**Building Tomorrow's World Today!** 

# 2009

# THE JENEBA PROJECT REPORT



THE JENEBA PROJECT 107 CLARKE ST. SYRACUSE, NY 13210. TEL: 518-681-6656 10/23/2009

# **THE JENEBA PROJECT 2009**



Two years ago The Jeneba Project in collaboration with the We are happy to say that the four classroom building which Skidmore International Affairs club embarked on the will serve as the St. Joseph Senior Secondary School was construction of a library & community room at the St. Joseph unveiled on August 15th, 2009 and delivered to the Staff of St. Secondary School in Masoila, Sierra Leone. A meeting was Joseph, His Lordship Bishop George Biguzzi, local Inspectors held between The Jeneba Project team and the parents and staff of the St. Joseph Secondary School to discuss the behalf of the people of Masoila. The school is expected to outcome of the project and future needs. It was at that commence enrollment at Senior Secondary School one (SSSI) meeting that the parents and staff of the school requested the level as soon as the Basic Education Certificate Examination help of The Jeneba Project in building a Senior Secondary (BECE) results are out. This exam qualifies middle school School for their children. We were very reluctant to accept students for high school education. The results are expected in their request simply because The Jeneba Project had no September 2009. standing budget to expend.

When I returned to the States, I discussed the matter with the experienced several obstacles of corruption such as price two Assistant Directors of The Jeneba Project; Peter S. Brock and Liat Krawczyk. We estimated that the project could be accomplished by raising \$20,000. While this may not sound like much of a challenge in the US, we were faced with the nowhere to go could not allow us to simply sign-out. What we intricacies of fundraising during a recession when most people German educator Kurt Hahn said, our education permits us as working through middlemen. We formed a committee voung people "to effect what we recognize to be right, despite comprising of teachers, community leaders and parishioners to hardships, despite dangers, despite inner skepticism, despite help with the project. The committee was granted the boredom, and despite mockery from the world."

A year ago we embarked on the tedious task of harassing our friends: recent grads with very little money, high schools and small businesses. After we raised half of the money, I went to Sierra Leone to start the construction process while Liat and Peter continued the fundraising. Liat joined me in Sierra Leone at the end of July while Peter stayed to coordinate our activities in the US. The Jeneba Project also collaborated with Drewstone Productions to shoot a documentary about The Jeneba Project and the reconstruction efforts in Sierra Leone. Liberia and Guinea.

of Schools, the Regent Chief and other local dignitaries on

Building a school in Sierra Leone was not an easy task. We hyping and outright embezzlement of funds. There was a point when we anticipated terminating the project altogether, but the thought of impoverished parents and young students with did instead was to increase our vigilance and take overall lived with the fear of losing their own wealth. But as the control of managing the construction project in lieu of opportunity of making suggestions, and The Jeneba Project was accountable to them throughout the process.

> In the end we succeeded in building the school and providing a future to many generations of Sierra Leoneans. But none of this could have been possible without the generous contributions of our loyal members and all those who simply believe in The Jeneba Project. Thank you very much for your contributions and we will continue to rely on your support.

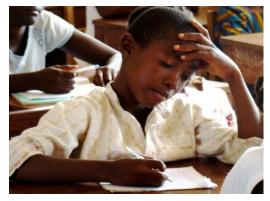
Joseph Kaifala, Director

#### **Mission Statement**

The Jeneba Project is a youth-driven organization committed to contributing to the reconstruction of the Mano River Union countries of Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Guinea through targeted educational projects. Our aim is to ameliorate the lives of children in these countries after a decade of civil war by expanding educational opportunities. Our projects are distributed across three main areas: a) Providing scholastic supplies; b) Providing scholarships for girls; and c) Providing long-lasting educational infrastructure such as libraries and schools.

