Since April we have had such a lovely time at the Children’s home. We are so happy to welcome two new children to our family, Issa who is 12 years old and Baby Angelina who is just 2. This now brings our total number of children up to 34!

In April, we started a leadership program at the Children’s Home where we elected classroom and dormitory monitors. This was done with the aim of instilling responsibility and leadership skills into our kids.

This quarter has also seen a lot of celebrations at the children’s home. We started with a lovely celebration for Easter. We had a huge party that included an Easter Basket Hunt, and all of our great volunteers celebrated the day with us where they participated in the preparation of the Easter Lunch.

We also celebrated Mama’s Day at the Children’s Home where the kids worked collaboratively and creatively to make beautiful symbolic flower pots and trees that are a representation of the values they would like to cultivate as a family.

Throughout June the children have been home for holidays and they have been busy doing their holiday assignments, helping out with home chores, helping out at the Kunduchi Daycare Centre but also enjoying fun activities like treasure hunts, movies, music and games.

The Mama’s have also started receiving ICT lessons from a group of HOPAC students. This is aimed at bringing the Mama’s up-to-speed with the ever changing world of technology.

Please keep following our Facebook page for more updates, and to come and join us here in Tanzania please visit our website to find out more www.help2kids.org/en/volunteering-information/

This last quarter at help2kids Tanzania has been a busy but exciting one.

Hello from Tanzania!

Everything is so great here in Tanzania. At the moment we are in the school holidays, but all children have still been working so hard, with extra studying and exam tuition. We have had many different celebrations, which is always such a nice excuse for a day for our teams to get together and have fun!

Just recently we celebrated International Day of the African Child, with a huge party at Bajeviro with our wonderful children from across our projects showcasing their talents, and what a talented group of children they are!

As we are now approaching high season we are also lucky enough to have the support of many fantastic volunteers, and we are so thankful for the time and energy they put towards our projects.

With new children at the Children’s Home, as well as new staff members, our help2kids family just keeps on getting bigger and bigger!

Thank you all so much for your ongoing support! Please read through and hear, in a lot more detail our updates for this quarter!

Many thanks
Harriet Smith
Field Manager, Tanzania
BAJEVIRO PRIMARY SCHOOL

It’s been a couple of busy months for us here at Bajeviro! In April, we had the opening of our second floor construction and we were very happy to count with the participation and support of the entire help2kids staff, Mama Chuwa and the District Education Officer Mr. Mageni. On that day, we also had a fantastic Master of Ceremonies, Baraka S. Kulebelwa, Bajevrio’s very own student who stole everyone’s attention and heart!

Celebrations and achievements did not cease after that! In May, we opened our doors to all the Mamas for a big Mother’s Day event. Under the theme “cultivating values”, they created, alongside their children, trees and pots that represented the most important values we have to cultivate and foster. This lovely work can now be seen around the classrooms and in our brand new library!

Academic progress and accomplishments have been thriving as well. Since we started the school year, we’ve been working very hard in raising our students’ performance and in June we celebrated just that during our report card day. Through a small ceremony, and with the participation of all the parents, we handed out diplomas and gifts to the students that have displayed academic improvement and excellence. We were so overjoyed to watch our kids’ excitement and surprise!

Of course, we cannot forget to mention and give thanks to all of our past and present volunteers! Through their collaboration we’ve managed to improve our teaching methods, engage our students with their learning process and, what is more, build long lasting friendships! To all of them Asanteni Sana, for your time, your support and your love! Please visit our website for more information on Bajeviro primary school - https://www.help2kids.org/en/primary-school-2/

HELP2KIDS CHARITY FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT 2017 & THE RAINBOWS

Our team has been hard at work! Thanks to our wonderful coaches, Uncle Masia and Aunty Lucy, and the ever flowing number of volunteers, we are gearing up for our upcoming help2kids Charity Football Tournament 2017 where our boys will play against 10 teams from different schools and our girls against 5! We are so excited about this!


