

U.S. Embassy
Public Affairs Section
United Nations Avenue
P.O. Box 606 Village Market
00621 Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: 254-20-3636203
Fax: 254-20-3636353



Press Release

Joytown Special Primary School Awarded Ambassador's Special Self-Help Fund Grant



Nairobi, 20 December 2011 – U.S. Ambassador to Kenya, Jonathan Scott Gration, has awarded Joytown Special Primary School a grant in the amount of **\$12,400** or approximately **KSh 1,140,800** as a contribution to equip an existing borehole with a solar power pump to assist the school with running water supply.

The Joytown Special Primary School, located in Thika, supports 195 boys and 135 girls with various physical disabilities. The school was selected for the Ambassador's Special Self-Help Fund grant from the many hundred applications the U.S. Embassy receives from community based organizations and self-help groups around Kenya each year.

The Ambassador's Special Self-Help Fund works on a grassroots level, investing in people who take the initiative to launch small-scale development projects that improve education, environment, nutrition, economic circumstances, and local living conditions in their communities. The types of activities ordinarily considered for support include community-initiated water systems, environmental conservation efforts, medical equipment for community-driven clinics or dispensaries, and unique income-generation activities.

The Self-Help Program supports high-impact initiatives that will quickly benefit a large number of people and be sustainable over time. During the upcoming year, the program will have a special focus on projects that assist vulnerable or at-risk populations, including projects that benefit orphans and Kenyans with disabilities.

In 2011, grants from the Ambassador's Self-Help Fund ranging from \$2,000 to \$12,400 were awarded to projects in eight districts of five different provinces. Over the last two years, the Ambassador's Self-Help Fund has supported 26 projects throughout the country that will potentially benefit over 200,000 Kenyans, directly or indirectly.

Anyone wishing more information on the Ambassador's Self-Help Fund should write to the Self-Help Coordinator at the U.S. Embassy, P.O. Box 606-Village Market, 00621 NAIROBI.