#### Why Education in Sierra Leone?

- From 1991-2002 Sierra Leone underwent a brutal civil war triggered by several coup d'états and prolonged by "blood diamonds." Violence against civilians was rampant, and by the end of the war, tens of thousands had been killed and over a million civilians had fled to neighboring Guinea. During the war, over 60% of the educational infrastructure was destroyed leaving a critical void in the educational sector.
- Children were particularly affected by the war. Not only were they victims of amputations, they were also forced to become primary perpetrators of violence, serving as child soldiers in what was called Small Boys Units (SBU). The child soldiers were given "brown-brown", a combination of gunpowder and cocaine to keep them violent. This traumatic past has left a dire need to re-establish basic community foundations, especially for the children born into war, and to reintegrate former child soldiers into a more stable and healthy environment.
- Seven years after the end of the civil war, Sierra Leone is the poorest and least developed country in the world, ranking last on the latest UN human development index. Two-thirds of adults are illiterate, with female illiteracy hovering at 77%. A 2009 UNICEF report, "The Out-of-School Children in Sierra Leone" stated that over 300,000 children in Sierra Leone do not attend school. Reasons for schools absence include extreme poverty and the inability to pay school fees, lack of educational infrastructure and trained teachers, and inadequate parental support for young children. Girls are particularly vulnerable as girls' education is often considered second to that of their male counterparts and girls often face issues such as sexual harassment and teenage pregnancy, which often hinders education at junior and high school levels.



We believe that education is the fundamental agent of change in the development and empowerment of people. Education develops individuals and allows them to climb the ranks of society, to financially sustain themselves and their families, and to escape the static trenches of poverty. Through the expansion of educational opportunities for youth, we aim to impact the greater community by addressing problems of illiteracy and the larger issues of poverty and underdevelopment. Education allows individuals to become agents of change within their communities, as it trains them for future leadership, entrepreneurship, and self-directed development. Students

will be prepared to pursue tertiary education when available. Moreover, students will develop skills to diversify the predominantly subsistent agricultural economy, thus spurring economic development and reducing crime. In rural areas such as Masoila, education is imperative to gaining a voice in government and stating the needs of communities outside of the main urban areas.

#### THE ST. JOSEPH SECONDARY SCHOOL PROJECT



### **Project Goal**

The Project's objective was to construct a high school in Masoila, Sierra Leone. The school has four classrooms and is located on the grounds of the existing St. Joseph Junior Secondary School. We needed \$20K to accomplish this goal.

#### Rationale

Residents have stressed the need for a local secondary school in the region of Masoila where the highest form of education is a junior secondary school. Most children cannot afford to go to other towns to complete their secondary education due to high costs. Additionally, parents are reluctant to send female students to other towns out of fear that they might be sexually harassed. Building a high school in the region provides secondary education for graduating middle school students and serves as a safe haven for girls.

#### **Results**

The high school will serve over 150 students in the Masoila community annually. As a permanent infrastructure, the school will also serve many generations of Sierra Leoneans.



Middle School Girls volunteering to build the secondary school

#### EDUCATION AS A PRAGMATIC DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

"I grew up in Sierra Leone and Liberia during two of the most brutal civil wars of contemporary history. Children like you were conscripted to fight and kill even before they knew how to spell their names, women and their daughters were raped, many men were compelled by circumstances to commit some of the most heinous atrocities of our history, and children as young as six months old had their hands chopped off by rebels using machetes. That experience instantly transformed my young heart into the heart of a man determined to live through each dark day with fervent hope." Joseph addressing the Masoila community at the opening of the St. Joseph Senior Sec. School



Joseph Kaifala working alongside students of St. Joseph Junior Secondary School "To the parents, I will not disregard the difficulties of educating your children in a country like ours, but you must never quit simply because the child could generate more immediate cash by selling mangoes or cold water. While an extra cash of two thousand Leones could save a family for a day, imagine that your child could be the next teacher, lawyer, doctor or agricultural researcher that saved a nation. Silver and Gold I do not have, but education is the testimony of my successes."



