

A Meeting of Women's Minds:

A Microenterprise Journey to Kenya

March 25-April 6, 2009

Sponsored by Hungry Souls and the Nairobi Evangelical Graduate School of Theology

Have you ever wondered:

**Isn't there some way I can use the abilities I've developed,
and this hard-won expertise I've gained,
to make the world, somewhere, better?**

This is a restless hunger in the heart of many humans. We want our lives to count for something that has significance and is lasting.

Hungry Souls is announcing a journey to Kenya designed to for those very women who are disturbed by unending reports of worldwide suffering and degradation. You care. You have gifts and resources. You want to help in ways that will make a difference but will not create disabling dependencies upon the Western dollar.

We have room for 16 women to leave from the States on March 25, 2009 to spend 10 full days dialoguing with concerned Kenyan women (all amazing problem-solvers) about collaborative efforts that will make a lasting impact in their country.

United Nations and WHO (World Health Organization) studies have shown that the most successful grassroots projects in Africa, ones that are sustainable and effective, are organized and run by women.

So, when you want to solve a hunger problem, an educational concern, discover how to have fun while doing it all, make lasting friendships in any place or tribe or culture, help hurting kids or widows or HIV/AIDS victims—put a couple of creative women together. Better than that, put a group of women with cross-cultural concerns together.

This Kenyan journey is not a touristic adventure, though we are including some sightseeing, a two-day safari, visits to the Maasai market, and an optional ancillary trip to swim and shop and relax in Zanzibar. This journey is basically designed to help us look, learn, dialogue, and do something!

A draft day-schedule is available upon request at info@hungrysouls.org. The final schedule will be tailored around *your* gifts and *your* interests; the final plan will be built around where you will be most challenged and where you can contribute most significantly. For now, however, the draft Kenya Journey Day Matrix gives you an idea of our schedule

The cost for **A Meeting of Women's Minds**, including airfare, is \$4,000. We will be staying while in Kenya at the Guest House on the grounds of the Nairobi Evangelical Graduate School of Theology (NEGST). If you wish to join the extra excursion to Zanzibar for two added days, that will be an additional \$1,000.

We are looking for up to six seamstresses to collaborate with African graduate students and wives of graduate students (as well as members of the Nairobi Quilters Guild) to further the Global Bag Ladies Project (linking microenterprise to eco-shopping) in the Home Science Room on the NEGST campus.

We are also looking for an additional eight businesswomen, strategic thinkers, good workers, philanthropists, church leaders and outreach leaders, etc. who will be assigned to a variety of work teams in projects where there is crushing need. Depending upon your interest, you might visit a center for crippled children and help kids relearn to walk. The women on one past team gathered wheelchairs, prostheses and other supplies for these physically challenged kids.

One former team taught art classes in a slum orphanage and school, and then sold the children's paintings in an art gallery in Toronto to raise funds for the project.

One Canadian businesswoman provided microcredit loans and, just as importantly, taught basic business skill planning to HIV/AIDS widows living in the Kibera slums.

Women with a background in the beauty industries styled hair (the first beauty appointment some African women ever had) and gave massages.

Can you teach English as a second language?

Are you intrigued by the development of the worldwide microloans phenomenon? Would you like to understand it more and contribute to a lending enterprise in some way?

If so, Karen Mains and Carla Boelkens, in addition to remarkable Kenyan women and staff members of the Nairobi Evangelical Graduate School of Theology, would love to have you join us March 25-April 6, 2009 in Africa for a journey not only guaranteed to change your life. It is designed to give a gift of goodness to this part of the world.

We have room for only 14 women. Half your fee, or \$2,000, must be paid by October 31, 2008, and the remaining \$2,000 must be paid by February 1, 2009. A check made out to Hungry Souls/Kenya and mailed to:

Hungry Souls
Box 30
Wheaton, IL 60187

will reserve your place. If you have additional questions, Karen Mains will be happy to answer them either by e-mail = karen@hungrysouls.org or by phone = 630-293-4500.

Don't delay. Some six to eight women have indicated serious interest in this Kenyan Journey. We expect the places to fill fast.



Karen Mains, Linda Renner, Lois Shaw, Carla Boelkens and HIV/AIDS Widows