

History of Team Phenom:

In 2010, after a medical missions trip to Uganda with Children's Heritage Foundation, two San Diego high school student athletes, Devon Roeper and James Lock, dreamed of taking the game of basketball, a game they loved, to the kids of an impoverished Ugandan community. They envisioned the construction of a basketball court in a jungle area outside of the town of Mukono. Thereafter James and Devon coordinated the acquisition of land, fundraising and construction of the basketball court. The court was constructed in 2011 under the watchful eye and direction of Devon, James and CHF.

Concurrent with the development and construction of the court, James and Devon collected and distributed hundreds of pairs of shoes, jerseys and basketballs from their San Diego basketball and high school circles to the kids and teens of the Uganda community. Several teams playing under the name "PHENOM" were formed and the court



became the focal point and gathering place of the kids, young people and adults of the entire community. The Phenom teams joined the amateur leagues and began competing in games against other town's teams. James and Devon, along with other friends and family, returned to Uganda in 2012 to conduct basketball clinics for the younger children as well as the newly developed young women's and men's competitive Phenom teams. The Phenoms and the court have since become a great source of pride and identity for the town of Mukono.

The Team Phenom Program was created with 3 key principles which mirror the objectives of The Children's Heritage Foundation:

A. Education: Team Phenom seeks to advance the educational opportunities available to the Ugandan players in both an immediate personal and long term, multigenerational manner. This is the "student" part of the Team Phenom student/athlete program.

B. Well Being: Team Phenom contains structure and developmental benchmarks in both the student and athletic arenas to advance the greater well being of both the teams and the student/athlete participants and their communities. This encompasses the "athlete" part of the program, where for many of these young people, their team has become a surrogate family.

C. Economic Development: Team Phenom's long term objectives include advancing the sustainable economic development of its Ugandan participants, community, culture and country. Of paramount importance is that the vocational and secondary school training of the student athletes and the likelihood that the Teammate Program's collective efforts will enable them and their community to become self sustaining.

