



Female powered nonprofit, 'Travel & Give,' raises ten thousand dollars to promote diversity and learning in Nairobi Kenya

New York - Travel & GIVE, a non-profit organization that incorporates travel with addressing needs in local communities around the world, today announces the details to its first international humanitarian trip to Africa, July 21st to August 31st. The trip marks an annual retreat designed to help distressed communities internationally. The organization has teamed up with DreamGalaxy, a Kenyan-based digital storytelling platform that inspires students to read more in both a traditional and 21st methods, to launch a self-sustaining multi-sensory learning program for 2,000 plus students. T&G volunteers will travel to Kenya to train teachers and engage in learning activities with students in nine sub-countries.

*"We've been preparing for this trip for over a year and a half and we are so thankful to have worked with 21 volunteers who, collectively, raised over \$10,000 dollars that will go toward funding the DreamGalaxy platform and the Angel Centre Orphanage," explains T&G founder Martine Harris. "At Travel & GIVE, we strive to promote inclusive classrooms and communities, providing people with disabilities the proper modifications and accommodations needed to thrive in their environment. The digital literacy platform created by DreamGalaxy aligns with our beliefs as educators and advocates."*

T&G has spent the last year raising funds and pushing its amazon wishlist for items that the director from the Angel Centre orphanage requested.

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During their visit to Nairobi, T&G is visiting two orphanages, one of them houses children with disabilities. At the Angel Centre orphanage, volunteers will be painting walls, installing secure locks on doors, washing machines, and putting down floor mats so the children can play safely. At the second orphanage that houses children with disabilities, its speech and occupational therapists, and special educators will be providing helpful tips for the caregivers.

Co-Founded by Haitian born speech pathologist Martine Harris, T&G began as a small philanthropic endeavor following the devastating effects of the 2010 earthquake that destroyed Haiti.

“I moved to Port-au-Prince after completing my undergraduate degree to work as an English teacher,” explains Harris. “ What I found was a large learning gap that students faced because of learning disabilities and the lack of professional resources and development courses for educators.”

After a few years of working as a speech and language pathologist servicing students with learning disabilities in New York City and Baltimore, Martine returned to Haiti with a group of related service providers and educators to provide professional development courses for teachers on how to create an inclusive classroom learning environment for their students.

“It really started as vacation trips to revisit schools where I taught and bring resources to orphanages. I asked my friends to come and some of them asked their friends. It just grew organically from there. I was able to transform my travel buddies into my executive board members.”

Since 2016, Harris and her team have been recruiting volunteers to travel to Haiti to support teachers in schools and provide hands-on-therapy for children in orphanages presenting with congenital, physical, cognitive, and mental disabilities. Efforts have also helped children in Jamaica, the United States (Hurricane Harvey) and now Africa.

For more information please visit [TravelandGive.org](http://TravelandGive.org) and fill out the volunteer application for the annual visits to Haiti and Kenya. For media inquiries please contact [hanif.sumner@gmail.com](mailto:hanif.sumner@gmail.com). To donate monetarily, visit the campaign on fundly: [fundly.com/promote-diverse-learning-in-kenya](https://fundly.com/promote-diverse-learning-in-kenya), PayPal by visiting their website at [TravelandGive.org](http://TravelandGive.org), or email at [Team@travelandgive.org](mailto:Team@travelandgive.org).

### **About**

Travel & GIVE, formally known as Gr8 Eight, is a 501(c)(3) that combines travel with addressing the needs of people in local communities around the world through advocacy, education, and empowerment.