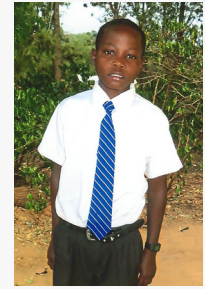


CHILDREN OF HOPE AND FAITHSM



SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE EDUCATION FOR ORPHANS. HOPE FOR COMMUNITIES.



FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Thank you to all of our sponsors, donors and volunteers for your continued support of our mission to help orphans and communities in Tanzania, Africa!

The Kagera region has suffered from a major earthquake that hit on Sept. 10th (the majority of our sponsored students live in Kagera). Many homes were destroyed and schools and churches were damaged. A drought has also caused a severe food shortage. Please keep the people we serve in your prayers for rain, a good harvest and the ability to rebuild after the earthquake.

In this issue, we will highlight our sponsorship of students in secondary school (high school). This is an important aspect of our mission, as only 8% of young people receive a high school education due to the inability to pay tuition. We also report on projects that provide the basic necessities of clean water and renewable energy (above, children at St. Peter Claver prepare to do laundry). These initiatives benefit not only our sponsored students but also the entire school community.

As we begin the Lenten season, let us again be reminded of the need to practice the works of mercy through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Access to a reliable source of water is a major problem in Tanzania, so our Lenten theme will be Give Drink to the Thirsty with a water bottle project.

May Our Lord Jesus bless your support and generosity. ■

Sincerely in Christ,
Jane Walsh

CONGRATULATIONS DEACON GOTIFRIED!



Arsenius Gotifried (at left, with his parents) started out on scholarship and was sponsored through COHF at St. Alfred Secondary School.

After graduation from St. Alfred's, he entered Kibosho Major Seminary. Bishop Almachius Rweyongeza ordained Arsenius a Deacon for the Kayanga Diocese on January 22, with two other young men.

Deacon Arsenius will be ordained to the Priesthood on July 9, 2017. We are very proud of him!

We thank St. Matthew Church Stewardship for their generous donation used to provide scholarships for students waiting to be sponsored. We also thank our generous donors who contribute for tuition for the Seminarians. ■

WATER AND ENERGY: BASIC NEEDS



St. Augustine Kaisho Solar Energy Project

A lack of renewable energy is a fundamental problem in rural Tanzania. We are extremely grateful to a generous donor who made solar energy a reality at St. Augustine Kaisho Secondary School. The Solar energy project has dramatically changed the life of 730 students and has made a positive impact on the whole school community. Electricity is now available in all of the classrooms, dormitories and administration buildings. Solar panels were placed at various locations around the school and at different angles for each building to receive adequate electricity.

The students, teachers, staff and night watchmen are most grateful for the benefits of electricity. Students are able to study after dark, which gives them the opportunity to enhance their academic performance. This is a tremendous gift as students take National Exams in Form IV as they are completing their high school studies. How well they perform on the national exam determines their ability to pursue continued studies in Form V and Form VI of secondary school and other post-high school education. The students are ecstatic that they have electricity for lights to study after dark and in the dormitories. The principal, teachers and students are most grateful that their National Exam performance doubled from the time they were without electricity to when the solar panels and batteries had been installed for a whole academic year. In 2016 St. Augustine Kaisho Secondary School for Form IV National Exams was 1st in the District out of 27 schools, in the top 8% in the Region out of 150 schools and in the top 7% in the Nation out of 3,280 Secondary Schools.

Performance on the National Exam doubled after reliable electricity had been installed for an academic year.

Teachers, staff and night watchmen also live at the boarding schools. The teachers are very appreciative that they can more easily cover their required syllabus since they are able to prepare lessons and grade papers and tests at night. Security is also a major issue for the rural schools that do not have electricity. The night watchmen are happy to have lights to see better as they keep the student body safe. An adequate and reliable source of electricity will also enable more use of computers and office equipment. It is hard for us to imagine operating a high school without electricity! ■



Students at water tank collecting water in buckets for use in drinking, cooking, bathing, laundry and cleaning.

St. Joseph Vocational School Water Tank

We have sponsored students who attend St. Joseph Vocational Secondary School in the Rulenge-Ngara Diocese. The school provides 310 students with a standard academic curriculum and additional opportunity for vocational training. Vocational courses offered include masonry, carpentry, and mechanics (driving). This enables the students to have more options for employment upon graduation.

There is a tremendous need for clean, sanitary water for secondary schools in Tanzania. The principal of St. Joseph Vocational Secondary School, Fr. Jeremiah Kiiza, submitted a proposal to COHF for the construction of a 120,000-liter water tank to store rainwater. Adequate amounts of clean water are needed for drinking, cooking, and good hygiene. The lack of water poses serious health risks with water

borne diseases and unsanitary conditions. If there is not enough water, the principal must pay to haul water in trucks from the river. This depletes vital funds that could be used for other needs of the school.

