


From: Jill Kurtz <jill@rebuildsudan.org>
Subject: Rebuild Sudan Phase 1 near complete!
Date: October 8, 2012 5:43:45 PM EDT



September, 2012

Blog  Friend Us  Follow Us 

Rebuild Sudan Founder, Michael Kuany, Marries!

We have exciting news!!! On July 2, 2012 our founder and leader, [Michael Ayuen Kuany](#) married Deborah Nyap Majer Akon in Bor, South Sudan and their story was nothing short of incredible.

Both refugees from the war in South Sudan, their journeys out of the Kenyan camps took them on completely separate paths, Michael to the United States and Deborah to Australia. They would first be introduced when they both journeyed back to South Sudan in the summer of 2009. Both shy but interested, they exchanged contact information and for the next year and a half, wrote emails and Skyped across continents, building trust and a love for one another.

It was in January of 2012 that they decided to come to their parents with their request to wed. While they were both quick to admit they are not traditional village people, they still wanted to respect the marriage process of their tribes and move forward with the appropriate rituals, though their transcontinental courtship had been anything but traditional.



[Read the rest of their incredible story of merging their families, perspectives, and lives together on our blog.](#) We can't wait to work with Deborah as she partners with Michael and Rebuild Sudan to further our message of peace and hope through education.

If you would like to bless the couple with words of congratulations or monetary gifts to cover their visa expenses, please send them to: 922 Greenwood Ct. Oshkosh, WI 54901 or email info@rebuildsudan.org and we can pass on your celebratory wishes to them.

Finishing Phase 1 Construction on the School!



After years of planning, fundraising and collaboration, the [Jalle Peace School](#) is becoming a physical reality! Ground breaking commenced in early 2012, to date the foundation is in place, and the steel structural frame is next up on the punch list.

As with most building projects, [our best-laid plans have been tested and revised to accommodate variables we could not have planned for](#)



[or foreseen](#). The helical pier foundation was not successfully installed in the first phase because of issues with our installation tool. We plan on addressing this with the manufacturing company and utilizing the piers for the flooring system. We relied on our Plan B for the foundation and hand dug 46 holes for a concrete steel combination footing.

We have also encountered problems with our South Sudanese contractor (GDC) and their internal operations. The site manager from GDC assigned to our project has not been communicating with the company due to issues not related to our project. For this reason, assembling the building structure has been delayed. We are hopeful

GDC will finish their staffing arrangements and work can move forward. Please feel free to join us in prayer as many of our current project obstacles are beyond our control.

Currently, we need an estimated \$15,000 to wrap up Phase 1 which includes paying the final amount to the contractor, payment to the onsite security guards, and some outstanding expenses.

If you have given in the past or have yet to contribute, please consider a donation of \$25, \$50, \$100 or \$250 to help us wrap up this project milestone finish Phase 1 on time and without debt. Words do not convey the depths of our gratitude for the support and contributions of each of you!

Thank you for being with us through Phase 1 (Foundation, Steel Frame, Roof)... which we believe will significantly help us raise awareness and new funding sources for Phase 2 (Walls, Floors, Furnishings)

[DONATE](#)

Updates from the Organization



Blake's Resignation

After two years of faithful service and leadership with Reuild Sudan, Blake Clark has resigned as executive director for personal reasons. His motivation and hope in this project have not wavered; he will continue to advise the Jalle School's design team as we move forward on the floor and wall systems in Phase 2. We are grateful for his sacrificial service on behalf of this project, the connections he established on his 3 trips to the



Sales Force

Three years ago, we received a grant from Sales Force for a non-profit version of their software to manage our donor database. If any of you have ever worked with the program, however, you know there is a significant amount of set up that must occur before the database can be utilized. We are grateful for the insight and help of Board Member Jeremy Huddleston who has spearheaded this effort under the



New Website!

We're also pleased to announce the launch of [our new website](#). While we loved the look and feel of the old website, it lacked the user interaction and content navigation we had intended to keep you updated on our work. With the design from Joshua Michael, technical support from Lawson Kurtz, and project management by Board President, Jill Kurtz and Communication's Advisor, Sarah Gerber, we are excited to

site, and his commitment to lead our organization well.

Rebuild Sudan has had several board meetings since Blake's resignation to determine how to adapt our organization after Blake's departure. We have a strong sense of teamwork right now and are confident our restructuring will move us forward in the right direction. We'll keep you updated on the blog with more organizational updates and summaries after our board meetings.

[Read more of our Organizational Updates on our Blog](#)



guidance of a long time supporter of Rebuild Sudan, [Now it Matters](#). We are pleased to say after 6 months of work, this significant tool is now in place. We look forward to using it to keep you better updated on our progress, set up more options for donations, and keep track of your information more securely and accurately. A huge thanks to Katie Rivers for working to maintain this system; be on the look out for emails from her if we need to confirm any of your information.

[DONATE](#)

better interact with you online.

We're also excited to bring on a new intern, Malory Lee, to help us manage our content and twitter account. If you also have skills in content management or social media, please contact jill@rebuilddesudan.org if you are interested in volunteering in this way.

[Visit our website often and frequently for updated information on our project and current news from South Sudan.](#)

Blog  Friend Us  Follow Us 