

MAILBAG

Doing Good with the Game

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I am writing to let you know about a trip I just came back from. For about a year I had been working on a project to bring lacrosse to the slums in Kenya. I can say without doubt our trip was one of the best experiences in my life.

My mom, cousin, a friend and I are working with an organization called America Share, a non-profit founded more than 25 years ago that is dedicated to improving the lives of the vulnerable and impoverished women and children in the Mukuru slum of Nairobi, Kenya. Through education, community outreach and empowerment programs, America Share provides disadvantaged women and children with access to services designed to facilitate personal growth and promote sustainable change.

It's very difficult to convey how moving the experience was and still is. The first day as we walked to field with equipment, we turned to see close to 2,000 cheering children. The feeling was overwhelming. I was walking with a young lady who America Share had put through school. "I can't get over this, most of these kids won't even get to play," I said. She replied, "But you don't understand, you're bringing hope."