



help2kids newsletter

March
2020



Tanzanian Field Manager's Report

Hello from Tanzania!

As most of you will already know, it was an extremely sad and emotional start to the New Year with the passing of our beloved Costa. But it was also another reminder of how lucky we are to be supported both in the local community and from our friends, donors, and supporters from around the world. We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone – your kind messages and support were, as always, an immense help.

The Campus Day Care Centre opened its doors on 6th of January and it's already hard to imagine the Campus without 30 little ones running into school every morning. We have also moved the Friendly Gecko to the Campus which should enable us to provide a much more integrated experience for the volunteers.

We hope you enjoy catching up on the rest of what's been going on over the past 3 months and look forward to updating you throughout the year.

Tim Spooner
Field Manager, Tanzania

help2kidsTANZANIA

The new school year has started and for many of the Children it has meant a new school which they have all taken in their stride. 3 of our children, Francisca, Doreen & Angel have started at Mount Kibo boarding school as they are in their final year of Primary School and this provides them with a great opportunity to really focus on their studies and give them the best chance of succeeding in the final examinations in September. The Mama's and some of the children had already visited them and we were looking forward to them returning in April for the mini Easter school break. However, due to COVID-19 and the early closing of schools they, and all the other children, are already back at the Campus.

The early closure of school has caused some challenges for ensuring the children continue to study, particularly those in Form 2 and Form 4 who have important end of year exams that they are building up to. We have also had to work hard on implementing new rules for the Campus in terms of staff rotas, visitors and ensuring that the kids are following the rules and, most importantly, washing their hands frequently with soap and water!

Many of the plans we made towards the end of 2019 have either been implemented or are well underway – you can find out what the new volunteer accommodation looks like, start to get to know some of the new children at the Campus Day Care Centre, find out about the new Secondary School students who are looking for sponsors and much more.



CHILDREN'S HOME



Apart from returning to school the kids at the Children's Home have been enjoying the return to the regular weekly social activities including football, beach trips and movie nights. We also celebrated Valentine's Day at the CH where of course the main point of interest was the lovely cake kindly donated by local sponsors.

Christmas may have passed but the season of giving has continued with several local community groups visiting the children and providing well needed donations of food and clothes.

To find out more about the Children's Home, [click here](#).

EDUCATION SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME

The Government Education Department for Kinondoni have awarded special diplomas to the top 10 students based on last years Form 2 National exams. We are extremely proud that 2 of the top 10 were our ESP students – congratulations Elvin & Baraka !

Through our Education Sponsorship Programme, you can make a life changing difference to not just the student you sponsor but to their family and future generations.

If you would like to sponsor a student and help them reach their full potential then, [click here](#).



ENGLISH CORNER

The students have returned for the new school year and we also welcomed twenty new students to the afternoon classes. The teachers and volunteers started to work with the newly implemented curriculum, which helps everyone a lot with structuring and preparing the daily lessons.



We were also lucky to have some great volunteers, who were able to help out with the intermediate and advanced students, which helps the head teacher Hassan a lot to focus on the beginners classes.

KUNDUCHI DAY CARE CENTRE



The children have returned for the new school year and are already benefitting from the new classroom that was added at the end of last year which means we now have a separate classroom for each of the 3 classes. They are also enjoying having their break-time porridge in the new alfresco dining area. The new curriculum has been implemented and is working well and so we look forward to seeing the children's academic performance improving – the early signs from monthly testing are very encouraging.



To find out more about the Kunduchi Day Care Centre, [click here](#).

CAMPUS DAYCARE CENTRE



To find out more about the Campus Day Care Centre, [click here](#).

The New Nursery opened its doors on 6th January and it's been great fun having these little around the Campus and we can't wait to see them progress over the coming year. In it's first year we are running 3 streamed classes within one and the system is working well with the kids showing marked improve-ment since they first arrived.

We are also delighted to have the assistance of two of our past ESP students, Pendo and Monalisa, who have finished their Basic Secondary Education but will be looking to resume their studies when Advanced Secondary School starts in July.



THE HEALTH PROJECT



The project has expanded again to provide free treatment and first aid items to our newly opened Campus Day Care Centre and the benefits are already being delivered with a decreasing number of children missing school through sickness.

During February we have delivered health education workshops to our partners. The primary goals of these were to educate children on the importance of sanitation & hygiene and then to drive positive behavioural change to create healthy habits that prevent the transmission of dangerous bacteria, parasites and viruses. In addition to equipping the children with health messages and life skills to keep their schools and orphanages clean and healthy spaces, the Project also helped children become role models to transfer knowledge to their households and wider communities.

To find out more about the Health Project, [click here](#).



PWANI PRIMARY SCHOOL



The 10 new ESP students selected from Pwani Primary School have all now started at their new Secondary Schools and are settling in well to the programme.

We have also started to send increasing numbers of volunteers to assist in English lessons and to provide extra-curricular activities, like special tutoring for slow-learners and netball training which are enjoyed by both the children and volunteers.

We are now working on a project to provide access to laptops and IT training for the older students and hope to be able to provide you with more updates on this later in the year.

To find out more about Pwani Primary School, [click here](#).

VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME

This first quarter of the year we welcomed back some great former volunteers and met new faces!



After the school break in December, volunteers were looking forward to the new school year at our Day Care Centres and Partner Primary School, where we welcomed a lot of new kids. The newcomers might have been a little shy at the beginning but soon started to take over!

To find out more about Volunteering with **help2kids**, [click here](#).