KUNDUCHI DAY CARE CENTRE

This quarter we have just started to introduce exams and it was really exciting to see all the children doing their exams with a lot of focus and attention. The exams were introduced as a way to evaluate how well the children are prepared to join primary school. By the time the second round of exams came in June the kids had really gotten the drift of sitting for exams and they were really excited at the prospect of receiving a gift if they performed exceptionally well!

The teachers have also attended a workshop that was conducted by one of the teacher’s from our primary school Bajeviro. The training was aimed at equipping the day care teachers with skills on the areas of schemes of work and lessons plan development as well different methods of content delivery.

We also have the English Corner growing in leaps and bounds with 40 students attending the classes consistently. We are also very proud to have more women joining the class. For more information on Kunduchi Day Care, visit our website - https://www.help2kids.org/en/nursery-school/

Book Donation

Thanks to the kind donation of one of our lovely volunteers we managed to purchase brand new books for our STD 1 and STD 3 students! Thank you for providing us with one of the main tools to improve our lesson plans!

https://www.help2kids.org/en/nursery-school/
Education sponsorship has continued to be a project which offers education to our sponsored students. Many of them come from challenging backgrounds and without our support for them it won’t be possible to complete secondary school. We were so pleased to be able to select 10 students who are soon to be leaving primary school to join our ESP programme in January. Every year we select 10 students who we believe will really benefit from the programme and we will then dedicate the remainder of the year to try and find them a sponsor, so they can join the ESP programme.

In May this year help2kids president, Frank, paid a visit to Tanzania, and the ESP students really benefitted from talking to him. ESP believes that students not only need support with resources in order to achieve in education, but also need advice, mentorship and guidance. For this ESP sees the need of welcoming both international and local volunteers to work with our students. A big appreciation to Frank for coming.

In June, the schools were closed, but we were still working very hard with extra holiday classes being run by volunteers at Bajeviro. We had help from a teacher who provided extra tuition in mathematics, and our international volunteers ran English and Computer classes for the students.

June also meant we were able to catch up with our students who attend boarding school. Our Form 1 student’s from Mbopo Secondary School, have had a very successful first half of the school year, with all students are in position 1 or 2 in the class! This is such a huge achievement, and we are so proud of them!

Involving our parents in all of our projects at help2kids is vital in helping our children achieve. We conducted a parent meeting with the new 2018 ESP parents, explaining the programme to them as well as encouraging parents to be more involved in their children’s education!

We have had a very busy 3 months, and have a very busy second half of the year to go, with searching for sponsors for our new students, as well as supporting our students through their final exams!

If you would like to find out more about our ESP programme, or for information about sponsoring a student, please contact our ESP Coordinator, Ambrose at ambrose.ibihya@help2kids.org or visit our website https://www.help2kids.org/en/tz-education-sponsorship-program-tanzania-en/
So far this year, the Health Project here in Dar es Salaam has been providing health treatment and prevention support to more than 600 children from orphanages, primary school and nursery school. Due to generous donations from our donors we are able to give children hope and a reason to smile and live a healthy life.

Along with our normal day to day activities of providing treatment to the children by taking them to the hospital, health project have been able to organise different events, workshop and talks for the purpose of educating both the caregivers and the children for preventive measures.

The partnership between health project and AAR hospital has given us access to health education talks, where doctors from AAR discuss a variety of topics with the children, such as UTI, worms, skin infections, malaria and personal hygiene. These talks educate them on what to do to avoid being sick and enable them to grow, not only physically but mentally. Additionally we managed to reopen our girls club to one of our partnered orphanage where we educate girls on different social life skills and matters concerning their body changes and developments.

At the beginning of April health project was able to expand the first Aid cabinet by including more medicine to our checklist. The generous donation we received from Goat race charity has enabled us to increase the quantity of prevention supplies as well as introducing new items, such as Antibiotics, Multivitamin, Pregnancy test, mosquito nets and malaria testing kits. This will ensure that whatever children might need we will be able to provide for them. We also delivered a small training to our caregivers on how to test for malaria at the project sites, instead of having to go to the hospital for testing.

