

LCA Fall 2021 Newsletter

Leadership Committee for Africa

2021-2022
12/08/2021 Edition



2021-2022 LCA Steering Committee

What is LCA?

Leadership Committee for Africa (LCA) is a non-profit, student-run organization with a mission to educate the Culver community about the various crises impacting different countries of Africa. LCA especially promotes health, welfare, education, and advancement of African people and children, and provides opportunities for Culver students to learn and volunteer in Africa. LCA was founded in 2004 by members of Culver Girls Academy but has grown immensely since. LCA currently partners with Christel House South Africa, Amani Children's Foundation, and the School of St. Jude. Members of LCA have the chance to visit two of those organizations, Christel House South Africa and the School of St. Jude, during annual Spring Break GPS Trips which we hope to bring back next year. By dividing the committee into four sub-committees, Fundraising, Research and Education, Communications, and Work Projects, LCA covers diverse areas of the Culver community. Each committee works to raise donations and awareness through beading sessions, sports concessions, and informative and interactive all committee meetings. In the future, LCA hopes to continue to spread the vision of empowering students, children, and women in Africa to Culver. The impact of LCA is felt in the various countries that LCA aids and through the student body of Culver.

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WHY I LOVE LCA

"I love being a member of LCA because I am able to connect with people at beading sessions while also becoming more aware of the problems that are ongoing in Africa." Ksenia Gainey '25

"My favorite part of LCA is the beading sessions. I love coming after dinner with my friends to make bracelets or keychains using the Amani beads. The idea of me making a bracelet and impacting the life of a child in Kenya is what I love about LCA." Lucy Shepard '24

"I love being involved with LCA as it has given me the opportunity to meet new people while educating myself on and raising money for great causes" Caitlin Nicholson '22

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SNEEK PEEKS

- LCA is one of the biggest clubs on campus and we take time to recognize all of our new members in meetings and Schoology posts.
- We have been super involved



Ally Barath and Katherine Beeson

Hello everyone! My name is Ally Barath and I currently serve as this year's LCA Chair. That means I plan and run steering committee and all-committee meetings with the help of Katherine and Mrs. Strobel, as well as oversee all projects done by the steering committee. A few of my goals for LCA this year include creating a bonded steering committee, integrating more interactive activities during all-committee meetings, and spreading LCA and its purpose throughout campus. We have already done a lot of amazing things this year, and I can't wait to be a part of this club's growth and make a difference within campus and the world.

Hi LCA, my name is Katherine Beeson and I am from Culver Indiana. I joined LCA my freshman year, and have been very involved ever since. I am the Executive Officer, which means that I work with Ally and Mrs. Strobel in order to plan and run various LCA activities and meetings. One of my goals this year was to work on educating the campus about relevant issues in Africa, which we have done through our All-Committee Meetings and will do at our World Aids Day meeting. I also hope to keep the campus excited about LCA GPS trips for when they return after Covid, and help get more people involved in concessions now that we are able to do them again. I can't wait to see what we will be able to do with the last half of the year!

Mission: "LCA's mission is to educate ourselves and the community about issues of poverty in Africa while hosting LCA and campus events to support our partner organizations"

BECOMING A MEMBER

To become a member of LCA you must attend at least 5 events, whether that be meetings or concession events.

New LCA members are recognized at the LCA meetings and join a new supporting family connected in the will to help people around the world.

LCA BEADING

"Beading sessions provide opportunities for students on our campus to share common goals: coming together to make a positive impact for our partner organizations. It's also a such a great way to bond with our peers!"

-Ellen Shepard '22

Fall Parents Weekend Sale

Fall Parent's Weekend brought back many exciting events and activities that had been lost due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This included, of course, LCA's beading sale. With a table set up in Math and Science as parents bustled around to their kid's classes, LCA was eager to get back to educating and selling to Culver families. And that we did! The stand consisted of bracelets and keychains of all shapes and sizes, including those made with Kazuri beads.

