbita is running without me and it allows me to get used to living in the big city as well.

Kisumu

Kisumu, the third largest city in Kenya and growing as one of the fastest. These last 3 years that I've been living in Kenya I would go to Kisumu for a break. I would stop by other western friends, enjoy a cold beverage and maybe eat a hamburger. But now I live here.

The first day when I arrived It was very strange to me that this now my new home. I have a larger social network now and more western treats like electricity and a refrigerator. This to me is a huge transition. I'm sure that some of you are thinking that it is all good, an improvement. It is, but it is also hard. This is a whole new side to Kenya for me.



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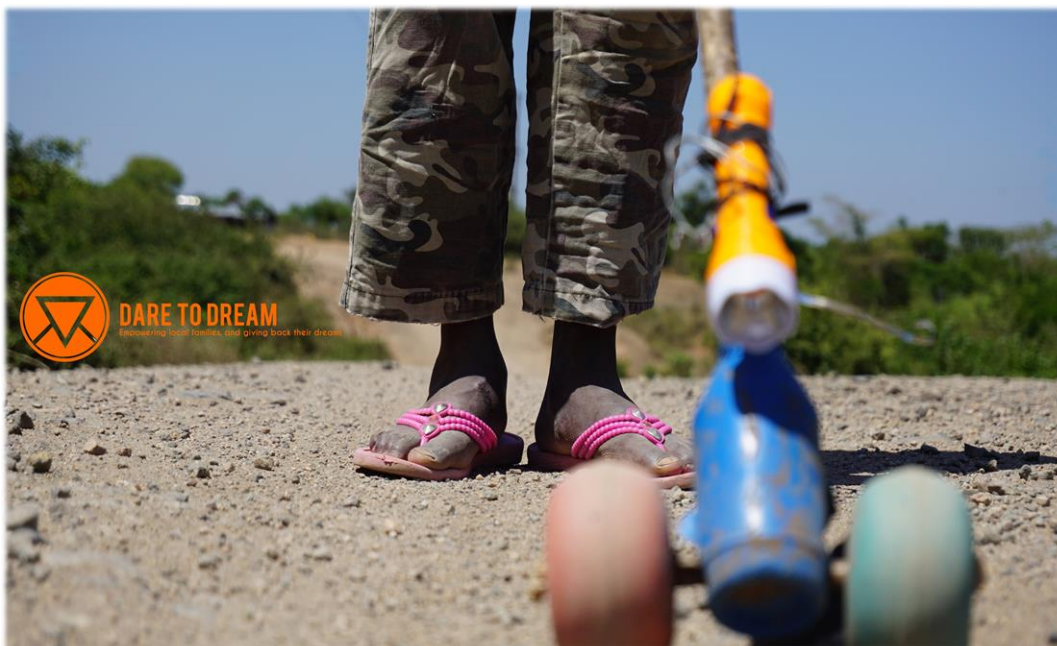
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3 Year Mark

As you might know we have been in Kenya now for 3 years. April 2012 was the first time we set foot on Kenyan soil and 3 years later we're still here.

In these 3 years we have been building our program and getting it started. Slowly, but surely we are moving forward and making long lasting changes in the lives of Kenyan families. We have been able to see many successes and unfortunately also some failures. The other day I was reflecting on our program and what we have accomplished so far, and realized that 3 years in, we still made mistakes. But no one can deny that they have made mistakes in their life, and have learned from them.

This is us too, in our 'trying' we have made mistakes, but more importantly we have taken those mistakes and have turned them into learning experiences. This way, our program has been able to grow and continues to serve the Kenyan people better and better all the time. Our failures are only failures if we let them be. We will continue to grow and improve our program. And we hope that you will continue to join us in this wonderful experience.

Become a Part of it

I would like to invite you to be a part of this amazing experience in Kenya. There are a few ways that you can do this and if you are not already doing one of these things, I would like to ask you to consider it.

Since Dare To Dream is relying on donations for our business trainings, loans and Kenyan staff salaries, we would like to ask you to become a financial partner. You can do this by making one time or monthly donations. If you are not in a position to give financially yourself you could always spread the word about our program and see if any of your friends would like to make a donation.

Another way is by visiting the prayer requests on [our website](#) and see what our needs are. Maybe you have some frequent flier miles lying around, or you're a part of a football (soccer) club and would be willing to donate some gear.

Another way is to send us encouragement. Just a short message does miracles and makes us feel like we are not in this alone.

Thank you to all of you who have already been making donations and sending encouragement. We highly appreciate your support and hope that these next 3 years you will be able to continue supporting us.

Love and Blessings,

Bob de Groot
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