COMMUNITY LIBRARY



The Community Library continues to be the centre of interaction after normal class hours. Due to high demand for library services, we extended opening hours to accommodate as many people as we can. Lifuwu Community Library provides literacy services to school going children and the youth in the community. The kids are having a great time at our library but we are in need of more books, as more and more interested community members use our facilities.

GIRLS GUIDE GROUPS

Girls at Lifuwu and Kazembe Basic Primary Schools are very happy to have received reusable professionally made sanitary pads as well as the newly opened changing rooms. The schools have confirmed that they have already seen a noticeable reduction in the number of days girls are absent from school. The girls too are now also making their own reusable sanitary pads.

We have come this far not by ourselves but by the consistent love and compassion shown to us from our partners and donors, we are forever grateful.

We have been able to reach out to and change lives of young people in Lifuwu, Malawi for the better. Reaching this far we have learnt a lot of what love and sacrifice for others can do.

We still have projects and programs that need your continued support as we change lives and make the world a better place for all.

Let us hold hands in promoting access to education and health in rural Malawi.

"If you must leave a footprint behind, let it be love"

Mercy Mvula
Malawi Field Manager

TIYANJANE AND CHISOMO NURSERY SCHOOL



We are increasingly receiving praise about the high calibre of students that graduate to start Standard One at the two local Primary Schools.

Our continuing high standards and good reputation means that the school receives over 100 new students each academic year and the school currently has 250 students under the age of five. We are also grateful to supporters whose regular food donations help to keep children well fed, healthy and in school.

To find out more about Tiyanjane Nursery School, [click here](#)

MATERNITY WING FEEDING PROGRAMME



help2kids has for a long time been working with Lifuwu clinic in a number of remarkable projects including transportation to outreach post-natal clinics, food provision to expecting mothers at the clinic and a garden for them as well as construction of an ART building. Some of the expecting mothers have to travel a distance of over 30 kilometers to get to the clinic for the safe delivery of their babies, which is one of the hardships that expecting mothers go through here in Lifuwu.

Another challenge is simply getting sufficient food to keep mum and baby healthy. **help2kids** therefore provides Ufa (the flour used to make Nsimawhich is the staple food of Malawi) and a vegetable garden where they are able to get different types of vegetables for free.



To find out more about the Maternity Wing Feeding Programme, [click here](#).

GRASSROOTS SOCCER (GRS)

GRS team meets twice a week, where among other things, children are impacted with life changing lessons through sports. Topics covered range from health and education to social responsibility.



To find out more about the Sports Programme, [click here](#).

EDUCATION SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME

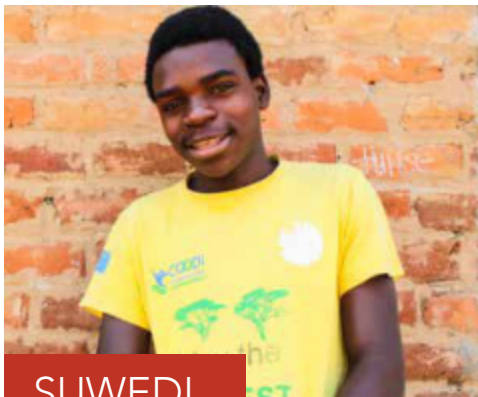


Through ESP, we are able to keep thirty students in school. Twenty-seven of these students are in various secondary schools and three of them are reading for their Bachelor's Degree at the Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR).

Zakia is in form three at Chipoka Secondary School. Together with 21 students from her school, Zakia applied for the United States youth leadership exchange program. She got shortlisted for the program and emerged the best student from her school to participate in the leadership exchange program in the United States of America in April 2020. – well done Zakia, we are all immensely proud of you!

CAN YOU SPONSOR ONE OF THESE STUDENTS AND CHANGE A LIFE?

Click their pictures to learn more about them



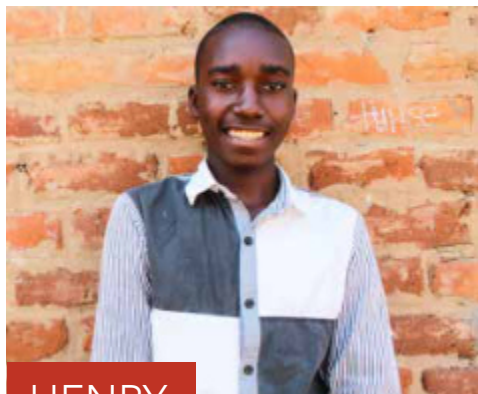
SUWEDI



SHALOM



MAYAMIKO



HENRY



COSMAS



EDMOND

NEW & DEPARTING STAFF



We are delighted to welcome Monika Stertenbrink to Team Africa as Guesthouse Manager & Volunteer Coordinator. As someone who has volunteered many times over the past 6 years Monika has been able to take everything in her stride and has already done a great job in moving the Friendly Gecko Guesthouse to the Children's Home Campus.



The **help2kids** team Malawi is very sad to say goodbye to Chndy. During her time with **help2kids** she has worked to empower the team with knowledge and encouraged all the staff to be the best they can be. All of us at **help2kids** thank her for being a great Field Manager and wish her all the best for her future.

Click [here](#), to find out more about our team in Africa.



help2kids thanks all our former, current and future volunteers for your hard work on our projects in Tanzania and Malawi. Your dedication changed our children's lives for the better! We are thrilled to be able to bring you this newsletter with updates from all our projects. For more regular news, please check our Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and website!



help2kids runs projects in Tanzania and Malawi that save hundreds of children and their families, we can use all the help we can get. Please click the button above to go to the donation page. Every little bit helps! Donations are tax deductible in the USA, Switzerland and Germany



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