Students of St. Joseph Junior Secondary School



# Some Recipients of the 2008 Jeneba Scholarship: Quotes from their applications

Student's Information First Name Haacies Last Name May ella Nationality Scerrabeareaa Form SSS I HE 2 Age		"I will reduce the price of our national staple food and make it illegal for children to be in the streets during school hours!"
Student's Information First Name EDWINA Last Name MOMPSAN - SHAW Nationality SLERAA LEONEAN Form SSS/TVII Age		"I will change the negative perceptions that our tradition has about girls' education and encourage organizations that promote girl programs!"
Student's Information First Name <u>Maria</u> Last Name <u>Bockane</u> Nationality <u>Scenate and an</u> Form <u>SSS/BS2<sup>2</sup></u> Age_	-	"I will improve on heath facilities and water supply facilities!"
Student's Internation   First Name Manusca   Last Name LEBBLE   Nationality SIGTREA   Form SSS [TU 2   Age_1 1	-	"Each government ministry will be required to give regular account of activities!"
Student's Information First Name <u>FRENC</u> Last Name <u>BAACGURA</u> Nationality <u>SIEVRA LEONEAN</u> Form <u>SSCHU2</u> Age <u>18</u>		"I will improve tourism and lessen the tax imposed on the business sector. I will try to minimize corruption especially in the public sector!"

# THE JENEBA PROJECT

Building Tomorrow's World Today!

#### August 15, 2009

The four (4) classroom building hence forward referred to as the Jeneba Kaifala Memorial Building is a gift provided by The Jeneba Project to the St. Joseph Secondary School, Masoila, Sierra Leone. This structure is the result of collaborative efforts between the people of Masoila and The Jeneba Project. The school is intended for the use and benefit of every Sierra Leonean within the provisions of the rules and regulations of the St. Joseph Secondary School.

The building is a testament to the devotion and resilience of the people of Sierra Leone and members of The Jeneba Project to the transformative power of education. Unveiled this 15<sup>th</sup> day of August two thousand and nine.

Bishop George Biguzzi

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Father Edwin B. Turay

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Liat Krawczyk saught

Mr. Sahr J. Tolno

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Chief Alhaji Mohamed H.B. Bangura

Principal John Atto-Sesay

John atto Jesay

Mr. Samuel E. Sesay

Joseph Benedit Kaifala

Rev. Richard Kamara

FR Richard Kamara

Mr. Abdul P. Camara

#### **Brief: History and Geography of Sierra Leone**



Sierra Leone is a small country on the west coast of Africa with a total land area of about 27,925 square miles or 71,740 sq km. It is bounded on the northwest, north and northeast by the republic of Guinea, on the east and southeast by the republic of Liberia, and the west and southwest are opening into the Atlantic Ocean. The country has two main seasons: the rainy and dry seasons. The dry season lasts from mid-November until April. Temperature can rise as high as ninety-five degree Fahrenheit. The rainy season is a time of heavy rains and severe thunderstorms.

Sierra Leone derived its name from the shape of its peninsula mountain ranges. In 1462, a Portuguese sailor Pedro da Cintra referred to these mountain ranges in the shape of a crouching lion as Serra Lyoa or Lion Mountains. In 1787 British merchants and philanthropists utilized it as a settlement for freed slaves from Britain, Nova Scotia, Jamaica and other recaptives along the Atlantic slave routes. It became a British crown colony in 1808 and its inhabitants became British subjects. A British protectorate was declared in 1896 and the country became known as Sierra Leone. It gained independence from Britain on April 27<sup>th</sup>, 1961.

Sierra Leone has eighteen ethnic groups speaking eighteen different languages, with the Mende and Temne people occupying the largest areas respectively. Creole, which is the most spoken language in Sierra Leone, was founded as a result of the settlement of the various groups of freed slaves. Freetown, the capital of Sierra Leone, became the citadel of British colonial administration in West Africa, and later became popular as the 'Athens of West Africa' because of its high standard of education. According to Edward Blyden, "Freetown was the center of African race, the point from which western civilization spread to illuminate the surrounding areas."

Merely three decades after independence, the country tumbled into what has become known internationally as one of the most brutal civil wars of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The war was fueled by diamonds, illiteracy. tribalism, nepotism, favoritism in the political system and a total collapse of the national economy. At the end of the war in 2002, the country was left in a socio-economic shamble. Apart from the tedious process of reconstruction and reconciliation, there are many former child soldiers to de-traumatize from the horrors of war, amputees to heal, orphans to protect and an entire nation to heal.

