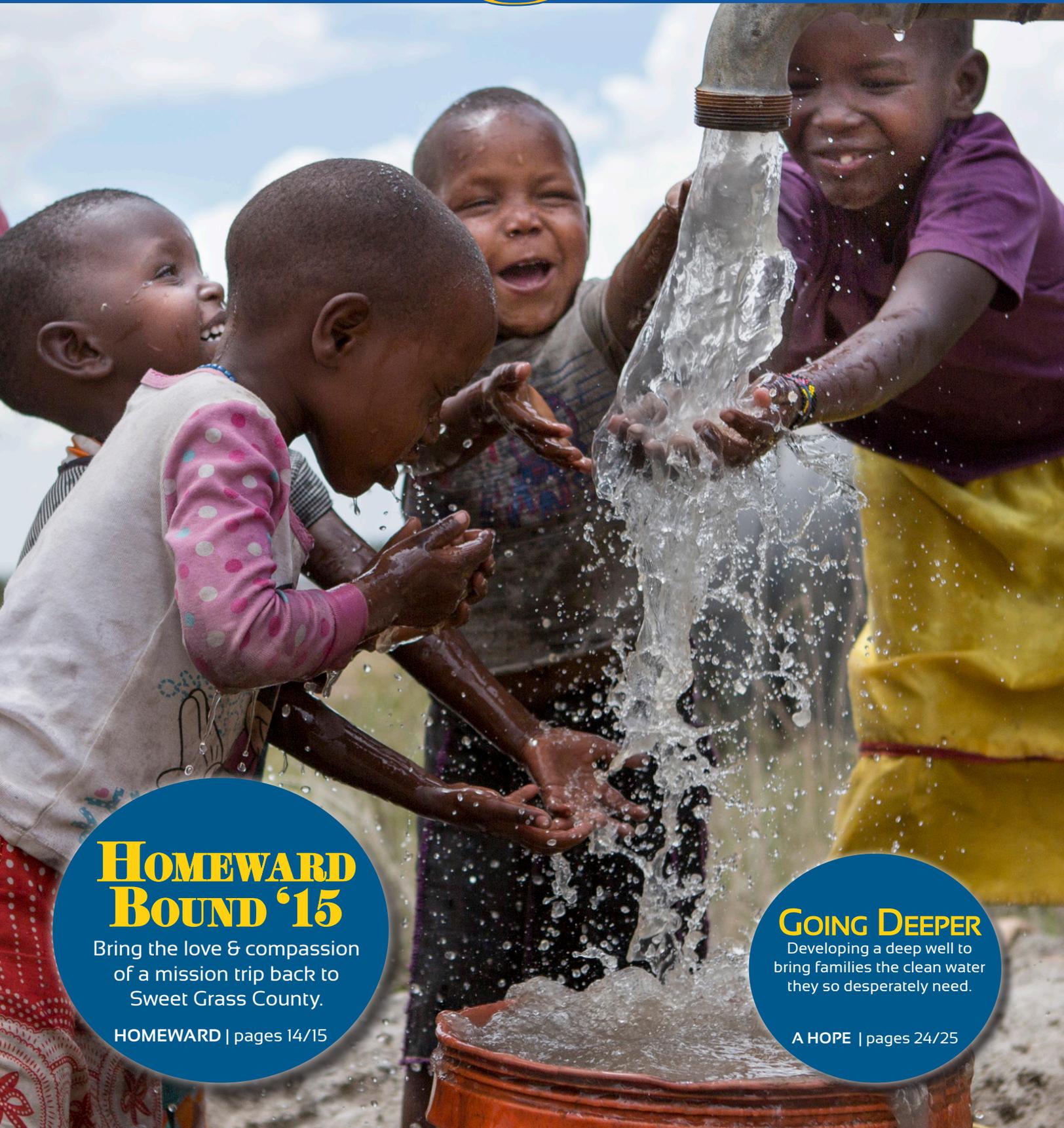


living hope

Volume 2, Issue 1

Montana on a Mission

Report



HOMeward BOUND '15

Bring the love & compassion
of a mission trip back to
Sweet Grass County.

HOMeward | pages 14/15

GOING DEEPER

Developing a deep well to
bring families the clean water
they so desperately need.

A HOPE | pages 24/25



Montana on a Mission

Montana on a Mission exists to encourage people to live out the love of Jesus Christ by coming alongside impoverished or marginalized people to improve their physical condition and ultimately impact their spiritual lives. Montana on a Mission (MOM) is a Christian charitable organization under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.



WATER at the new well in Ilturisho, Kenya.

The greatest love story



Wow, what a year it's been! As I gather stories, photos and video clips for this publication it amazes me all over again what God will do when we say yes!

Whether your "yes" was to partner with us in prayer, making a financial contribution, volunteering your time and talents or helping us spread the word about this ministry, we thank you! A million times over – THANK YOU! As you will read on the following pages, literally thousands of lives have been touched or transformed through our teamwork.

