A Little More about the Maryland 4-H Experience to Tanzania 2014...

Itinerary
We will be following a similar schedule as with the 2012 trip. There will be travel days, days of 4-H activities and programs with different Tanzanian 4-H Clubs, community service in planting trees, painting buildings, etc. There will also be fun excursions to a photo safari, a beach on the Indian Ocean, to local markets and shops. We will keep everyone plenty busy!

Safety and Accommodations
We will be travelling and staying together as one group. Some of the accommodations will be hotel-like while other accommodations will feel a little like camping. We will have separate beds with mattresses at each of the locations, and at every location there are guards and security much like the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase. Three adult chaperones from Maryland 4-H will be travelling with the group. We will travel with the Tanzanian 4-H groups, as well as with 4-H groups from Finland and the States 4-H Exchange. In terms of keeping oneself safe and healthy, malaria medication is a necessary requirement for this trip.

Cost
We know that one of the most challenging aspects to this trip is the roadblock associated with the cost. It is a hurdle that can be accomplished. The Maryland 4-H Foundation will be working to draft a fundraising letter which we have seen as being the most productive way in which to solicit the community and family donations. Being that the Foundation is a 501c-3, all donations are tax deductible. It is a life-changing experience, but it will be a lot of work to get there. Other costs to bear in mind will include getting your child a passport and visa, immunizations (which will depend on their health care plans), and the incidentals - extra food, souvenirs, etc.

What a 4-Her gets out of this experience
They will have unique lived experiences and make friends with 4-Hers from Maryland, Finland, and Tanzania - memories that will last a lifetime. Another significant way to frame this trip is that international experience is an edge that employers are looking for, especially an experience like this in which they will gain a wider world-view, they will challenge themselves mentally and emotionally, and contribute to the growth of a foreign 4-H program - which will have rippling impacts on youth that they may never meet.

Timeline
Applications due December 6, 2013
Interviews in December and January
Delegation selected mid-January
$500 deposit due February 1, 2014
2 face to face and 2 online family orientations in the Spring
Trip July 13-28, 2014

If you have any additional questions regard this, or other 4-H International Programs, please contact alishat@umd.edu.

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