With the aid of the United Nations and other international organizations, Sierra Leone resumed a path to stability and democratization in 2002 by electing Alhaji, Dr. Ahmed Tijan Kabbah, a former UN agent as postwar president. President Kabbah turned out to be more of a UN diplomat than a political leader of a country in need of total revival. Seven years after the war, most Sierra Leoneans still can't afford the basic necessities of life, and factors of war such as developmental corruption and inefficiency continue to entangle the country. Drinking water is scarce, the cities are still dark, and worst of all, hunger and disease continue to take a toll on the population.

# Liat Krawczyk, Assistant Director



The thick pouring pattern of rain and women selling wawa (warm ones) in the mornings are only some of the sounds I miss from the bustling streets of Freetown. Just as the rain gives into sporadic hours of sun before it once again asserts itself, this journey has weaved in and out of the complex, paradoxical reality that is Sierra Leone. The saying "TISL (This Is Sierra Leone), where everything is possible but nothing is certain," surely pertains.

My journey to the Mano River Union Countries of Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Guinea

symbolized the end of one project and the beginning of another. Firstly, I was there to observe the final stages of construction and to participate in the opening ceremony of the St. Joseph Senior Secondary School. Secondly, I was there to direct a documentary about the life of Joseph Kaifala, using his memoirs to tell the recent brutal history of Sierra Leone, the transformative power of education, and the ability of individuals to create change. It is not easy to understand the complexity of a war-torn country, or to film a documentary that can both engage our peers and incite hope for a better future. In outlining each of these unique and truly exciting expeditions, I hope to share some of the experiences I underwent during this journey as well as to highlight the complex realities of the region.

On the morning of August 15th, the St. Joseph Senior Secondary School in Masoila, Sierra Leone was inaugurated. I cannot begin to describe what it felt like to stand with the Masoila community in front of this beautiful 4-room building knowing that it would serve many generations of children. However, products don't just come about, and I would like to reflect a little on the long journey leading to the school's completion. When I first began working on the project of building this school it was merely an idea - Joseph approached Peter and I and said that the Masoila community had requested a Senior Secondary school and had provided us land; in order for this school to



become a reality we had to raise 20,000 dollars. I remember first hearing this figure and thinking "how, as mere students, can we raise 20,000 dollars?!" Indeed, fundraising is no easy process, people don't readily donate money; first they must truly believe in one's cause. Thus, from every speech we gave, to every grant application we wrote, to every benefit we held, we explained the need for this senior secondary school, and engaged students, colleagues, professors and friends who became invested in our cause.

I was personally touched to see the transformation of fellow students, who initially did not even know that Sierra Leone is a country, delivering detailed facts about the country that they had researched during their spare time. For every donation we received, someone learned something about Sierra Leone – about its history, geography, its painful civil war, or its current government. In one way or another, every dollar enlightened a mind and created a bond between the Masoila community and our community in the US. It is precisely through education that our worlds merge. By learning about one another's history, language and culture, we learn each other's humanity, and it is in understanding this common humanity that cross-cultural partnerships can flourish.

To the dedicated individuals in the US, Israel and Masoila who believed in this project and took it upon themselves to invest time, resources and effort towards this cause, it is thanks to you that the Masoila children are attending senior secondary school today. I have no words to express my deep gratitude for your support and I wish every one of you could have been present for the inauguration. I would especially like to thank the Jeneba team at Hunter: Michelle Pelan, Laura Hecht Fellela, Alex Polonetskaya and especially my sister Noa Krawczyk for your relentless efforts at fundraising; Hunter Hillel leaders Rebecca Kaplan and Stephanie Wasserman and all those (Gabby, Tom) who sat for hours on Thursdays to sell loaves of Challah; Mary Imperatore and Megan Font who each raised significant funds at their high schools; my friends who have patiently listened to me talk about this project for the past year and who volunteered on more than one

occasion; what would I do without you? Thank you to the documentary team here at home: Luiza Denizot, Alex Reinach,

Lucas Gath and Julia Maryanska. My deepest gratitude goes to David Gettens, Andrew Mancilla and especially Tony Mancilla for venturing out to the other side of the world and putting their all into the documentary project, and of course to my family for always supporting me through all the craze. The film process has been enlightening in ways that are hard to grasp let alone describe. We struggled to portray the paradoxes, complexities, and nuances of three countries that are war-torn and poverty stricken, lack infrastructure, water, and electricity, and are burdened by deep corruption, while simultaneously capturing the breathtaking natural resources, extreme hospitality, and hope that e



capturing the breathtaking natural resources, extreme hospitality, and hope that exists for a better future.