More than 4,000 people now have access to clean water for the very first time, 300 families were trained in health and hygiene, 8 students received scholarships for college and technical training, 42 students received a healthy lunch every day at school, badly needed supplies were provided to teachers in the Philippines, 30 Sweet Grass county families were helped with completing projects during Homeward Bound, 26 Big Timber students received backpacks and school supplies, life-saving medical care has been provided and thousands of people received love, in Jesus' name!

And that is the key - LOVE. Paul instructs in 1 Corinthians 16:14 "Do everything in love." Jesus reminds His disciples, "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:35) Whether we are serving our families, our community or our world, when we serve motivated by the Love we first received from Him we can truly make a difference, for the moment and for eternity.

Is it always easy to love? No! But it is what we have been commanded and it must be our response.

"It is not love in the abstract that counts. We have loved the workers, the poor, the oppressed, but we have not loved "personally." It is hard to love. It is the hardest thing in the world, naturally speaking. Have you ever read Tolstoy's Resurrection? He tells of political prisoners in a long prison train, enduring chains and persecution for the love of their brothers, ignoring those same brothers on the long trek to Siberia. It is never the brothers right next to us, but the brothers in the abstract that are easy to love."

-Dorothy Day

Does that mean 'love wins'? Absolutely! **Love wins. Love has already won. Jesus IS LOVE.**

—Mery Donald, Montana On A Mission Board Chair

What's in a name?

Where does "Montana on a Mission" come from?



We never intended to start a non-profit mission's agency. It just happened!

In 2006 Seth Runner, the youth pastor of the Glasgow Evangelical Church, and I began working on a summer mission trip to the Philippines.

As we were preparing we began to ask the question, "What should we call this trip?" People from all over Montana were participating so we decided, why not just call it Montana On A Mission.

The name stuck. When the work developed to the point we had to look at non-profit status, the name Montana On A Mission had come to describe every trip. It's also describes a hidden value regarding every thing we do.

On a mission, is what we are all about. It's not our mission, it's God's, but we are His hands and feet in a broken world. The amazing thing is that we are often more blessed than the individuals and families we work with.

Sure, we have come alongside individuals and families struggling with hunger, sickness, disabilities, lack of clean water and healthcare, or affected by natural disasters. But in the process we have been ministered to by the very people we sought to serve. We have also recognized some of our own brokenness, poverty, hurt, and pain. Ours may not be economic, but it's still real.



A deeper history

At its root, Montana on a Mission is the outcome of an initiative conceived in 1996 when Dennis and Ellen Freed built a house in the tiny barrio of Calunasan Sur on the island of Bohol, Philippines. The intense poverty and profound need of the residents of the barrio quickly became evident to them. When a young mother died of an infected mosquito bite in 1998, they were motivated to get involved in providing poverty relief to the residents of the village. They shared this sense of urgency with their church in Big Timber, Montana.

One of the reasons I encourage people to support Montana On A Mission by becoming prayer partners, financial supporters, and potential short-term mission trip participants is because being "on a mission" is the commitment to be a part of something bigger than any one of us. It's a "God" sized endeavor and we get the opportunity to join Him as he works in the lives of others.

Thousands of people have been touched by this work! Hundreds have participated in short-term

A small church responds to a big calling

In 2004, the Big Timber Church responded to a need to resolve dangerous drinking water issues in the barrio by sending funds and a team of short-term volunteer workers to assist the local inhabitants in constructing a water system throughout the village. This project required the drilling of two wells, the construction of several cisterns and the installation of thousands of feet of pipe. As a result of this effort the residents of the entire barrio have safe drinking water piped to their door and many have indoor plumbing. Two years later, the first youth mission trip was planned, and a formal name was born.



trips. Homes have been rebuilt. Hungry children and families have been fed. One whole community in the Philippines has clean water. Scores of homes have been built. Earthquake and flood victims have been helped. Churches have been encouraged. Wells are providing clean water for thousands in Kenya. Health and hygiene education is saving lives by preventing the spread of disease.

Montana On A Mission started as mostly Montana people sought to get involved in helping others. Montana is still the launchpad for much of our work, but this is a global endeavor.

—Pastor Bryan Baker, Big Timber Evangelical Church & MOM board member

Year in Review

January

Flooding in the Philippines, a home for Patricia



Massive flooding affects parts of the Philippines, including areas where Montana On A Mission has a presence. Typhoon Melor hit areas previously affected by Typhoon Koppu.



Along Bernaldez and officials from Balilihan Barangay helped dedicate a home built in partnership with One for One and Montana On A Mission for our dear friend Patricia, an elderly disabled resident of the barrio.

February

School lunch for all during flood recovery



Thanks to all the generous supporters of the Montana on a Mission school lunch program, we are able to provide lunch for all of the students in the school starting in February until school ended in March. Most of their families have been stretched especially thin recovering from the devastating flood that affected the community at the start of the new year. Praise God for His goodness and provision for these families!

