

MOBILE MOVEMENT

A word from our NGO Partner

Environmental Youth Alliance (EYA), the administering NGO for the Mobile Movement pilot in Nairobi, supports and fosters sustainable development.

We encourage you to learn more about the groups, and we want to share with you some of our development philosophies and practice. At EYA, we believe in building local capacity to the point of self-sustainability. This involves many challenges including:

- the lack of public infrastructure including reliable and safe transportation, basic water and sanitation, and communication. This impacts individuals' ability to operate effectively in their personal and professional lives; and
- the dependency syndrome that unfortunately has been reinforced by most traditional aid and development models.

In order to make significant strides towards overcoming these challenges and fostering self-sufficiency and sustainability in all our projects, we have designed different ways for the international community to participate. Below you will see descriptions of two streams of potential giving to donors through Mobile Movement: Business Loans and Community Grants. However, it is important to understand that in some cases, financial aid may prove much less important than ongoing interaction and the offer of advice, knowledge and expertise, or even simply encouragement.

Business Loans

Donations given towards high-potential business ventures that Mobile Movement has vetted and is actively supporting through comprehensive capacity building and training. These donations will be administered on a microfinance model and can be expected to be recycled successfully through at least three (3) separate projects over the span of 3-5 years. This means your money will work over and over again to boost locally sustainable business ventures while also helping the beneficiaries develop financial and entrepreneurship management skills. Ultimately, beneficiaries are intended to become independent and self-sufficient through access to this type of financing.

Community Grants

Recognizing that most youth in developing countries struggle with the challenges of poor infrastructure and are attempting to the best of their ability to provide social services to the poorest of the poor – services such as counseling, education, sanitation – Mobile Movement offers donors the opportunity to give in a purely philanthropic way through community grants.

Donations such as these are administered as pure grants, with no payback expected. Community grants include upgrades to school buildings, providing supplies or textbooks, expanding youth-run resource centers for orphans and vulnerable children; and adding basic safety and working equipment to small businesses such as hammers, rakes, hoes, work gloves, safety boots and goggles, wheelbarrows or handcarts.

EYA will ensure all groups can equally and equitably access the types of funding based on need and capacity.

We particularly ask Mobile Movement members to consider becoming “champions” of a particular group or venture that speaks to their hearts and minds. This might mean becoming a long-term online partner offering strategically important professional advice to a group whose businesses the member has significant experience with, or undertaking an independent fundraising campaign to support one or more groups, or even traveling to meet the group on a volunteer vacation – or all of the above!

We hope Mobile Movement members will use their imaginations and continue to contribute to the evolution of “active philanthropy” with us!