Our daily adventures just touched upon the reality of the region. Our chaotic experiences included being taken to the police station by a man who demanded \$200 for a picture we took of him (he was a tiny speck in the background!) and



being discharged in part by our ability to convince the police officer that Joseph is his neighbor; passing by barren dirt villages on our way to Conakry Dee to look at sun-burnt photos of Joseph's family; Negotiating the last buckets of paint and bags of cement; Climbing palm trees and doing handstands on the beach; Being stuck at a junction for 4-hours insisting that there was no way we would agree to a 9-hour drive to Conakry, Guinea during rainy season without windshield wipers; welcoming hot buckets of water after a long day; Being in a car meant for 7, jam-packed with 11 adults and a baby, knees to chest for 26 hours on

our way to Liberia; and visiting the prison where Joseph was incarcerated as a child. The journey was both physically and emotionally exhausting and rewarding.

Along with our many ups and downs came deep-rooted questions about the status of these three countries and about our role in their development. Among these concerns are questions about how to address the extreme amount of corruption - from the bribing of military police in Guinea to the embezzlement of government program funds, how to achieve self-sustainable development and stop dependency on the West, and how to elevate the status of women when teenage pregnancy rates are exorbitantly high and girls' education is placed second to that of their male counterparts.



Through colorful laundry that lays on thatched roofs and muddy trenches and potholes forgotten by the government, I see lush green and open skies. There is potential for the scorched ground to remember not all is lost. Kids run after our car laughing; we see them for a moment as they wave and are gone on our way. These are the moments that shape me as I wave back and promise I won't forget.



Liat in front of the newly constructed Senior Secondary School

# Anthony Mancilla, Producer: Retracing Jeneba



For the past three weeks I have been asked the same question repeatedly. How was your trip to Sierra Leone? To be honest I usually just give a few adjectives; fun, great, exciting, and then quickly change the subject. Some people are satisfied with my easy answers but others want me to explain in depth what I experienced each day, each hour, etc. The truth can be put simply as quoted by the Director of Photography for Retracing Jeneba. "I feel as if I have stories to tell for months and we've only been here for four days."

Our trip to Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Guinea in August of 2009 was incredible but that's not what my colleagues or myself are thinking about now. Where do we go from here and how do we go about exponentially multiplying our efforts? We have nearly eighty hours of footage, The Jeneba Project has successfully built a high school in Masoila and now the children are going to school. It's a noble achievement for Joseph, Liat, and Peter and all who supported them and something to be extremely proud of. But being a group of young, ambitious, anxious, and yes many times stubborn individuals, none of us are ready to quit.



As long as the children in Sierra Leone are eager to empower themselves through education we will be working to give them the tools they need to work together in order to ameliorate their own country. During the construction of the school



the majority of the children from the community, roughly ages 7 - 17, worked side by side with the construction workers moving small blocks, pulling weeds, and shoveling sand and dirt. These children understand what it is to work hard for what they want, and what they want is education.

I want to thank everyone who supported The Jeneba Project for their kindness, selflessness, and generosity, and hope that someday you will all get to meet some of the children who are ever so thankful for the opportunity that you have given them.



Joseph Kaifala & Student Volunteers

**Irvington High Fundraiser** 

# **Andrew Mancilla, Drewstone Productions**



My journey began in Brooklyn on a sunny Thursday afternoon. Later that night, I boarded a plane at Newark airport and after roughly 16 hours I arrived in Freetown, Sierra Leone. I traveled to Sierra Leone as part of the efforts to make a feature length documentary. The documentary focuses on two main issues. The first part of the film briefly retraces the horrors of the country's civil war. The second part of the documentary shifts its focus to how Sierra Leone is rebuilding itself.

