Tanzanian Field Manager’s Report
Greetings from Tanzania!

December is always an exciting time for help2kids Tanzania. The children have all finished their end of year exams, we are all waiting in anticipation for their school reports and everyone is busy preparing for the holiday season. December is also a great time for us to reflect on the year that’s passed, celebrate our stories of successes, share our lessons learnt and plan ahead for the following year.

It is also an important time of the year to be thankful for the team we have here in Tanzania, who have worked incredibly hard all year for the benefit of our children. We are also thankful to all of those volunteers and supporters that have helped us to where we are today, and continue to support us for the future.

I hope you enjoy this month’s newsletter, and we wish you a very happy holiday season.

Warm wishes
Harriet

Wrapping up the year with some big successes!

The final months of 2017 have been full of celebrations at the Children’s Home. We are extremely proud of our oldest child Tausi (bottom right) who joined Social Work College three months ago.

Three of the children from Children’s Home - Happy Joseph, Augusti and Selemani (middle right) - graduated from primary school in September, while Star (bottom left) graduated from high school.

We also continued successful workshops for the children, including an arts program designed to bring out the creativity of the children and nurture their talents (top right photo).

Click here to find out more about our Children’s Home.
Thanks to the support of friends and volunteers, we have succeeded in finding four sponsors for Standard 7 students! This is a huge win, as these students will now be able to continue on to high school - one step closer to their dreams! All of our standard seven students selected to be a part of ESP passed their exams with great results, and received some awesome awards at the Bajeviro Graduation Ceremony. Here were the top students:

- Nasra Abushehe (top left) – Best behavior
- Eliudi Onesmo (top right) – Achievement in Science
- Martha Philipo (bottom far left) – Kindness award
- Baraka Samwel (bottom left) – Achievement in English
- Elvin Edwin (bottom right) – Achievement in Math and Kiswahili
- Salehe Samson (bottom far right) – Achievement in Social Sciences

While Baraka, Salahe, and Elvin are lucky enough to have sponsors already, we are still searching for support for Matha, Nasra, Eliudi, and several others. Contact us at sponsorship@help2kids.org or visit our website to find out more.

**help2kids Education Sponsorship Program**

Gerald is a good football player, playing for the Bajeviro Rainbows, he would like to become an hotelier to work in a big hotel. Gerald comes from a low-income family and achieving his dream of getting and education and a job in the hotel industry would not be possible without support from you.

To find out about sponsoring Gerald, get in touch with us via sponsorship@help2kids.org.

Nasra was born in 2002 in Dodoma, but she now lives in Dar es Salaam with her mother, who runs a small business. Nasra started her primary education at Bajeviro in 2011 and now she is in standard seven at the same school.

She has good grades and always appears at the top among the girls in the class.

Her dream is to become an accountant and because of this she has been working hard and doing well in mathematics and English.

To find out about sponsoring Nasra, get in touch with us via sponsorship@help2kids.org.
Kunduchi Daycare Centre has been busy as usual, with plenty of games and activities to keep the students active and engaged. The centre itself has seen some major improvements over the last few months, with new walls and doors, plus planning for building the wall is underway! Massive thank you to all the volunteers who helped raise money for these projects at Kunduchi.

The team at English Corner decided to tackle the problem of waste in Kunduchi by organising a successful workshop on pollution, followed by a big cleanup. Many thanks to everyone who got involved! The day was a huge success and will hopefully inspire positive environmental change in the community.
The Health Project delivered several successful workshops, including SWASH, aimed at preventing diseases such as cholera, diarrhea, skin diseases and typhoid through proper health habits, and sexual reproduction talks at Bajeviro. By teaching sexual health we hope to increase awareness of issues such as early pregnancy, sexual transmitted diseases and the consequences of sexual involvement in adolescence. Empowering of caregivers as one the goal in this year, at the middle of October we were able to organize caregiver’s workshop about home health care which involved different topics such as treatment of allergic reaction, food poison, insect bites, burning and how to administer some of the medicine.

Watch our Health Project video here:

Bajeviro wrapped up the school year in style. ECU Worldwide made a generous donation to fund Bajeviro’s food programme for next year (top photo) and in October the team welcomed a new teacher, Miss Aishati (bottom left). We are happy to have her and we know she will bring out the best in each of our students. The biggest event of the past couple of months was the standard 7 graduation. After the successful results from their national examinations, our Bajeviro team came together to celebrate our kids in a wonderful ceremony (bottom right).

Click below to see our latest Bajeviro video:
**Volunteer spotlight: Thoughts and Impressions from Olivia**

**help2kids Tanzania** - whereas in Malawi there are many projects Tanzania has four and you do the same two each day. Being a teacher I joined Bajeviro school and was immediately welcomed like an old friend. The school is smart, the children eager and the whole atmosphere very positive.

In standard seven I was working with Kinogo, Pastory and Macha (they seem to all be known by their surnames) who were interesting and interested. A great place to work.

