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Summer 2010

For the better part of June and July of 2010, I spent my time working for an Episcopal mission in Amagoro, Kenya called The Elewana Education Project. The goals of the project are three-fold. The first goal is to partner secondary schools from the U.S. with schools from Kenya, particularly those schools in the Diocese of Katakwa. By fostering these connections, the Project hopes to encourage both developmental improvements for the Kenyan schools and cultural exchanges between both schools. The second goal of installing solar panels and computer labs in the Kenyan secondary schools stems from the first goal of increased cultural exchange. By introducing this technology and the skills necessary to use it, the project aims to narrow the gap of communication between the students of both continents. The third goal of the project is to grant full or partial scholarships to students in Kenya who do not have the means to afford their school fees. Through these three approaches, the Elewana Education Project aims to foster its overarching goal of increasing the exchange of knowledge and information for school children.

I found myself engaged in many different responsibilities while I was in Amagoro. I taught at both secondary and teacher’s training institutions. I helped in the installation and setup of solar panels and computer labs. I visited various schools to discuss the logistics of school fees with parents and students. I initiated a sex education program aimed at eroding the social stigma of using condoms. I participated in house visits with local parishioners. Most importantly, I found myself fully engaged and
participating in community life. From having dinner to attending funerals, I was able to
explore fully the life of Kenya from a perspective that was both new and enlightening.