In the spirit of Filipino *bayanihan* (helping your neighbor) the teachers from Calunasan Sur Elementary dedicated their time to pitching in to help a neighboring school on the coastline dig out and clean up after the flood. Calunasan Sur Elementary sits on high ground so it was not damaged by flooding.

go

M.O.M.'s 2015



March *A Montana on a Mission team travels to the Maassai community of Empopongi in rural, southern Kenya to develop several small springs that now provide ample, clean water to more than 2,000 people.*

Due to Montana on a Mission's involvement in water projects in Kenya, conversations about water pique our interest. This story in John 4 is no different.

Jesus and his group had been travelling for some time and stopped to rest at a well in Samaria. In those days and in this locale, families didn't have water piped into their home so they had to walk to wells to fill their containers.

The friends who were walking with Jesus had gone into town to buy some food for lunch when a woman came from the town to draw some water for her household. He asked her for a drink and his request started a conversation about water.

In the dialogue with Jesus, the woman understood that the topic being talked about was H₂O. But Jesus was skilled at teaching with metaphors so he subtly swerved into speaking of a different kind of water. The woman seemed to miss the change. He began speaking of life-giving water that gushed from a source from within a person and he offered this source to the woman if she would only ask.

Perhaps we are not given the full account of their talk that day because the subject shifted abruptly to a discussion of her failed relationships and then to venues of worship. It ends with a discussion of the coming of a savior at which time Jesus told the woman that he is the messiah.

As soon as the conversation was over, she hurried back into town leaving her water jars at the well, and told everyone she met about the man at the well.

Some people live their lives as repositories. Blessings flow in and stagnate. Others become conduits, pipelines or even aqueducts of blessings to others. As this story unfolds, you can see the woman change into a spring of life-giving water! Many of the people in her community came to the well to meet Jesus because of her.

One of the joys we have at MOM is watching some of those who travel with us on various projects transform into springs of life-giving water.

—Tom Lutke, MOM board member



IT'S HOT.

The kind of heat that every few minutes makes you want to say out loud, "it's hot" but since this fact is obvious to everyone, I don't.

I sit for a moment on the hard ground. It is pleasant in the shade, except for the constant flies. The pick axes and shovels make a steady thunk, thunk noise and the chattering never stops. High pitched voices happily chattering while they dig in 90-degree heat.

The Maasai's don't sound mad even when they are. The language is too chirpy. There were heated arguments earlier in the day. They argued and seemed to laugh at everything that was said. They never got mad and stomped off, never shoved or pushed each other, just talked rapidly and excitedly and laughed often. I guess everything was resolved because everyone is busily digging.

We were going to break for lunch, until the goats showed up. They swarmed the springs with three shepherd boys trying to fend them off. I tried to as-

sure the boys it was fine but the sight of a muzungu (white man) seems to either elicit hysterical laughter or pure terror in children. Later on I would buy their friendship with candy.

During my brief reprieve from the heat, my new friend Moses comes and excitedly tells me that they have contacted the owner of the sheep and goats and he agreed to donate one for our lunch. "No, no he doesn't need to do that," are the first words out of my mouth.

Between the heat and my fear of getting sick, a sheep does not sound appetizing in the least. **Moses tells me we must accept the gift and it is a great way to start off our water projected. In fact it is the way any great project should start.**

I agree and Moses says I must come watch the sheep be slaughtered. "Fine," I say, wanting to prove I am an authentic rancher and of course have no problem with watching a sheep being slaughtered.

We walk behind a dense grove of bushes where the sheep is being held. They have laid out leaves on the ground to "keep it clean" Moses says. They use a knife, as guns are illegal in Kenya. The process is done ex-



pertly and quickly. They catch the blood in an empty water bottle and pass it around anxiously looking at me to see if I will try it. I politely decline and thankfully I am called for from down the hill.

Growing up on and now managing the family ranch in south central Montana, I have always known the importance of water. We have drilled wells and developed many springs to try to insure that our livestock and ourselves always have water.

In southern Kenya, near the Maasai Mara game preserve, they worry about water for their livestock. but water for their families is a much bigger issue. Most Maasai depend on small springs and streams for their water supply. The livestock and numerous wild animals also depend on these very same springs. With no way to keep the human water separate from the water the animals use the Maasai end up drinking water that is full of parasites and bacteria. ***A 50% mortality rate in children under the age of five, largely due to water born illness, makes this a devastating problem.***

Thanks to Denny and Ellen Freed and my wife, Mery, I got the once in a lifetime experience of being able to use my knowledge of developing springs to help a small rural community in southern Kenya. We were assisted

by the expertise of James Origa who is a native Kenyan water engineer. He donated his time to design a water line that would carry the collected water from the springs one mile to a school of 600 students and 200 Maasai families.

We collected five springs, covering drainpipe with tons of large stone to keep the springs free from livestock and wildlife contaminants. We left two springs undeveloped for the animals to use.

100 Maasai's showed up with shovels and picks to dig the trenches for the pipeline. We then hired 50 of them for \$5/day to help haul rocks to cover the springs. It is a great way to build friendships and spread the [love of God](#), working side by side with people from across the world to bring the great gift of water.