The war, which lasted from 1991 to 2002, displaced roughly eighty percent of the county's population. While it began as an effort to overthrow the corrupt and failing government, it quickly turned into something very different. To put it simply, the attempted coup d'état became a massive, nonsensical killing spanning all parts of the country. The major rebel group, the Revolutionary United Front (RUF), used AK-47s and rockets and went from village to village raping, mutilating, and slaughtering thousands of people. They would take over the local mines, steal the diamonds, which they sold for guns and drugs, and then continue onto the next village. Much of the violence was carried out by children who had been forcefully recruited to fight. Those who were recruited into the RUF went through a gut wrenching initiation process. During our interview with a former child soldier, we got a glimpse of how such initiations took place.

Let us take Abu, our interviewee, as an example. When the rebels invaded, they began shooting indiscriminately. Thirteen year old Abu and his family were soon approached by one of the rebels. Without hesitation, the rebel shot and killed Abu's mother and father. Only Abu and his aunt were left alive. The rebel pointed his gun at Abu's head. The rebel

ordered Abu to cut off his aunt's head. Abu took the axe, lifted it, and while the rebels held his aunt down, sliced his aunt's head off with one stroke. During our interview, Abu told us how he still remembers her head rolling around in the dirt after the axe fell and the bloody mess that was made. From that point on, Abu became part of the RUF under the leadership of "Mosquito." Abu, who was before then an average teenager, joined the RUF in committing mutilations and slaughtering in various Sierra Leonean villages. This was his high school experience. Seven years after the war ended, Abu now works as a security guard and like other former child soldiers, has attempted to reintegrate into society.



Sierra Leone is still in the process of rebuilding its infrastructure. Although seven years have passed, the population largely remains poverty stricken. A majority of the population survives off of less than one dollar per day. A walk through Freetown evidences past destruction, family after family living in zinc houses.

A barrier to progress, governmental corruption remains at a high level. Because of this, projects never seem to be completed. For instance, each year the rainy season causes significant damage in Freetown and in other parts of Sierra Leone. Most of the country is without paved roads and even in paved areas, the failure of the drainage system is evident. While I was there, it rained for four straight days and many people died as a result of the floods.

Poverty is a vicious cycle for many Sierra Leoneans. Children attend school when they can but due to their need for immediate income, parents resort to putting children to work selling peanuts or pens in the streets of Freetown for a few cents. Women especially are trapped in the cycle as they are often expected to stay home and cook for the men. Additionally, the number of teenage pregnancies is staggering.



The goal of the Jeneba Project, in collaboration with Drewstone Productions' "Retracing Jeneba," is to make a significant impact on the educational progress within Sierra Leone. Drewstone has already begun the long process of putting together a trailer and feature length film. This requires us to look at all the footage and start the editing process. We have



David Gettens, Director of photography

found an editor who is extremely interested in the project and is likely to "cut" together a great story. We plan to have the documentary complete in about one year. We are continuing to raise money for post-production costs of the film.

I want to personally thank all of you who were involved and to those who helped us logistically within Sierra Leone. Joseph, his family, and his friends were all amazing to work with in completing a story we hope to show the world.

## THE JENEBA PROJECT SCHOLARSHIP FOR GIRLS



The Jeneba Project Scholarship is an initiative geared towards the education of African girls, especially in Sierra Leone. We have offered more than 160 scholarships over the past five years in the form of annual school fees to academically motivated secondary school girls in rural Sierra Leone and Liberian refugee girls in Guinea and Sierra Leone. The aim of our scholarship scheme is to encourage motivated school girls to remain in school and pursue their education with continuous diligence and determination.

We do not base our awards mainly on the students' academic results. We rely mostly on recommendations from institutional heads who know their students well. Nominated students automatically qualify to participate in the general application process. Our funding mostly goes to students in dire need of financial assistance.

