

Frequently Asked Questions

Relationship Building

1. How do I communicate with my sponsored child?

Let U.S. Venture help you with your communication. Letters, cards, and photographs are a great way to build a relationship with your sponsored child. Share information about your family, your work and what life is like for you here in the United States. Be cautious about sending phone numbers, personal email and mailing addresses. It could become confusing if someone other than U.S. Venture tries to contact you regarding your sponsorship. Send your information to:

Pam Swick
U.S. Venture
425 Better Way
Appleton, WI 54915

2. Can I send my sponsored child a gift for Christmas or their birthday?

Extra gifts for special occasions are a great way to express your care and concern. Although packages can be sent, we can't guarantee that they will arrive. We recommend sending extra money with a short letter stating the reason for the gift. You can also let the social worker determine what is best for the child at that time. Checks should be made out to Kenya Works and directed to Pam Swick at U.S. Venture.

Extra Support

3. Can I send extra supplies or money to the family?

Additional support for families is always welcome. Please contact us with your ideas. We will work with VICODEC to be sure that the families benefit from the extra support. Checks should be made out to Kenya Works and mailed to Pam Swick at U.S. Venture.

4. Will I be notified if the child requires additional support such as medical aid?

If we are made aware of a medical or other family emergency, you will be notified. It will be up to you if you would like to give assistance.

5. The sponsored family has reached out to me looking for additional assistance. What should I do?

If you are being contacted by anyone other than U.S. Venture regarding the child sponsorship program, please contact us immediately. We want to be sure that the child and their families are getting appropriate support and working together as partners is the best method. Therefore, all funding coming from the United States should go through one source and that is U.S. Venture.

6. What types of foods are being purchased for the families?

The usual food support includes rice, maize flour, beans, salt, oil, and tea.

7. What happens if my child is no longer a student of VICODEC?

Your contribution follows the child as long as you continue as a sponsor, even after he or she leaves the VICODEC classroom. This means your child will still have access to food, medical resources and other support programs to ensure healthy development.

Payment

8. Can I send a check directly to VICODEC?

Please, send all communication including checks to U.S. Venture. We can ensure the payments are received and that they reach VICODEC.

9. Where do I send my payment?

All payments should be made payable to **Kenya Works** and mailed to:

Pam Swick
U.S. Venture
425 Better Way
Appleton, WI 54915

10. Can I setup a payment plan for my sponsorship?

Payment plans are available upon request. We currently offer an annual or semi-annual payment option for sponsors.

11. What happens if I can no longer continue my sponsorship?

Call or email Pam Swick to cancel your sponsorship. Please give as much notice as possible. The sponsored child receives continuous support and this can become a financial burden to VICODEC if you fail to communicate your intentions. Once notified, VICODEC will start the search for a new sponsor.

If your situation changes and you would like to continue with the program, call U.S. Venture for further guidance.

12. What are my options if I'm late with my payment but still wish to sponsor my child?

U.S. Venture will contact you if your sponsorship is in jeopardy due to late payment. If we do not hear from you within two months of the sponsorship due date, the child will be released from the program and another sponsor will be assigned.