The look on the villagers faces when they saw clean water running out the end of a pipe was one of amazement and thankfulness. Again, lots of laughter and chattering! It was truly an honor to be able to participate in this and I am so very thankful God choose to use me in this endeavor. The glory is always His, I'm just thankful I was there to witness it.



To watch the process of developing a spring visit our Montana on a Mission Youtube channel.

What does it mean to “develop a spring”?

Developing a spring means taking a wet, often boggy area where water is seeping out of the ground and capturing the water with pipes so it can be collected as clean drinking water.

How is a spring developed?

All of the mud in a wet, boggy area is scooped out and removed to reveal a firm base. Next, gravel is laid in the excavated area then pipe with holes spaced every few inches (perforated pipe) is laid on the base. The holes allow the clean spring water to run into the pipe. The perforated pipe is connected to traditional pipe that will transport the water to the holding tank. The perforated pipe is then carefully covered with rock and large plastic sheets to keep runoff from contaminating the spring. Another layer of rocks is added to secure the plastic and discourage animals from walking on the spring. After the pipeline is rinsed - the collected water is crystal clear and safe for the community to drink!

April Water from the new spring project in Empopongi is piped to reach the local school and 200 more families, and a 50,000 liter holding tank is completed. This is the first time they have had access to fresh, clean water at the school and in these homes. Praise God!



“...but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

John 4:14



May School is out for the summer in the Philippines. Denny and Ellen were there working with scholarships and the school lunch program for the next school year, which starts in June. Ellen also had the chance to minister to young people with medical needs, including our young friends DG, John and Marife.



\$500

Raised by the Melville & Big Timber Lutheran Church Vacation Bible School students with "elephant banks" to support clean water projects in Kenya.



A first

Montana on a Mission teams volunteer to serve & host a booth at Sweet Grass Fest in Big Timber.

\$3,200

donated by supporters at the Kenya Open House, held at Bill's Place in Melville, to support clean water projects in Kenya.





home,
Sweethome
in Sweet Grass County

June & July

Mission teams focus at home for the summer. More than 100 friends and neighbors gather at the The H2O for Life Open House in Melville, Montana, to try their hand at the Maasai Plumber's Challenge and the kid's water run. Guests learn more about Maasai culture and watch videos from the water project's process in Kenya. Watch for yourself:



August

The inaugural "Homeward Bound" was an intense eleven days of service in Sweet Grass County, where we worked together and mobilized more than 200 people in our community to serve, love and live out the commands of Christ. Projects ranged from yard work to painting to serving meals to construction — people of all ages with all different skills and gifts came together to serve someone in Sweet Grass County!

SAVE THE DATE:
August 13-23
HOMeward BOUND
 Serve in Sweet Grass County



Montana on a Mission

WE LOVE BECAUSE HE FIRST LOVED US.
 1 John 4:19

 Share a little love with a new friend or neighbor today. We love you. **God loves you.** Pass it on.

What is
DRIVE-BY SERVICE?
 IT'S NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS.



SERVE WITH US
August 13-23
HOMeward BOUND
 Serve in Sweet Grass County

We stopped by your home today to simply ask: **'How may we help?'**

We all have projects around the house that could use a couple extra helping hands or tools, and Montana on a Mission's days of "Drive By Service" will be going door to door Saturday, August 15 and Saturday, August 22 to provide those helping hands & feet.

If we missed you today, we'll be back next Saturday. If you have a project in mind, call us at 932-3515 and let us know what tools to bring to help get it done!

Want to help out? JOIN US at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast at the Big Timber Evangelical Church (4th & Bramble) next Saturday!

0 **Where it started:** "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: **'Love your neighbor as yourself.'** There is no commandment greater than these." Mark 12:30-31



1 **Day 1:** We cleaned, we pruned, we trimmed and raked, dug up rocks and trees and more... All with the prayer that these little acts of love would point anyone whose day was brightened by a little extra beauty to the creator of it all, and the light of Jesus.



2 **Day 2:** If you live Big Timber, you likely found one of these cards in your door today or were greeted by a M.O.M. volunteer. We loved seeing new faces and visiting with old friends as our crew went door to door, looking for "Drive-By Service" projects and volunteers.



3 **Day 3:** While one crew painted a house, others tore siding off on another residential project while others lovingly sorted homemade goodies for delivery around town tomorrow, and we had a blast doing it.

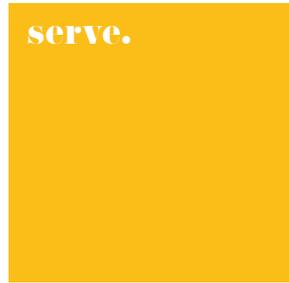


4 Day 4: Every day, in the smallest details and in the grandest gestures, God is attentive to the purpose He placed in your life. Some days, that purpose may be as simple as a smile with a free scoop of ice cream, or a kind hello to a neighbor across the picnic bench.



