



## **TOGETHER FOR SUDAN**

### **Guidelines for Scholarship Project to Support Elementary Education. June 2008**

1. The primary purpose of the project is to assist children whose parent, parents or guardians have died of AIDS or have been incapacitated by HIV and whose surviving relatives are unable to fund their education. The secondary purpose of the project is to encourage people living with HIV/AIDS to have hope for the future.
2. Scholarships may be awarded with the Director's approval to impoverished children whose circumstances do not include HIV/AIDS. However, the majority of beneficiaries of the project shall be children whose lives are affected by HIV/AIDS.
3. Scholarships are normally given only for kindergarten and basic education. However, when circumstances warrant, secondary school scholarships may be awarded.
4. Priority of scholarships would be given to the AIDS orphans registered in the schools where TFS is supporting teachers
5. Selection of beneficiaries shall be by a Local Committee of Sudanese volunteers. The volunteers shall be Muslim and Christian, people living with AIDS and those who are not, medical and clerical personnel and other suitable persons.
6. The number of scholarships to be awarded annually is decided by the Director in coordination with budgetary constraints.
7. The Local Committee shall monitor the progress of individual scholars in cooperation with the TFS office and shall keep details of their work confidential to protect the children from stigmatization.
8. Scholarships shall be awarded on a yearly basis and committee members shall make clear to recipients that renewal is not automatic but that TFS will do its best to keep promising scholars in school.
9. No scholarship shall be provided to children accepted in private schools with high fees. Tuitions fees should not exceed \$200 per scholar per year. And there shall be no half scholarship payments.

10. Fees shall be paid directly to the schools by TFS office employees.
11. Verification of the HIV/AIDS status of parents or guardians shall be based on recommendation of reliable and recognised individuals within the local communities and, when there is no reasonable cause for doubt, shall be accepted by the committee.
12. Priority shall be given to children from the poorest family circumstances, to applicants accepted to schools with low tuition fees and to children living close to schools (so as to eliminate the need for transportation fees).
13. There shall be no discrimination in scholarship selection on the basis of sex, race, tribe or religion.
14. Scholarships shall be awarded primarily to Sudanese but may also include children whose non-Sudanese relatives have settled or taken refuge in Sudan (i.e. Ethiopians, Eritrean, Somalis, etc.).
15. The scholarship shall ordinarily consist of school tuition only. However, books and uniforms may be paid for in special cases on recommendation by the Local Committee. Food and medicines may also be available in special cases and as funding allows.
16. The Local Committee shall seek where possible to persuade schools to provide free tuition.
17. Committee members shall be responsible to purchase items such as books, uniforms, medicines and food when these are agreed and to return all receipts to the TFS office.
18. No funds may be spent for purposes other than those for which they have been budgeted.
19. When it is necessary to provide cash for food or medicines directly to a household, this will normally be done by TFS personnel or committee members who shall give priority to female parents and guardians.
20. All use of funds, medicines or other resources for unauthorised purposes shall risk cancellation of the scholarship.