

The NECF Review

Edition I
Spring/Summer 2011

Greetings!

The Nancy Ellen Crooks Foundation (NECF) is extremely excited to present you with our inaugural edition of **The NECF Review** - a semi-annual publication that updates our friends and donors on our organization's recent activities. We hope you enjoy the read!

1,000 Solar Cookers by Year's End

Nancy Crooks was one of the pioneers in promoting solar cooking in Kenya. If you are not familiar with the benefits of solar cooking then please take a moment to read the information on our **Why Solar Cooking** webpage (see link below). You will be amazed how something so simple can improve lives so drastically. The Nancy Ellen Crooks Foundation is proud to carry on what Nancy started.



Our initial goal is to have 1,000 solar cookers placed with families located in remote areas of Kenya by December 2011. Sounds simple but it's actually a fairly involved process. Prior to issuing a family a solar cooker, we require family members to attend a workshop where one or more of our volunteers will teach them how to use the cooker, clean the cooker, and maintain the cooker. These workshops are typically held at a local school so the children, parents, administrators, and school teachers can all be included in the learning process. In addition, our volunteers return to the locale periodically to ensure the cookers are still in use and being properly maintained.

How much does all this cost? We are able to provide one family a solar cooker for less than \$25.00 inclusive of the cost of the solar cooking kit, all volunteer travel expenses, and all expenses related to the training workshop. With the average family having 8 to 10 members, a US\$100 donation can change the lives of 30 to 40 family members. Yes, a little does go a very, very long way! If you would like to support this project, please visit our **Donate** webpage (see link below).

As of mid-May, we have placed 150 solar cooking units with families in Lewa, Homa Bay, and Bomet. These 150 units have improved the lives of 1,200 to 1,500 family members. By summer's end, we project to have an additional 200 to 250 cooking units placed. For further details on the success of this project, please visit **Our Projects** webpage (see link below).

Links related to above:

[Why Solar Cooking?](#)
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www.TheNECF.org

Make A Difference

Donations can be made online or by mail. If you wish, we can list your donation "In Honor" or "In Memory" of a friend or family member. Makes a great birthday or holiday gift, too!

**Thank you
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Thank You, Peace Corps Volunteers



The Nancy Ellen Crooks Foundation would like to extend a very big **Thank You** to Kenya based Peace Corps volunteers **Paul Mollinger** and **Whitney Parsons**. Paul and Whitney have been instrumental in assisting the NECF to introduce solar cooking to families located in the remote areas of Homa Bay and Bomet. We look forward to working with more Peace Corps volunteers in the near future.

On The Horizon...

Nancy's lifetime passion was education. She was a firm believer that education opened doors and that no child should miss out on the opportunity to learn. In keeping with Nancy's passion, our foundation is currently developing three education-related endeavors - Study By Solar, the NECF Scholarship, and the ISK Learning Program.



Study By Solar

The majority of students in remote areas of Kenya reside in homes without electricity. Once the sun has gone down, these students must rely on candlelight or gas lanterns to complete their homework assignments. Unfortunately, many of these families cannot afford the expense of candles or lantern fuel which leaves the student with no means possible to see, let alone complete, their homework.

In conjunction with our solar cooking workshops being held at local schools, the Nancy Ellen Crooks Foundation will be providing eligible students with solar lanterns so they can not only complete their studies but also have the means to read at will. Solar lanterns provide up to 8 hours of light on a full charge and require minimal maintenance. With each donation of US\$20, a student in Kenya will have the opportunity to excel!

The Nancy Ellen Crooks Foundation (NECF) Scholarship

The NECF Scholarship is offered to grade 8 school girls who wish to attend the International School of Kenya (ISK) in Nairobi. Eligible applicants must be a Kenyan citizen national residing in Kenya. The scholarship is two years' tuition for grades 9 and 10 with review of continuing the scholarship for the full International Baccalaureate Program in grades 11 and 12. The NECF works in close harmony with the ISK toward the common aims and purposes of the Nancy Crooks Scholarship program. The NECF administers scholarships in the best interest of the recipient and in keeping with the scholarship's rules and regulations.

International School of Kenya's Service Learning Program

An initial agreement has been reached between the Nancy Ellen Crooks Foundation (NECF) and the International School of Kenya (ISK). ISK's Service Learning Program aims to involve its students in sustainable projects within adjacent Kenyan communities. The Service Learning Program provides meaningful opportunities for students of all ages to initiate and reflect upon sustainable projects that are mutually beneficial. The program aims to develop students who are confident and competent in contributing to and learning from their communities.

Links related to above:

[Photo Enlargement](#)

To all of our donors and well-wishers from around the world, we would like to thank each and every one of you for your support and patience during our foundation's early stages. Without you, our goals would never be realized. Thank you again!

Sincerely,

Howard & Paul

Howard H. Crooks, Founder
Paul D. Squires, Chairman

Nancy Ellen Crooks Foundation



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