From 2002-2009, The Jeneba Project, under various titles such as Save the Future Generation (SAFUGE) and Beatitude International (BI), provided clothing and school materials to more than 5350 children in the Mano River Union countries of Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia. We have also granted medical assistance to more than 100 children within the same region. Our efforts are now concentrated on providing education to the children of the Mano River Union. In 2007, we obtained a grant through the 100 Projects for Peace initiative to build a library in Sierra Leone.

# **FUTURE PLANS OF THE JENEBA PROJECT**



The Jeneba Project has launched a new effort to raise money for the construction of a full secondary school in Sierra Leone. We intend to direct all of our resources over the next five years towards the objective of building a formidable high school in Sierra Leone and providing annual scholarships to Sierra Leonean girls. We call on all our members and friends to help us achieve this goal!

### SIX WAYS TO GET INVOLVED:

**1. Donate The Jeneba Project** 116 South 1<sup>st</sup> St. Apt. # 11 Brooklyn, New York 11211

- 2. Create a Chapter
- 3. Invite the directors to speak
- 4. Direct holiday and Birthday gifts to the Jeneba Project
- 5. Organize a fundraiser
- 6. Spread the word

# Contact us: THE JENEBA PROJECT

Email: jenebaproject@gmail.com

Joseph Kaifala 107 Clarke Street Syracuse, NY 13210 Tel: 518-681-6656 **Peter S. Brock** 116 South 1<sup>st</sup> st. Apt. # 11 Brooklyn, NY 11211 Tel: 510-847-9008

http://jenebaproject.wordpress.com/

Liat Krawczyk 25 Eunice Court Tarrytown, NY 10591 Tel: 914-406-5810

# **Thank You**

Alex Polonetskava Alex Reinach Alicia R. Wells Alisdair Lee Amalia Torrentes Amanda D'annucci Amanda McLane Amiya Vaz Andrew Mancilla Anthony Mancilla Ariela Fridman B.J. Becker Trust Barbara and Brian Kanner Barbara Opitz Bruce and Sonya Sultan Bruce Spierer Carolyn Chapp Catherine Golden Catherine Minnery Challah for Hunger Charanjit Jutla Chinisha Scott Christoph Winkler Church of St. Peter, Saratoga Claire M. Robinson Clarivel Ruiz **CUNY IVE** CUNY Macaulay Hon. College Daniel and Noemi Weisenberg David Gettens DCTV and PRO-TV Devika Nandlall **Dorry Bless Drewstone Productions** Eduardo Cemaj Eliza Paul Ellen Chesler Emilie Johansen Emmet Golden-Marx

Felix Arnold Francis Kaifala Gagan Gupta Gayle and Jason Berg Graffiti Calling Greg White Gyora and Hila Benedek Humanity in Action Inc. Hunter College Hillel Irvington ADL Team Irvington High School Jacob Shwart Jakob Bo Neilsen Jennifer Raab Jeremy Sultan Jesse Golden-Marx Jessika Pantaleo John Wallach Johnny Ramos Jonathan Jordan Joseph Chuman Julia Marvanska Kacey Schneider Kate Graney Kemoy Briscoe Kyle Carey Laura and Helen Lambiase Laura Hanson Laura Hecht Fellela Lily and Ruben Mindlis Lucas Gath Luiza Denizot Maor and Yale Polak Maria Knopow Maritza Alarcon Mary Cushing Doherty Esq. Mary Imperatore Masako Toki Matthew J Mallow

Megan Font Michael Grant Michael Steven Marx Michelle and Marc Labelle Michelle Pelan Mike McNamara Miranda Beckenstein Noa Krawczyk Orna Goldszmidt Patrick McGuire Philip Alcabes Philip Ugelow Raj Devjani Ran Canetti Rebecca Kaplan Rebecca Wright Rob Katz Sahr J. Tolno Sahr Kendema Sarah Auerbach Seventh Generation Inc. Small Scripture Group, CSPS Sofie Birk Sadiatu Kamara Stephanie Wasserman Stephney Williams Susan Wagner High School Tal Rabin and Boaz Kelmer The Brock Family The Cicero Family The Gans Family The Krawczyk The Spierer Family Ursula Mahoney Vidushi Jain Zack Schoenholtz Zahaira Curiel