



The Kisii Highlands

The Mission is located in the Kisii Highlands, in western Kenya, approximately 8,287 miles from Bismarck. The time change is +8 hours. Around the Mission are found shambas (*farms*)

where the people live and raise crops such as maize, beans, bananas, millet, tea, potatoes, etc. The temperatures range from a low of the mid 50's at night to highs of upper 80's during the day, depending on the time of the year. Annual rainfall exceeds 70 inches with two rainy seasons – the heavier rains falling from mid-March to June and the shorter rains occurring from September to November. The months of January and February are mostly dry.



Areas of Involvement

The Short-Term Missionary Program is a "Come & See" experience.

- Accompany Mission personnel in daily tasks
- Assist with office or computer work
- Assist at the shamba —

Examples include:

- Deep cleaning*
- Maintenance*
- Light repairs*
- Care of animals*
- Gardening*



- Experience Mission Saturdays
- Participate in the Water with Blessing training, follow-up sessions, and home visits
- Visit those who have received a house
- Visit those who have received a heifer
- Reading Program (April, August, November)
- Wellness Program (November)

To learn more or to donate to the Bismarck Diocese African Mission



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Bismarck Diocese African Mission



Short-Term Missionary Program

Come & See!



A Brief History

With the support of Bishop John Kinney, the Bismarck Diocese sent missionaries to Africa in July 1990. Fr. Bruce Krebs, Deacon Jim and Henrietta Nistler, and Cathy King traveled to Bura,

located in southeastern Kenya. In May 1994, after violence escalated in the area and raised concerns about the safety of the Bismarck missionaries, the Diocesan Mission relocated to Kisii, located in Western Kenya. Since then, priests, deacons, seminarians and lay missionaries have worked to spread the Gospel via the Bismarck Diocese African Mission in Kisii, Kenya.



The Mission is fully funded by the Bismarck Diocese through donations to the annual African Mission Appeal. The Mission supports over 450 orphans and

vulnerable children with food, educational needs, and medical care. The Mission also supports other services including the Water with Blessings Project, Housing Program, and the Heifer Program.

The population of the two counties where the Mission supports children is around 2 million people with just over 50% of them under the age of 19. The Mission supports children in over 200 schools.



The Mission is located in the southern hemisphere, approximately 50 miles south of the equator in the Kisii Highlands, approximately 6,450 feet.

Short-Term Missionary Program

The Bismarck Mission welcomes people to 'come and see' the Mission and to share in its life on a short-term basis (3 weeks — 6 months). As an outreach of the Bismarck Diocese, missionaries serve our brothers and sisters in the Diocese of Kisii, Kenya, East Africa. Volunteering at the Mission is an opportunity to be the hands, feet, and voice of Christ for the people of Kenya and to allow yourself to be shaped and formed by people of deep faith who live in poverty.



The Mission house can accommodate up to five people at one time, including the Priest Administrator and any long-term missionary. Visitors to the Mission are expected to participate in the activities of the Mission and no salary is paid.

Length of Stay

Minimum of 3 weeks. The time limit on a visitor's visa is 3 months. The visa may be renewed once for an additional 3 months for a maximum stay of 6 months.

Applicant Qualifications

Is Male or Female.
It is preferred that applicants be Catholic.
Married couple — at least one Catholic.
Is at least 25 years of age.
Must have a letter from their pastor.
Is physically fit and in reasonably good health.

Financial Responsibilities

MISSIONARY RESPONSIBILITY:

US Passport (*valid 6 months after return*)
Background Check with the Diocese of Bismarck
Vaccinations
Anti-malarial medications
Kenyan Tourist/Visitor Visa (*e-Visa*)
Roundtrip international airfare
Lodging in Nairobi (*Usually two nights*)
Safari (*Optional*)

BISMARCK MISSION RESPONSIBILITY:

Transportation to and from the airport in Nairobi
Transportation during the Mission activities
Accommodations while at the Mission (*Food, lodging*)
Day trips when possible (*Tabaka, Lake Victoria*)

Required Documents

US Passport
Kenyan Tourist/Visitor Visa (*e-Visa*)
Yellow Fever Vaccination
Anti-Malarial Medication
Background Check with the Diocese of Bismarck
International Driver's Permit (*For 3-6 month stays*)
Diocese of Bismarck Compulsory Documents:
Release of Liability
Medical Clearance Form
Requirements, Disclosures, Authorization Form