8 Day 8: What an amazing team effort today was! The Big Timber Women's Club, SGHS football, volleyball, cross-country teams, cheerleaders and M.O.M. crew teamed up to re-seal and re-paint the city park equipment for many more years of enjoyment.

5 Day 5: Nearly 50 volunteers shared breakfast, then headed to work on a new residential siding project, plus re-siding on 4th Avenue. Others sorted and packed backpacks for the schools and headed to the PMC to brighten up the flower beds there.



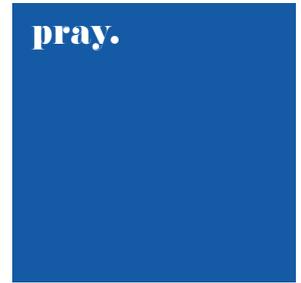
9 Day 9: Drive-by, door-to-door service day. This is what we were made to do. To serve. To love. To give. To share. No matter what our pasts have been or what troubles we're tangled in today, there is a heart in each and every one of us that wants to serve and love, because that's what God created us to do.

6 Day 6: Cloudy skies can't cover the God who shines this brightly! Despite the rain, siding is going up on the church, steps now safely lead new friends outside and little "old time candy" treats made for a fun afternoon visiting residents at the Pioneer Medical Center.



10 Day 10: Town was a-buzz today with work and joy. Youth hosted a free car wash to share a little love, while construction teams built a porch, finished siding, helped residents with major yard work and enjoyed the great company.

7 Day 7: Call us crazy, but this is just plain fun. Crews worked the trash cleanup gig in highway ditches and around public spaces while bright-eyed youngsters led craft time with residents at the PMC. Work continued in the major residential construction.



11 Day 11: We keep asking ourselves: is it really over? Is the mission complete? **Of course not!** While the scheduled Homeward Bound service projects have concluded, we pray for God's love and Christ's perseverance to cover our community each and every day. You are the hands and feet God has chosen to share His love. You have the power of Christ to live in His grace and share His love with your friends and neighbors. You have a heart to serve God by serving those around you. We have a community full of loving friends and neighbors. We have people we can call on year round for a helping hand. We love because He first loved us.







November

A HUGE THANK YOU to all who took part in the 3rd Annual Cow Country Stampede. It was a gorgeous, crisp Melville morning with lots of sun and not a breath of wind. More than 80 walkers and runners took part to raise more than \$7,000! AMAZING! Every penny of this money goes to serve our friends and neighbors around the world and right here at home. Mark your calendar now to join us the Saturday after Thanksgiving every year in Melville!

...but what I do have, I give... Acts 3:6

December

MOM participated in Big Timber's Lighted Parade celebrating the miracle of running water in places that were once dry, and the greatest miracle of all: the gift of living water, our savior Jesus Christ.

New Hope Church in Bend, Oregon, made a large donation toward the drilling of a well in Kenya to provide clean water for one community. Praise God!

If you know of another church or organization who would like to partner with Montana on a Mission to accomplish immeasurably more, contact us: www.montananonamission.org.



asante Thank You salamat

We owe this year's Cow Country Stampede sponsors a big thank you for enabling us to make this event such a fun day that ripples out to impact lives around the world!

Peters Inc.
Dringman Law Firm
Crazy Mountain Vet
Bill's Place Diner
Dunavant Family
Cooney Trucking
Cayuse Livestock
Hathaway Trucking
Dog-E-Day

Another huge thank you to the **Sweet Grass County Sheriff's Office** for keeping everyone safe along the course!



“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Ephesians 3:20-21

MONTANA ON A



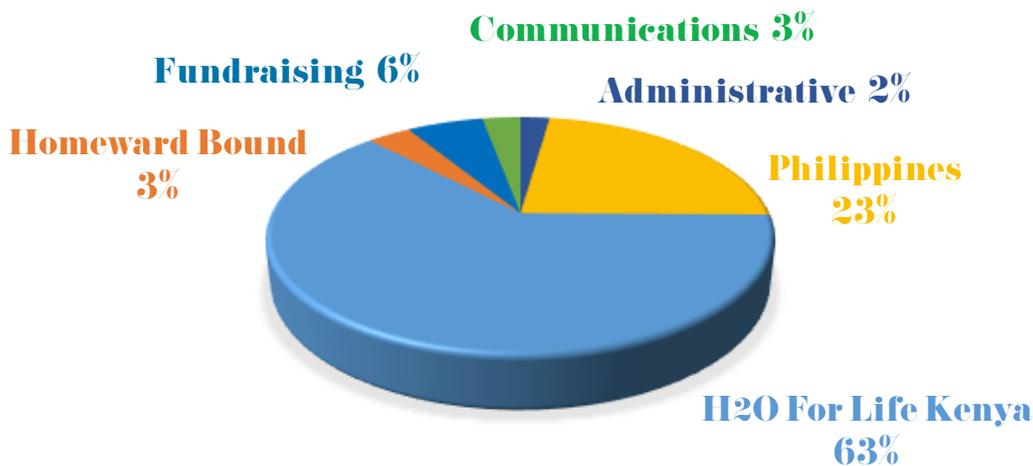
give

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Checkbook January 1st, 2015	\$ 36,700
Donations	\$ 199,767
Expenditures:	\$ 105,601
Administrative	\$ 2,362
Fundraising	\$ 6,204
Communications	\$ 3,082
Philippines	\$ 24,244
Africa	\$ 66,199
Homeward Bound	\$ 3,510
Checkbook September 15, 2016	<u>\$ 130,866</u>

