



A 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt public charity

Empowerment through Education

May 31, 2017

Interact Club
c/o Mr. Andrew Seketa and Ms. Randie Reynolds
Community High School District 117
1625 Deep Lake Rd.
Lake Villa, Illinois 60046

Dear Interact Club,

- ❖ Nearly 100 adolescents, teens and young adults have come to the Kilimahewa Educational Centre so far in 2017 to take academic, computer and other skills courses so they can qualify for a job or for further formal schooling.
- ❖ 30 teens and young adults are succeeding in secondary school, high school, college diploma and university degree classes through EdPowerment's Tomorrow's Scholar-Leader sponsorships.
- ❖ And while the Centre and the Sponsorship Program assist academically capable teens, Connects Autism Tanzania's Director, Grace Lyimo, and our Director, Kerri Elliott, met this spring with educational officials at the highest national level to advocate for educational inclusion of those with special needs.

**SO, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION OF \$1,000 in April 2017.
None of the above would be possible without donations such as yours.**

But your support means even more – Please read these personal notes:

- For Thomas Massawe, donor support meant that when his father died earlier this year (paralyzed in a fall from a tree while cutting branches to feed livestock), Tom was able to step into the role of family provider. Six years ago, Tom was at a dead end, volunteer-teaching at Kilimahewa. With EdPowerment, he earned a B.S. in Internet Technology and now works for a computer-training firm. EdPowerment provided the means so Tom's father could be properly mourned and buried.
- Just a few weeks ago, EdPowerment once again made sure that a parent was buried in a dignified manner – this time, the mother of one of our university students. She was the one who told her son to come to

Kilimahewa in 2008! Now Florian is in his first year of a B.S. in Education. Buoyed by Kilimahewa's teachers and EdPowerment's support, Florian was able to properly honor his mother and return to school.

- And on a happier note, one of our young women, Magdalena, once cast aside from formal education, gained employment in the cashier's office at a popular local restaurant, having completed a diploma in cooperative management and accounting.

Each of these stories demonstrates the real and ongoing impact of our mission to educate and nurture. **THANKS SO MUCH FOR ALL YOUR FUNDRAISING EFFORTS, ESPECIALLY THE ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF.** Without humanitarians such as you, we could not be the lifeline for these young people. Thank you for including EdPowerment and them in your lives.

Gratefully,



Moirá Madonia, President

Cc: Kerri Elliott

Cc: Mike Schwert, Rotarian

This letter serves to acknowledge the donation of \$1,000 to EdPowerment, Inc., EIN# 27-2017667. EdPowerment Inc. did not provide any goods or services in consideration, in whole or part, for this donation.

Nurturing Teens into Adulthood



A local engineer speaks to our THRIVE students who are spending their 6-month break after Secondary School Form 4 graduation at Kilimahewa learning skills and improving their English & math. Professionals encourage students to identify and pursue real career goals.



Life often is cut short in Tanzania, but society still takes time and care to acknowledge death. This year two of our older sponsored students lost parents who had been their strongest advocates. With EdPowerment's support, these young men were able to lead their families in dignified services before returning to their job and school, respectively.



Jessica now teaches pre-primary school children in Arusha. She joined the sponsorship program in 2010. She struggled to compete in the first secondary school she joined, so EdPowerment transferred her to a better situation. She passed her 2014 National Form 4 Exam with a grade that secured her admission to Arusha Teachers College Certificate Program. Finishing as one of the top in her class, she was chosen to teach at Arusha Star Day Care by one of her professors. She is now more independent and hopes to continue studying in order to receive a higher education degree. When not teaching, she sings in a Gospel Choir that has produced CDs and DVDs distributed locally.

Dativa just graduated from Form 6 – Advanced Level High School. In 2012, she was struggling at the Kilimahewa Educational Centre, trying to learn skills not taught in her primary school. Her mother, unable to pay any school fees, works hard every day selling her produce, and at one point she even split rocks to make gravel to sell in order to feed her family. Dativa now waits to learn if her Form 6 National Exam results will secure University studies or if not, an advanced diploma program. In the meantime, she has returned to Kilimahewa – this time as an assistant science teacher until September.

