

STELLER GRADUATES, WADE BANTA AND MICHAEL KENT, BEGIN SERVICE TRIP TO MALAWI, AFRICA IN APRIL

Wade Banta and Michael Kent are recent college graduates and Steller Secondary alumni who have focused their studies in the natural sciences. They will be traveling to Malawi, Africa in April of this year to volunteer at Gracious Secondary School, a school provided for AIDS orphans through the continuing support of the Malawi Children's Village. Their goal is to assist the teachers of Gracious Secondary School by improving the quality of education received by their students. They will be working alongside Gracious teachers to both help them with daily classes, and to support the development of the curriculum for future classes.

Malawi Children's Village is a village based orphan care project, providing resources, education, and medical care to sponsored orphans and vulnerable children within the Mangochi area. Gracious Secondary School aims to provide education to vulnerable children and sponsored orphans of MCV. Students in education levels US 9-12 are taught with the national curricula in subjects including English, Mathematics, Chemistry, and Biology, among others.

To date, Wade and Michael have raised \$2200 to assist Gracious School in obtaining educational materials including textbooks, stationary, and furniture. This amount has surpassed the originally established budget by the director of Gracious Secondary, but we hope to continue to raise money to aid the school as we prepare to journey to Malawi. Tax deductible donations to MCV can be made at their website (Please note "Wade Project" on your check):

<http://malawichildrensvillage.org/donate/>

A gofundme site has also been established at

http://www.gofundme.com/ngvlko?fb_action_ids=10152636241055443&fb_action_types=og.shares to help cover personal expenses for this service trip.

Collectively, Wade and Michael estimate that they will require approximately \$4600 to cover the following costs:

Travel: ~\$3400 (~\$1700 per person)

Lodging: \$700 (\$10/day, 70 days of lodging)

Food: ~\$450 (~\$10/day, 70 days of eating)

Look for Michael and Wade's information table about Malawi Children's Village and their project at Steller's 3/21/15 Expanding Your World event!