EXPENSES

JAN 1, 2015 - SEPT 15, 2016



Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will

MISSION financial report

Jan 1, 2015 - Sept 15, 2016



SUMMARY OF ADMINISTRATIVE & FUNDRAISING EXPENSES

Administration (tax filing, wire fees, printing, phone)	\$2,362
Communication (newsletters, Living Hope)	\$3,082
Fundraising	\$6,204
TOTAL:	<u>\$11,648</u>

SUMMARY OF PHILIPPINE WORK EXPENDITURES

Education	\$ 7,779
School Lunch Program	\$ 13,815
Medical Help	\$ 2,500
Youth Trip	\$ 150
TOTAL:	<u>\$ 24,244</u>

SUMMARY OF H2O FOR LIFE KENYA EXPENSES

Clean Water Projects	\$66,199
Spring Development	\$26,768
Deep Well Development	\$39,431
TOTAL:	<u>\$ 66,199</u>

reward them for what they have done. - Proverbs 19:17



2016 Goals

Montana on a Mission is committed to:

- Support eight Filipino college and trade school students.
- Feeding at risk and or malnourished children at the Calunasan Sur Elementary School.
- Lend a hand to our neighbors here in Montana and surrounding areas.
- Develop clean water sources where there are none.
- Reduce waterborne disease and death through clean water, hygiene and sanitation education.
- Show the love of Christ through actions, attitudes, and gifts.

Keepers

As I read my Bible, various books, and listen to music, I often jot down a verse, key statements or words to a song that “speak to me.” I have quite a collection and read through them from time to time. They become a means of defining myself and my desire to have God shape and mold me.

Here are three of my “keepers:”

Lord, I have a sense that Your calling involves helping the poor. After spending time around those in poverty, you are convicting me that things need to change: Lord, make me a change agent. We are ALL poor and in poverty in the respect that we need You. (Unknown)

Matthew 5: 5 Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth (NIV translation). Jesus explained in other words. Blessed are the available. Blessed are the conduits, the tunnels, the tools. Deliriously joyful are the ones who believe that if God has used sticks, rocks, and spit to do his will.....then He can use ME. (Max Lucado)

*I don't want to go through the motions
I don't want to go one more day
Without Your all consuming passion inside of me
I don't want to spend my whole life "asking"
What if I had given everything.....instead of going through the motions? (Matthew West song)*

As there are now several hundred of you who are joining in the efforts and projects of Montana on a Mission, we are all blessed to be part of something bigger than ourselves. God takes us to new levels as He stretches our faith. I continue to thank Him for His faithfulness.

Sorry... one more “keeper:” God’s work. Done in God’s way. Will never lack God’s supply... Depend on it! —*Deb Lutke*



A Hope & A Prayer

With a new water well at Itturisho comes praise to the One who blesses

Heat waves shimmer on the red earth as you look across the landscape. The hot African sun beats down on everything unable to escape its glaring gaze.

Noolamala Moniko is very lucky.

Her family's manyatta (a circular enclosure made from thorny brush, stacked about four feet high, offering protection to the houses and livestock of several families) lies only about one hundred yards from the spring that supplies water to the surrounding community.

Other Maasai women spend hours making the trek to gather water for cooking, washing and laundry from the spring at Itturisho. The spring is a miserable, muddy little hole where people, as well as livestock and wildlife, get the water they need to sustain life. Sometimes though, the water also causes death. It harbors Typhoid, parasites and other disease-causing bacteria. In the developing world a child dies every 15 seconds from disease caused from unsafe drinking water. ¹

Noolamala rises early, as the first light begins to glow in the east. She arranges sticks, from the firewood she gathered yesterday, in the open fire pit at the center of her home.

She lights the fire, which gives a warm glow to the otherwise dark space.

The mother of three young children quietly gathers her kettle and walks outside into the cool mountain morning to milk the sheep and goats. The animals greet her, eager to be released from the corral and herded to water and anything green that they can find to eat.

Noolamala reaches out and grabs the leg of the nearest sheep. She holds the animal's head between her legs and bends over its body to squeeze milk into the kettle. She repeats this procedure several times, filling the kettle with milk from the animals she can catch, be it goat or sheep.

When her kettle is full of milk she places it on the open fire to boil, adds tea leaves and wakes the children. The children know their duties and attend to them. Jenny, the oldest, is seven. She and her younger sister Selah are responsible for helping to care for the younger children as well as sweeping the house



and helping with the animals. Dennis is two, he is learning from his older cousins how to herd the sheep and goats. They must keep the animals together and watch for predators while the animals graze in the bush. Their father, Julius walks the cows further up the mountain where they are more likely to find grass.

