

Coweta couple to run, host laser tag to aid African children

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Last Saturday, Jessica Collins got up at 5 a.m. and ran 20 miles, the equivalent of running to Owasso. But she's not just training for the New York City Marathon. She and husband Lloyd are parents and educators who are raising money for the first public children's hospital in sub-Saharan East Africa.

The couple is working with Shoe 4 Africa, a nonprofit which began by distributing gently-used running shoes around the more impoverished areas of the continent. To date, the group has built schools, promoted AIDS awareness, and is now building the hospital for Eldoret, Kenya, an area where one in seven children dies before age 5. The Collins' are appreciative of every donation they receive as they prepare to run the Nov. 2 marathon, their first together.



Lloyd and Jessica Collins

Lloyd Collins has run 14 marathons and his wife Jessica 4, because she took a break to have children. This will be their first together.