Empowering of our caregivers was one of our goals for this year, in order to better equip our caregivers with skills and knowledge they need to feel confident in providing medical assistance to their children. At the end of May we were able to organise a caregiver’s workshop that was delivered by our partner hospital AAR. Through this workshop our caregivers will be more confident, skilled and have great knowledge from professionals on how to deal with different medical issues that arise with the children.

At the beginning of June health project educated children on dental hygiene. By telling them the advantages and disadvantages of brushing their teeth, what will be the outcome for doing so, how many times to brush their teeth and what to use. Health project decided to initiate this talk to the children because most of the medical cases fall under tooth problems. With this talk we are hoping to reduce the number of hospital visits due to dental problems.

We are really looking forward to what the second half of the year has in store for the Health Project, please keep following our Facebook page or website to hear about all of our activities! If you would like to support the health project, please think about making a donation today! www.help2kids.org/en/health-tanzania/
Malawi Field Manager’s Report

Hello from Malawi!

Life is good in Lifuwu Village, and children are halfway into term 3 and continuing to work hard. Those in standard 8 of primary school completed their examinations this past May, and secondary students in form 4 will begin their examinations this week. We are eagerly awaiting the results as they will determine which students are selected to attend secondary school.

I am excited to announce that we are in the early stages of beginning a community library in Lifuwu! From the past donations of volunteers we have acquired approximately 130 books for a variety of reading levels and we can’t wait to utilize these in the library. Take a look below to hear more on the Community Library, and how you can help us with this project.

Zikomo Kwambiri!
Katherine Mensinger
Malawi Field Manager

Community Library

We are very excited to announce that we have begun planning to create a Community Library which will serve Lifuwu Village. In addition to hosting a large collection of books, we will create a beautiful reading space within the building that is located in the main market of the village. We will be looking to bring together villagers of all ages who are interested in relaxing with a good book and increasing their English comprehension level! We are seeking donations for this project to cover startup and operational costs, so we can get this project off the ground as soon as possible! Donate on our website https://www.help2kids.org/en/donate/
Among the many programs that help2kids implements inside of Lifuwu, our Grassroots Soccer Program is one of the most engaging when it comes to youth interaction and development. Occurring several times per week in the evenings when school is finished, help2kids volunteers trek across the Village to Lifuwu Primary School grounds to meet up with youth who are interested in the program.

The greatest thing about Grassroots Soccer is that we do not simply play games with the children and teenagers who attend, we also conduct lessons on health topics such as healthy living, clean water practices, HIV and AIDS education, and much more! The balance of learning and play ensures a fun environment where the adolescents feel comfortable discussing these topics that can sometimes be difficult to discuss. Blow you can see pictured a few of our volunteers discussing water and sanitation with a group, helping them to identify safe sources of drinking water, and pointing out the dangers of using contaminated water sources.

The program is supported by a team of local Malawian staff who help to mobilize the children and ensure that we have a healthy attendance week to week. help2kids volunteers who are interested in both soccer and public health will enjoy leading these lessons and sharing games and knowledge with their younger Malawian peers. Our future goals for this project include a female specific program focusing on netball (a very popular sport for women here in Malawi) and continuously expanding the inclusion of HIV and AIDS education for the adolescents.

This April, the students’ sponsored by help2kids for Secondary School here in Malawi returned home after exams for some much deserved rest! We always make sure to invite them over to hear about their experiences, and were delighted at the progress they have all been making. Our students are supported with books and other school materials, as well as having their school fees covered. Most of our students report to us that the financial burden of their education is their greatest barrier in life, and we are very happy that we can take this burden away from them so that they can pursue their ambitions and dreams. For more information on the Malawi education sponsorship program, visit our website - https://www.help2kids.org/en/ml-education-sponsorship-program-en/
help2kids VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others”.