Kazuri beads are special because they are given to LCA by Amani Children's Foundation in Kenya so we can make bracelets with the beads and donate the profits back to their organization. Additionally, we sold stationary designed by children at the Christel House school in South Africa. For hours, parents and students stopped by to look, learn, and/or invest in LCA's mission through purchasing a product. At the end of the day, LCA made \$272 for Amani through keychains and bracelets and \$24 for Christel House through selling stationary. We are extremely grateful for the opportunity to sell to Culver families once again and thank anyone who stopped by!





Do You Know the Story of our Beads?



This is a common question at LCA beading sessions and at LCA sales. In mid-November we got many new beads from Amani Children's Foundation in time for our November 15th beading session and we were amazed at the various colors, shapes, and patterns of the beads. These Kazuri beads are donated to us through the Amani Children's Foundation and all the money we make selling beaded items is donated to Amani to support orphans in Kenya. The beads are from

the Kazuri bead factory in Kenya (kazuri means "small and beautiful" in Swahili). The surplus or slightly imperfect beads get donated to organizations like Amani for charity use. We also use many filler beads in our bracelets, key chains and other items and these beads have been donated by students, faculty, staff, and parents from leftovers they have at home or supplies they picked up when there was a sale at the store. For every \$1000 we are able to support a baby for a year at the orphanage and each year we hope to raise at least a \$1000 from our jewelry sales.

Beading sessions have been popular this year and we've had at least 20 students at each one and these students enjoy getting together to play with the beads, make a bracelet or key chain, hang out with other students, organizing the beads, or any combination of these things. This winter we plan to host more beading sessions as they are a great way to relieve stress and get to know new people. They tend to happen in the Pigott Center or Library and watch the LCA Schoology page for updates.

CHRISTEL HOUSE SOUTH AFRICA

CHSA Rep, Katherine Beeson

Our partner school, Christel House South Africa, recently celebrated their 20 year Anniversary and all the incredible ways that they have put their mission into place. Their mission is "To break the cycle of poverty by offering a holistic character-based and career-focused education to our students." LCA has supported Christel House recently through our bake sales, and we are excited to be selling Christel House stationary at our December Sale.

We plan to again support the "Buckets of Hope" project, which sends non-perishable food items to Christel House families that experience food insecurity. It is \$14 US Dollars to send one student home with a bucket for their long break. From our first bake sale and concessions we have been able to support 40 buckets for CHSA Students.

LCA has sponsored 7 GPS trips to South Africa since 2006 and has watched the school grow and evolve over the years.



WHY I LOVE LCA

"It's a club on campus that has a real impact. It's really cool to see that we support great causes."

-Faith Martinez '23

"I love the community and working with others towards a good cause" Matthew Bice '23

"Its very interactive, you're supporting a good cause while being surrounded by friends you are close with, and it's fun."

Abby Krouse '23

"My favorite thing about LCA is the people and events. One of my favorite things is the beading session because it is so much fun to sit and talk and knowing in my mind that these bracelets will raise money to help children in Africa" Sam Miller '24

SCHOOL OF ST. JUDE

St. Jude Rep, Cellestine Harig

The School of St. Jude in Arusha, Tanzania has a mission to "give bright, poor Tanzanian students quality education so they are able to lead their family, community and country with Respect, Responsibility, Honesty and Kindness to growth and prosperity." With the slogan of "Fighting poverty through education," the School of St. Jude supports and educates over 1000 students every year with the hopes that the students will return to serve their home communities in the future, breaking the cycle of poverty. As one of our partner organizations, LCA supports the School of St. Jude through donations and a GPS trip every other year. LCA has engaged in beading sessions, bake sales, and selling concessions to contribute to their mission. LCA has also utilized all-school and all-committee meetings as a platform to educate the Culver student body about the work that the School of St. Jude commits to.