**help2kids Malawi** - Outreach is one of the most interesting and rewarding of all of the projects. Twice a week we visit the outlying villages to weigh and measure the children as well as providing them with their innoculations. The women always greet us with songs, that fabulous African tradition of spontaneous call and response a cappella that stirs the soul. Each child, except the youngest babies, already has a definitive personality: the drama queen in her pink ruffles, the enquirer in button down plaid, the action man in his super hero T-shirt. Children grow up quickly in Africa, returning a month later I was amazed by how their personalities had developed.

**help2kids Tanzania** - Visiting Dar is a must. The walk from the dalla-dalla stop to the waterfront is a cornucopia of Gucci sunglasses, Prada wallets, iPhones, leather Tanzanian passport covers and other sundries, all laid out on battered tables and watched over by lethargic stall holders who spring to life if you show the slightest interest. Vitumbua (rice flour doughnuts), twists of roasted peanuts, peeled oranges and shaved coconuts are all hawked from little carts. We visited the textile part of town and found a warren of tiny shops. Each space was no more than six feet square with kangas piled ten feet high on the shelves in a myriad of colours and patterns that made the brain reel. The designs ranged from ornate animals to geometric shapes all with a border printed with a Swahili proverb.

**help2kids Malawi** - In my classroom in England I have an interactive whiteboard, the internet, any number of books and resources and 16 children. In Lifuwu primary school I have the approved textbook, 60 children and a blackboard. It makes me focus more on teaching and less on gimmicks. I have nothing to hide behind and it is surprisingly liberating.

Watch our volunteer video here:
Malawi Field Manager’s Report

Greetings Everyone! I want to wish everyone a happy holiday season! Here in Malawi we have just recently been starting to enjoy the heavy rains that make Lifuwu village a different kind of winter wonderland; one that is lush and green! This is a busy time of year and a lot has been happening here in Lifuwu. Both students and teachers have been very busy with Term 1, from the nursery schools up to the primary. Our newest sponsorship students are soon to be completing their first term of secondary school and we are eager to see how they adjusted to boarding school. The Nursery school students have been learning a new schedule with an added ‘morning circle’ at Tiyanjane where they can dance, sing, and learn the anthem of Malawi.

Zikomo for all of your support and please enjoy the holiday season!

Kate Mensinger
Warm regards,

A key addition to this term has also been a rearranging of the classroom structure. We are now implementing more group work activities and focusing less on the chalkboard and more on interaction between classmates and teachers. Here, Head Teacher, Annie is seated with a group of students assisting them with their worksheet on numbers.

We have also been working to add more tools and activities to support learning. As our teachers are always saying; “children need to be able to see it, hear it, and touch it,” when learning. Here, volunteer Tobi works with two students on their numbers.

Worksheets have been implemented in both of the upper classes as a tool to support children in their learning and comprehension. Here a student in Stellah’s upper class is concentrated on her worksheet as she traces the letter “A.”

Our newest Education Sponsorship Program students began their first year of Form 1 at their respective schools. We had three students selected this year and thanks to generous sponsors, were able to provide support for all of them. Pictured above are two of the newly selected students; Peter and Thindwa with our Field Manager Kate. The smiles are in direct relation to the news that they would be able to attend Secondary School, something that their families would not be able to afford without the support from our sponsors. The students first term will end 15th December and we are eager to see the results of their hard work.

Kate Mensinger
help2kids Chisomo Nursery School

On the right you can see the older class seated outside as part of an activity encouraging them to practice the letter “A” with the local fruits found outside of the school. The teachers utilize this teaching method with numbers and shapes as well, varying from sticks, fruits, and leaves.

We are very proud of the teachers for utilizing all of their trainings to implement a creative curriculum for their students.

help2kids Community Library

A key reason why the library continues to be a success is due to the hard work of our volunteers. They spend many afternoons a week reading with the children and using the books and pictures to try to overcome the language barrier. Pictured below left is volunteer Natalie assisting two young children with a picture book.

Children are busy, they wake early for school, help their families, and watch their young siblings; the library provides a time for them to sit in a peaceful environment and take their time reading the book that interests them. On the right, a young boy reads a book based on Masai tribes of Tanzania.

For those children who are still in Nursery School, the library has a large collection of picture books. In the middle photo below a young boy smiles as he holds one of our most popular books; it has buttons that allow the children to hear the sound the animal pictured makes.

NEW AND DEPARTING STAFF

We are very excited to welcome Aishati into the help2kids family. She has been volunteering with us for six months at Kunduchi, and when a teaching position opened up at Bajeviro we knew she was the perfect person for the job. We’re looking forward to seeing Aishati’s enthusiasm in the classroom and hope she enjoys working at Bajeviro!

We are very sad to say goodbye to Gabriella at the end of this year. Gabriella has been with us for one and a half years as our Guesthouse Manager and Volunteer Coordinator. She juggled the challenging responsibilities of her role with ease and even when answering constant phone calls, emails, and questions from volunteers, she still had time for a smile and a kind word for everyone. We will miss Gabriella enormously and wish her all the best for 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.

Donate

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