



Play Soccer So They Can

A grassroots community effort to support development of youth who have been affected by war

Invite your community to play soccer and give war-affected youth a chance to play too.

What is it?

- A weekend, where people of all ages, come together to play soccer to support youth who have been affected by war and robbed of their childhoods.

Why do it?

- To raise funds to help local programs, in communities recovering from the effects of war, that use (and need) soccer to engage and empower their youth.
- To raise awareness about the impact of armed conflict on youth and the efforts made by those affected to build a better future for their community.
- To build a grassroots community committed to working together to help youth affected by war.

Who is organizing it?

- OA Projects is a grassroots organization that uses soccer to build stronger communities for war-affected youth. OA's objective is to increase opportunities for youth in war-affected regions to participate in soccer-based community building activities. Visit us at www.oaprojects.org.

Who can participate?

- School teams and clubs; local soccer and sport teams; community groups; groups of friends; and, anyone else who wants to play soccer in their community so that youth who have been affected by war can too.

www.oaprojects.org

oa@oaprojects.org; +1 778 990 7292

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How to get involved?

- Send OA an e-mail expressing your interest to participate at: oa@oaprojects.org. Once we have received your e-mail, you will receive an e-mail with all of the resources and information needed to help you plan and organize your event. If needed, OA will provide you with support throughout the process of organizing your event.

Where does the donated money go?

- The funds will be used to support the development of a locally driven, soccer-based, peacebuilding framework in northern Uganda. The framework works by connecting war-affected youth with local youth leaders to play soccer and to discuss important post-conflict issues.

Some of the activities involved in this are:

- 1) **Improve**, in an environmentally sensitive manner, some of the current soccer-related infrastructure in the host community by re-constructing soccer fields;
- 2) **Provide** resource support to local programs that use soccer to engage their youth in community building activities related to building peace and gender equity;
- 3) **Develop** the capacity of local youth to lead soccer-based community-building activities through coaching workshops; and,
- 4) **Run** soccer camps, a league and tournament for peace that provide a safe and fun environment for youth affected by war.

Sample Short video journals from OA's most recent project in northern Uganda:

Journal 9: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6MpmmDk4HGg>

Journal 12: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=srXmzG7Yjhc>

Contact

"There is no more powerful tool for reconciliation, for youth, than the game of soccer."

Lt. General Romeo Dallaire (Canadian Senator and Former UN General in Rwanda), upon receiving a brief presentation on OA.

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