LCA Concessions: Cross Country Invitational

After a many months without one of LCA's most memorable activities, concession sales, we were finally able to bring it back for Culver's Cross Country Invitational Event. The concessions were a great success in multiple ways; first, it was a great success in terms of numbers of sales. Many people were enjoying our food concessions, which included food from the grill, and many more bought Invitational shirts from our Tent. LCA was selling these shirts on behalf of the athletic department, but got a small part of the proceeds because we sold them. They were very popular and almost completely sold out by the end of the day! Secondly, the sale was a success in terms of student participation. Thank you CGA Hockey for your support!

The students who worked the concessions really enjoyed the chance to help out together and meet other LCA members. It also helped some of our new members gain their membership. One student said, "The t-shirts were in high demand with lots of people from both Culver and other schools often purchasing several for themselves and family members. It was great to see visitors so fascinated by the beautiful campus!"

LCA members also helped security with parking because the event was so large that cars were parked all over campus. We hope to be able to have more concessions like this in the future because they are a great chance to raise money and to build a strong LCA community.



BAKE SALE UPDATE

Work Projects Chair Abby Krouse

During COVID-19, LCA was unable to host any sports concessions, which was a main fundraising event of LCA. In an effort to raise spirits on campus and help raise money for our partner organizations, LCA came together to create a new fundraising event- bake sales. In order for these events to occur, Culver students volunteer to bake specific treats. Adults like Mrs. Strobel and Mama Dee cooked some delicious treats including pumpkin bars and brownies, while the seniors chip in on the weekend before bake sales by cooking at Beason. Other students utilize their dorm kitchens in order to create delicious concoctions including brownies, cake pops, dirt bombs, and more.

Many fun memories stem from these late night cooking sessions that allow students to show off their baking skills. LCA then sells these items in the quad where many students flock to buy a homemade dessert that can be hard to find at Culver. The money earned from these sales is donated to our partner organizations like Christel House's buckets of hope.

LCA FAVORITES

"Sophomore year, football concessions" Ally Barath '22

"Basketball concessions" Aiva Brimanis '22

"Trying to sell hamburgers outside the shack after LCA cookout" Enzo Costanza '22

"Penny Wars" Alexis Dragne '22

"Steering Committee teambuilding at Ropes Course" Jason Euh '22

"Selling concessions" Cestelle Harig '22



"Running around and helping out during the Color Run" Jacqueline Cao

LCA FAVORITES

"Doing the Color Run with LCA" Anna Marie Kinney '22

"Winter beading sessions" Abby Krouse '23

"Ropes Course with LCA" Eleni Kurtis '23

"Teambuilding Workshops" Faith Martinez '23

"The first Color Run" Jacinta Ndubuisi-Obi '23"

"Counting coins after penny wars" Ellen Shepard '22



LCA's Upcoming Events

LCA has started off the school year strong! But where are we headed next?

December 1st is World Aids Day – an opportunity to educate the Culver community about HIV. On December 1st, not only will LCA be having an all-committee meeting to educate about HIV and play some activities, but we also will be doing an Instagram takeover on the Culver Instagram. Throughout the day, the story will contain posts educating about LCA's mission, World Aids Day, and some other fun information along the way.

Right before we head home for Winter Break, LCA will be having our combined winter beading and bake sale on December 13th/14th in the lobby of Roberts. This is always something that we love doing and gives students an opportunity to buy unique holiday presents for their families!

Concessions are back and we have many lined up for Basketball and Hockey this winter. Concessions sales go towards the LCA GPS Trips and help to fund a scholarship and reduce the cost of the trip. This is also a fun way to support LCA and meet new people. Make sure to sign up when you can help.

We are always staying busy, so stay tuned for much more.

**December 1st: World Aids Day
All Committee Meeting**

**December 7, 10, 11, 17, 18, 21:
Concessions**

**December 13th & 14th: Bake &
Winter Sale**

**January 14, 15, 18, 27, 28, 29:
Concessions**

**February: Penny Wars
February 18, 22, 25:
Concessions**

**Monthly: All Committee
Meetings**

Many Beading Sessions



LCA Mission:

“Respond to the AIDS and poverty crisis in Africa by supporting programs that promote the health, welfare, education and advancement of women and children.”

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS:



Christel House
South Africa



AMANI CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION



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