When the tea has boiled Noolamala strains the hot liquid into cups and adds a little sugar. The children eagerly sip the breakfast. When they are finished they rinse their cups and stack them on the earthen shelf. Their mother, with help from the other women in the family built the stick and mud house where they live. Their only tools, a large knife and their own strong hands.

In the developing world, a child dies every 15 seconds from disease caused from unsafe drinking water. ¹



will serve for lunch. Later, Noolamala and the other women spend time in the shade of a tree, working on their beading projects and keeping an eye on their sleeping babies. The Maasai are very skilled at making beaded jewelry, belts and shoes which gives them a small source of income. They sometimes adorn clothing worn for church or other special rituals with the beadwork.

As dusk approaches, you begin to hear the ringing of cowbells as the animals are herded out of the mountains and back to the relative safety of the manyattas.

Tonight though, there is another sound.

The sound of the huge drilling rig and supply truck arriving from Nairobi.

Tomorrow will be an exciting day, a day that has the potential to change the trajectory of the community's future. The family gathers together in the dark and shares a steaming cup of the mixed tea while Noolamala stirs the dinner of cabbage and ugali over the fire. They enjoy dinner, chatting about the well that will be drilled the next day. The tired children snuggle together on one side of the small earthen house while their mother wipes the bowls clean in the smoky glow of the fire.



¹World Health Organization and United Nations Children's Fund. (WHO and UNICEF). (2000). Global Water Supply and Sanitation

It is the women's responsibility to build and maintain the home. Noolamala and her sisters-in-law, who share the family manyatta, pick up their jerry cans and go to fill them at the spring. They scoop the dirty water into the plastic cans with a tin cup. When they return home they swing the heavy jugs off their backs, gather the laundry and take it to the spring where they will rub a bar of soap across the worn fabric and scrub the clothing clean. They hang the laundry to dry on the brush walls of the corral and begin to sweep the accumulated animal dung from the enclosure.

In the early afternoon the mothers stoke the fires in their homes and boil water for the porridge they



The next morning everyone wakes early. There is excitement in the air.

The community is gathering at the well site at 7 a.m., so everyone finishes their morning chores quickly. Many people are walking from their homes as we arrive and greet the drilling crew.

When everyone has assembled we pray together. We thank God for the opportunity to have met these wonderful people, we thank Him for the donations that have made this opportunity to share and serve possible. We thank Him for clean water and ask that He bless this community with the clear, clean water they need to raise healthy families. We ask for safety for the crew and that He would be glorified through this project. He is the Provider!

With that the drilling begins...

At first the spinning drill kicks out dry earth and small rocks after a half-hour passes the soil being spewed out of the hole changes, it becomes more gray and smooth.

When the drill reaches 55 meters something catches my eye and I notice water coming off the drill stem. I jump up to get a closer look, the others notice this too. Everyone runs up to the rig.

There are cheers and big smiles, people are clapping and pointing skyward to the One who has allowed this to happen.

The geologist who tested this area last October had predicted we would hit the first vein of water at 60 meters. He also recommended we continue drilling to hit more water at 130 meters, so we continue until dark. As the drill digs deeper the volume of water spilling from the hole increases as do the size of our smiles and fullness of our hearts.

The following day a steel casing was placed in the borehole to protect and finish the well. The water was test pumped for a 24 hour period to determine the flow and quality. The children had a wonderful time playing in clear, cool water. The women came and eagerly filled all the containers they could find. Everyone felt the blessing and expressed their sincere gratitude.



The construction of the project is now complete. The water tanks, solar panels, pump and security fence are in place. The community of Iturisho is now able to drink clean water that is uncontaminated and healthy for their children and families. Praise God!

Watch Noolamala
fetch water before
the well was drilled.



