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Love and Compassion Found in Civic's *Lost Boy Found in Whole Foods*

Imagine your life, if as a child you had fled civil war in your home country of the Sudan and walked hundreds of miles to live your childhood in a refugee camp in Kenya? Your only food was one bowl of grain a day for 10 years. Then at age 19 - you flew halfway around the world and suddenly found yourself in a new town or city, experiencing bright lights, television, computers, music and more food than you could have ever imagined. What would your suddenly 'American' life be like?

In 2001 the United States resettled 3,600 of the Sudanese "lost boys" to cities across America, including here in West Michigan. The Civic's April production in the Parish Theatre, *Lost Boy Found in Whole Foods*, is a fictional play based on real-life events.

But *Lost Boy Found in Whole Foods* is about more than the lead character Gabriel's journey out of the Sudan. Gabriel meets Christine, a middle aged, middle class, recently divorced mother in the produce section of Whole Foods, where Gabriel works. He soon becomes Christine's "cause" and she invites Gabriel to live with her and her teenage daughter in suburban America.

Displaced refugees all over the world are still a heartbreaking regular story in the news. This production is a touching story about human kindness, and whether one human being can really make a difference in this world. It's the story of one woman compelled to mentor a "Lost Boy" of Sudan.

Lost Boy Found in Whole Foods plays in the Parish Theatre April 6, 7, 13, 14, 20 and 21 at 7:30 pm and Sunday April 8, 15 and 22 at 2:00 pm. Ticket prices range from \$15 - \$25. For more information call 269-343-1313 or visit the Civic's website at www.kazoocivic.com.