

## [Abek Community Development Program: School Project Assessment](#)

### [Trip to Southern Sudan: April - May, 2009](#)

#### **Lost Boy of Sudan, Kuek Garang, President of ACDP**

Sudan has been perpetually caught in the struggle of war since before independence from Britain. Starting in 1955, one year before independence, violence ravaged the country until 1972, when religious groups intervened and brokered peace between Southern Sudan and Northern Sudan. After eleven years of peace, however, war broke out in 1983 when the Islamic regime declared Sharia Law as constitutional. The implementation of new laws also excluded various ethnic African groups from the South, Central, Blue Nile, Darfur, and Eastern Sudan region, particularly in the control of natural resources, such as oil, even in Southern Sudan. This brought not only economic devastation, but extraordinary violence to the people of Southern Sudan. The violence orphaned thousands of children and started the mass exodus of "Lost Boys [and Girls]", who faced thirst, starvation, violent attacks, and treacherous jungle as they trekked into Ethiopia and then Kenya on foot.

4000 of the youth reached to the United States, starting in 2001, after receiving approval for refugee resettlement, with several hundred coming to Illinois. Kuek Garang arrived in one of the first groups and started a new life in Chicago. Like many of his peers, Kuek has not been home since 1987, passionate about improving the life of those who suffered much more than himself in his native community. A group of Lost Boys & Girls across the US launched the Abek Community Development Program in 2007 to provide education to children in Southern Sudan and assist members of the Abek Community in the United States so they may give back to their community.

Kuek Garang is planning to visit Southern Sudan for a hands-on assessment for the Wernyol School Project. The first goal is to establish logistical support and receive proposals in order to solidify the budget. Kuek will additionally reinforce existing relationships with local government bodies and community leaders who wish to support the project on the ground. Kuek will meet with potential teachers and administrators for the school from around the region beyond Wernyol. He will lastly lay the groundwork for future projects in clean water and healthcare, to begin in the years following the launch of the school. Kuek will be joined by Josh Engel, Board Member of ACDP, who will be participating in the assessment. Kuek and Josh will prepare a formal report on the trip's findings upon their return to the United States.

As a recently founded organization, Abek Community Development Program does not have the financial resources to send its leadership on such a project. Though Josh will be funding his own expenses and hopefully some of Kuek's, ACDP is appealing the supports for finances to cover the costs of tickets and accommodations for Kuek. Please consider making an effort to support this essential step in the process and see the website for more information at [www.abekcommunityusa.com](http://www.abekcommunityusa.com).

### **2009 ASSESSMENT TRIP: SOUTHERN SUDAN**

#### **PURPOSE: SCHOOL PROJECT ANALYSIS AND EARLY PREPARATION**

#### **WHEN: APRIL – MAY, 2009: 5 WEEKS**

#### **Proposed Expenses for Kuek Garang, President ACDP**

**Transportation:**

International Round Trip Ticket: Chicago to Nairobi =====\$1,500

Regional Round Trip Ticket: Nairobi to Juba, Southern Sudan =====\$400

Regional Round Trip: Juba to Panyagor =====\$200

Land Transport: Panyagor to Wernyol =====\$50

Total Transportation Costs =====**\$2,150**

**Accommodation:**

Nairobi (3 days) =====\$360

Juba (4 nights) =====\$300

Total Accommodation (with in-kind lodging in Abek) =====**\$660**

**Other Costs:**

Food and Water =====\$500

Immunizations and other medical costs =====\$100

Mosquito Net, necessities===== \$100

Total of Other Costs=====**\$700**

**Total Estimated Expenses for School Assessment Trip===== \$3,510**

In the event that you have the resources and willingness to write a check, please make it payable to 'Abek Community Development Program' with the memo "Trip to Southern Sudan".

Sending Address: [6518 N. Bosworth Ave, Chicago, IL 60626](#)

ACDP sincerely thanks you for your donation to support the assessment trip for Wernyol School Project

Your donation is tax deductible.