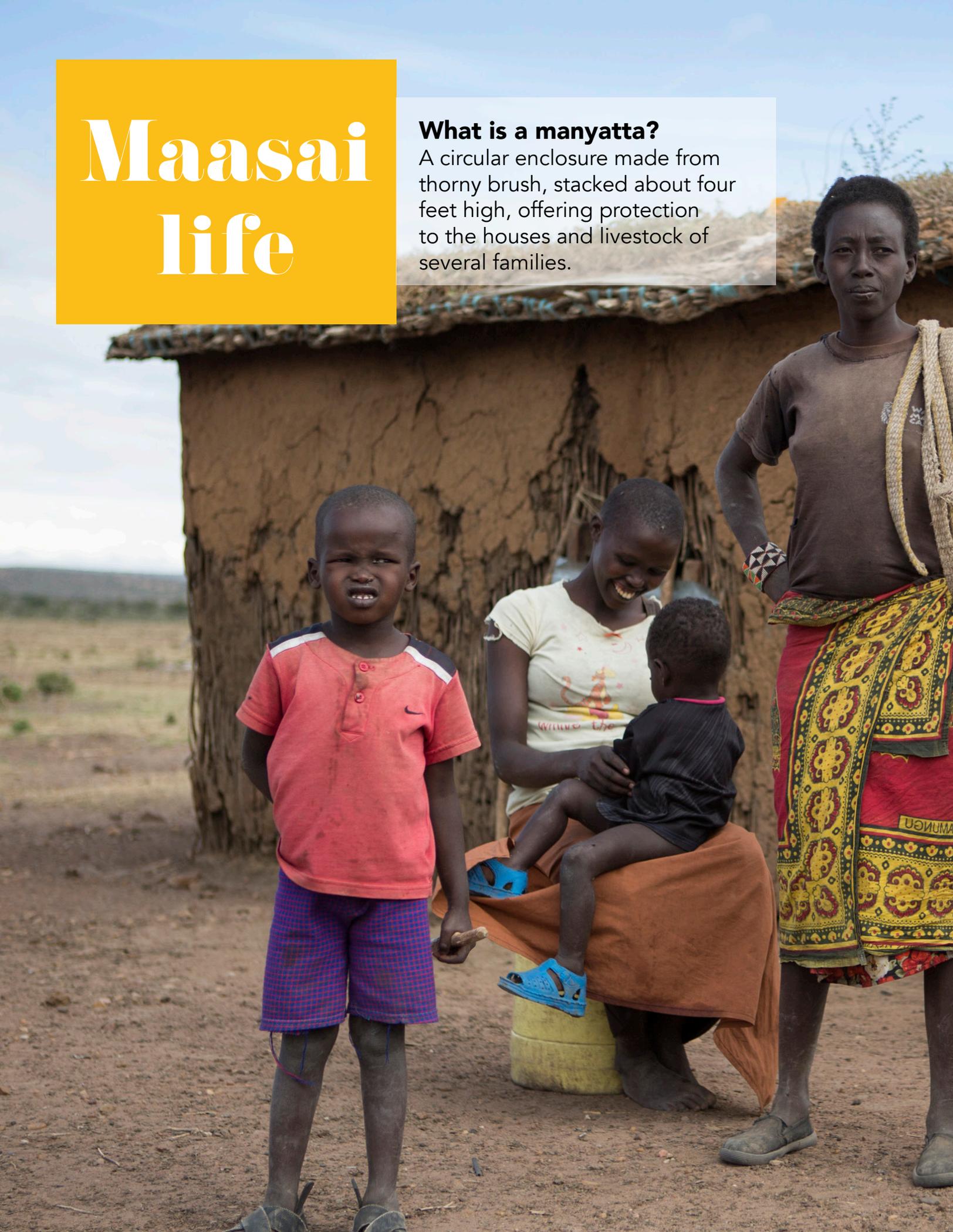
“Anyone who believes in me may come and drink! For the Scriptures declare, ‘Rivers of living water will flow from his heart.’”

John 7:38

Maasai life

What is a manyatta?

A circular enclosure made from thorny brush, stacked about four feet high, offering protection to the houses and livestock of several families.





Noolamala's Maasai Ugali Dinner

5 cups water

4 cups white corn flour
(not meal)

Salt

1 head green cabbage – shredded

4 carrots – shredded

2 shallots – thinly sliced
vegetable oil

Bring water to a boil in a pot. Add the maize meal and stir to prevent lumps. Add more maize meal to make a thick porridge. Keep stirring until the maize meal is well cooked. Tip out onto a plate – the ugali should hold its shape – and slice into wedges for serving. Salt to taste.

Heat vegetable oil in pan over medium-high heat. Add shallots, stir and saute' for about two minutes. Add cabbage and carrots to the pan. Stir and allow to cook until tender. Serve a heaping scoop on a plate with ugali.

Note: Tastes best when cooked over an open fire while listening to hyenas call in the distance.

Join us in 2016

**H₂O
FOR
LIFE
Kenya**



*A Project of
Montana on a Mission*



2016 M.O.M. Progressive Golf Open

9 a.m. Saturday, August 13

**Play the first nine -
Stillwater Golf Course, Columbus**

**Lunch provided, then second nine -
Overland Golf Course, Big Timber**

register your team at:

www.montanaonamission.org



*ALL registration fees go directly to H2O
For Life clean water projects, and includes:
18 holes of golf, cart, lunch, dinner,
refreshments on both courses, goody bags,
flag prizes, 1st Place Low Gross, 1st - 3rd
Place Low Net and more...*

Save the date

HOMeward BOUND

August 14-21, 2016 ♡ Second Annual



M.O.M. is serving our Montana neighbors again this summer in Big Timber and surrounding areas. We hope to mobilize more than 200 volunteers to serve locally during the month of August.

Follow us on Facebook for more info, upcoming schedule, volunteer sign up, etc.

COW COUNTRY STAMPEDE



10 a.m. Saturday November 26

register at:
www.runsignup.com



thank you.

Your gifts. Your support. Your prayers.

It all equals a whole lot of just
what our world needs most:

LOVE.



Montana on a Mission

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