Tanzanians are extremely frugal with the precious resource of water. Schools where we have sponsored students usually don't have running water in the school buildings or dormitories. They fill buckets from the water tanks and take bucket baths. For laundry, the students fill their buckets and wash their clothes by hand.

There has been a severe drought in the Kagera region where St. Joseph's School is located. We were able to fund the construction of the water tank due to the support of our generous donors and proceeds from our annual garage sale. The new reservoir tank has been crucial to providing water during the drought. The principal, students, teachers and staff are most appreciative of your gift of life-giving water. It brings joy and hope to the whole school community. ■

PROJECTS AND UPDATES



Sr. Drocela, a nurse and Franciscan Sister of St. Bernadette, providing health care for a pregnant woman at St. Francis Health Center

Update on Healthcare

Providing adequate medical care continues to be a major challenge for St. Francis Rwambaizi Health Center. The earthquake in September caused significant damage to water tanks and buildings. We are most grateful to our generous donors who provided funding for our health care projects. Water tanks have been repaired and large plastic containers purchased to store water. A Medical Fund was established to provide medicine for children, pre-natal care for pregnant women, assistance with labor and delivery and follow-up care for post-partum women.

Since the health center now has electricity, the children of a generous family were very excited to provide a washing machine! We thank them for their enthusiasm and compassion in wanting the staff to be able to wash sheets and towels in a machine rather than by hand in a bucket.

An operating room for St. Francis Health Center has been funded and is still in the process of being implemented. Equipment for C-sections was provided which will help to save many lives. Women still frequently die in childbirth in this area of Tanzania. ■



Students at St. Joseph Vocational Secondary School in the Rulenge-Ngara Diocese

High School Education in Tanzania

The education system in Tanzania is different from our grade school and high school education in the United States. Students attend grade school from kindergarten through 7th grade.

Most children in Tanzania receive some grade school education. However, only 8-10% of young people continue on to high school, as most families are unable to afford the tuition. Very few orphans are able to attend school after 7th grade.

Secondary School (high school) is designated as Form 1 through Form IV. Upon graduation from Form IV, students take a National Exam. It is extremely important for the students and the academic ranking of the school that they perform well on the National Exam. Their score on the exams determines their ability to continue in secondary school in Form V and Form VI. National Exams are taken again after Form VI, which determines their options for post-high school education. ■



This Lenten Season, show some gratitude for access to clean water!

Lenten Project: Give Drink to the Thirsty

A severe drought has caused an exceptional water crisis in Tanzania, so we will have a water bottle initiative for Lent to raise money for water projects. Re-cycle a water bottle and place a slit in it for your contributions. Every time you turn on the faucet to obtain water, do laundry, take a shower etc. please remember our brothers and sisters who do not have a clean water supply and add to your water bottle fund.

We will have labeled water bottles for this project or you can obtain a project label for your re-cycled bottle. For more information, contact us at:

childrenofhopeandfaith@gmail.com

You may also contribute to this project on-line using PayPal on our website:

childrenofhopeandfaith.org . ■

SPONSOR A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT!

Consider sponsoring Lameck Bernard at St. Augustine Kaisho Secondary School or Avila Arcard at St. Joseph Vocational Secondary School. Visit our website to learn how you can make a difference in the lives of these children.

I WILL GIVE HOPE...

- Catholic school sponsorship, \$60 per month
 Lenten Project: Give Drink to the Thirsty,
 I am interested in sharing a half-sponsorship of a child
 Yes! I want to help the St. Peter Claver classroom project
 I will **GIVE HOPE**: Scholarships or Health Care Project
Specify amount: \$_____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

Pay By Credit Card

VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER

Card Number _____

Printed Name on Card _____

Exp. _____ CVV _____

Signature _____

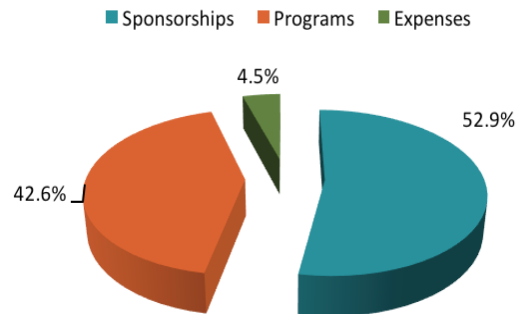
*Send Checks to: Children of Hope and Faith
903 Bluegrass Lane
Champaign, IL 61822
COHF is a 501(c)(3), not-for-profit corporation.
Annual donation statements provided.*

IN GRATITUDE!

We greatly appreciate our fabulous volunteers whose invaluable gifts of time and talent make our annual fundraisers a tremendous success!

A special thank you to The High School of St. Thomas More for allowing us to use their facility for the July garage sale. We are also most grateful to Holy Cross Parish for hosting the Arts & Crafts Bazaar in October. The proceeds from our fundraising events provide vital support for projects that benefit communities in Tanzania.

COHF FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2016



Like us on Facebook!
Search for Children of Hope and Faith.