

J Kirby Simon Foreign Service Trust

GRANTS AWARDED IN 2017

The J. Kirby Simon Foreign Service Trust is a charitable fund established in the memory of Kirby Simon, a Foreign Service Officer who died in 1995 while serving in Taiwan. The Trust is committed to expanding the opportunities for community service, professional fulfillment and personal well-being of Foreign Service Officers and Specialists and their families. The Trust has been funded with contributions from Kirby Simon's colleagues, friends and relatives and other persons interested in the purposes of the Trust. The trustees are present or former members of the Foreign Service – State Department community and Kirby Simon's parents.

In January 2017, the Trust once again invited proposals from Foreign Service personnel or members of their families, or by other U. S. Government employees employed at American diplomatic posts abroad. In response to this invitation, the Trust received 79 proposals. With its modest resources, the Trust was able to provide funding for 42 of these projects. Grants ranged from \$500 to \$4000 for a total of \$89,860. The following pages describe the projects supported by the Trust in 2017. These projects are listed in descending order, from those with the highest level of Board support to those with the lowest.

Russia – Moscow – To fund the purchase of English language learning materials for middle and high school students ages 12-18 who live in a home for children.

Madagascar—Antananarivo – To fund the purchase of educational supplies for a newly built education and community center in an under-served neighborhood.

Guatemala --- Guatemala City – To fund and complete projects that will improve the living conditions at a non-profit children's home.

Georgia – Nukriani – To fund the renovation of a building that will house a day center and weekend school for adults and children with disabilities.

Brazil – Rio de Janeiro – To fund the installation of a bathroom at a children's center.

Paraguay – Asuncion – To fund the construction of a milking parlor for a herd of six to ten cows for an orphanage.

Sierra Leone – Freetown – To fund the purchase of educational materials for orphans of Ebola victims at a local orphanage.

Zimbabwe – Harare – To fund the construction of exhibits that demonstrate basic scientific principles for primary and secondary school children at the country's only children's museum.

Benin – Sakete – To fund the growing needs of an infant formula program at the an orphanage.

Swaziland -- Mbabane – To fund the purchase of cameras, a computer and an external hard drive for photo documentation of women and children who are victims of sexual offenses and domestic violence.

Papua New Guinea – Port Moresby – To fund programs that feed, house and educate street children.

Swaziland – Lobamba – To fund the purchase of school supplies and toiletries for four neighborhood care centers.

Mongolia – Gachuurt – To fund the purchase of beds for a children's center.

Nicaragua – Managua – to fund the purchase of a book bike to allow librarians and volunteers to bring books into the local community.

Colombia – Bogota – To fund the building of a space in an orphanage for children to learn, study and socialize.

Bulgaria – Lopyan – To fund the purchase of bedding for a boarding school/orphanage.

Ecuador – Guayaquil – To fund the purchase of ceiling fans, chairs, filing cabinets and instruments for at-risk youth.

Nicaragua – Managua – To fund the repair of an orphanage roof.

Namibia – Windhoek – To fund a literary outreach program.

Nigeria – Lagos – To provide cervical and breast cancer screening and treatment at a fishing village.

Swaziland –Mpaka – To fund the restoration of water pipelines between a functioning borehole and a refugee camp.

Senegal – Dakar – To fund an effort to create woven fleece blankets for disadvantaged children.

Guyana – Georgetown – To fund the building of a playground at a shelter that helps women and children who are victims of domestic violence.

Malawi – Lilongwe – To fund food for orphaned children.

Ecuador – Quito – To fund a sewing project for poor women.

Peru – Lima – To fund the conversion of a borrowed space into a permanent library for children.

Ecuador – Quito – To fund the purchase of materials to build a kitchen for a community center.

Italy – Rome – To fund the purchase of material and supplies for an art therapy center that helps refugees.

Brazil – Recife –To fund a program of handicap education and training for poor parents with children suffering from microcephaly.

Burma – Rangoon – To fund the repair of a children’s shelter that houses more than 80 boys and girls.

Belize – Belmopan –To fund the education of children living in a shelter.

Gabon – Libreville –To fund the purchase of beds and security window grills for an orphanage.

Indonesia – Wes Java – To fund the purchase of educational materials for unsupported refugee children from the Middle East.

Paraguay – San Pablo – To fund the purchase of equipment to help the only human breast milk bank in the country.

South Africa – Cape Town – To fund improvements at a safe house that assist women recovering from trauma.

Bulgaria – Sofia – To fund a project designed to integrate refugees into the local environment.

Uganda – To fund the expansion of a sewing group to provide opportunities for vulnerable women.

Burma – Rangoon – To fund photography workshops for marginalized women.

Dominican Republic -- Pedro Brand –To fund the construction of a water system in an animal sanctuary.

Argentina – Buenos Aires – To fund the refurbishment of a library, music center and playroom for foster children.

Egypt – Cairo – To fund the purchase of text books for refugee children.

Angola – Kalukembe – To fund the purchase of bedding for patients at a clinic.