

# Ajara Library Project Book Drive Guidelines

We are grateful for your support for the library project. But please contact us by phone or e-mail before you get started, and:

- (i) We will tell you what kinds of books to collect (not all books are appropriate for Africa)
- (ii) We will tell you the target date for completion of book drive to meet our shipment to Africa
- (iii) We will send you our documentary video

## To Succeed With Your Book Drive, You Need To:

- **Get passionate**

- (i) Be excited about your book drive
- (ii) See yourself not just as a volunteer, but as agent of hope
- (iii) Think of how many lives will be changed by your contribution and stay motivated
- (iv) Have faith in your book drive.

- **Identify Your Potential Donor**

- (i) Start with your family; ask your parents, siblings, & other relatives for books
- (ii) Consider talking to your friends
- (iii) Tap into your alumni group; e-mail your social / professional network
- (iv) Contact your local libraries, schools, colleges, synagogues and church groups
- (v) Find out about book clubs, women's clubs, and youth groups near you
- (vi) Talk to your teachers and professors

- **Set a Goal:**

- (i) Decide how many books you're going to collect
- (ii) Your goal is to collect 500 books and the \$250 to ship them, or 1000 books and the approximately \$500 to ship them
- (iii) Collect more than your target number of books as some may not be appropriate for Africa and may have to be dropped
- (iii) Decide when to start and end your book drive (5-7 week window is recommended)

- **Have Fun**

- (i) Make your book drive a fun thing; enjoy it
- (ii) Throw a book-drive party; make new friends
- (iii) Ask your friends to bring their friends and books to the party

- (iv) Make some noise, spread the word; let people know what you're doing
- (v) Speak about conditions in Africa and why the library project is important

- **Make it a Joint Effort**

- (i) Form a small group to support the book drive
- (ii) Get others actively involved—you cannot do it alone
- (iii) Show our documentary DVD to inspire people to help
- (iv) Avoid getting the wrong books—tell everyone what kind of books to receive

- **Use Your Computer to Raise Funds for the Library Project**

- (i) Get viral about your book drive on the internet
- (ii) Get the buzz going on your Facebook and MySpace
- (iii) Spread the word on Twitters
- (iv) Ask people to donate money for shipping the books to Africa (no amount is too small—be it \$1, \$2, \$5, or more)

**DO ACCEPT** – The following kinds of books are needed:

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|---------------------------------------|--|
| ϕ Children's picture books            | ϕ Children's fiction and non-fiction   |
| ϕ Teacher books for schools libraries | ϕ Children's encyclopedias             |
| ϕ Juvenile's literature               | ϕ Children's dictionaries              |
| ϕ Classical literature                | ϕ Encyclopedias less than 15 years old |
| ϕ Accurate atlases                    | ϕ Thesauruses                          |
| ϕ History and philosophy              | ϕ Reference books                      |
| ϕ Politics & international relations  | ϕ Environment and social movements     |
| ϕ Human rights and social justice     | ϕ Children's dictionaries              |
| ϕ Religion, spirituality, and culture | ϕ Encyclopedias less than 15 years old |
| ϕ Textbooks in math and sciences      | ϕ Textbooks in social sciences         |
| ϕ Globalization and business          | ϕ Computer books (current only)        |
| ϕ Self-improvement & inspirational    | ϕ Biographies and memoirs              |

**DO NOT ACCEPT** —The following kinds of books are not needed

- ϕ Books with heavy American slangs
- ϕ Books for children that have many references to video games, electronic toys, and appliances
- ϕ Adult paperback pornography
- ϕ Adult romance novels
- ϕ Commercial fictions—whether hardcover or paperback
- ϕ Books about American entertainment, celebrities, pop culture, and holidays (Halloween, Valentines Day, Thanksgiving, Hollywood, etc).