The last wave of volunteers that we had at help2kids in Tanzania in the last 3 months may represent the perfect example of finding yourself through helping others. Volunteers of different countries, ages, backgrounds and personalities have been sharing their time with the kids in our projects teaching, tutoring and playing while learning, discovering and understanding a completely different culture with all its shades, surprises and contradictions. Serving unprivileged kids can be an enlightening experience for those willing to take a break from their reality and routine while helping others, and it can be a great instrument to find a balance for yourself: when you are out of your comfort-zone you can discover so much about your limits, and suddenly your daily problems become so small.

Tanzania and the help2kids projects and community offer a perfect environment to our volunteers to discover, explore, learn and have fun so much fun at the same time, and as your Volunteer Coordinator taking care of all of you before departure and during your stay, I want to use this newsletter to thank you all. Is so rewarding to see how much you enjoy staying with us and also how much you can get from your volunteering experience and how much you can change, from the first email that you send to the last goodbyes, from the initial fear to get on a bajaji to being packed on a dala-dala on the way to Bagamoyo, knowing that you are always leaving behind you a small piece of your heart together with beautiful memories. Seeing you all creating amazing connections with other volunteers, the guests in the Gecko, all the staff members, the teachers, the mamas, the local volunteers and all the kids, the fishermen, while exploring the country, the city, the markets, the beaches, the nature, the food, the traditions... you all make my job so rewarding that I have just decided to stay for another year, and I am looking forward to meeting you again, therefore: karibu tena rafikini! It’s so true that the best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others, for everyone involved in help2kids.

Asante Sana!

Gabriella Tagliani,
Volunteer Program Manager, Tanzania

help2kids wants to thank all of our outgoing staff for their great work and welcomes the new staff.

Imerine Lyakurwa
We have been so lucky to have Imerine as the new Health Project Manager at help2kids Tanzania. Imerine joined our team in 2015 as Health Project Intern, then moved on to be the Project Coordinator, and has now taken over the position of the Health Project Manager. Imerine is such a huge asset to the help2kids team here in Tanzania and we appreciate all of her hard work and dedication to the children we work with!

Elysia Saronga
In May this year we have been joined by Elysia, who is our new Health Project Intern at help2kids Tanzania. Elysia is from the Kilimanjaro Region of Tanzania and brings with her lots of knowledge and experience. Elysia completed her bachelor in Human Nutrition in 2016, and during her studies undertook lots of practical experience in a variety of hospitals and organisations as a nutritionist, researcher and counselor. At help2kids Elysia is responsible for maintaining good collaboration between our partners in order to provide a high level of care to our children. Karibu Sana Elysia!

Kasmiri Massion
Kasmiri Massion is from Mwanza, Tanzania and joins the help2kids Tanzania team as an Assistant Programme Coordinator. This means Kasmiri is providing support across all of our projects, meeting their needs and priorities. Kasmiri graduated with a degree in Environmental Planning and Management from the Institute of Rural Development Planning 2015, and has worked for a variety of NGOs in Tanzania including Raleigh International, Swiss Contact, Elink Environment and Ifakara Health Institute. We are very happy to have Kasmiri on our team!

Yangzom Tshewang
In April, we were so sad to say goodbye to Yangzom, who has been working at help2kids Tanzania for the past year as the Health Project Manager. Yangzom has done such a fantastic job at working with her amazing team, continuously developing and implementing new ideas to improve the quality of the impact we are making. We are hugely thankful to Yangzom for the hard work and dedication she showed to the project, and we wish her all the luck with her future endeavours!
help2kids thanks all of our former, current and future volunteers for your hard work on our projects in Tanzania and Malawi! Your dedication changes our children’s lives for the better. We are thrilled to be able to bring you this newsletter with updates from all of our projects. For more regular news, please check our Facebook, Twitter and YouTube pages and our website!

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