Tanzanian Field Manager's Report

Greatings from Tanzania!

I'd like to formally introduce myself as the new help2kids Field manager in Tanzania. It has been a great time getting to know the team, staff, children and all the projects. These past few months have been extremely busy, yet fruitful, for our team on the ground. Although we have had some staff transitions, our group of leaders has grown fond of, and we are all working very well together to continue the success of our projects.

I am proud of all the efforts made to improve our project sites from Kunduchi Day Care Center to our new Children’s Home. As we gear up for the final stretch of 2018, we hope to continue making positive changes. None of this would be possible without our generous donors, volunteers, and supporters around the world.

Asenteni sana!

Binta Ceesay
Field Manager, Tanzania

Creative Children in Education

Every child is born creative and imaginative, but this capacity can be restrained if they have no space to release their creative energy. Our children’s future success also depends on the creative education they receive. Thanks to our partners who keep providing such opportunities to our children by encouraging them to try new things, which is a crucial factor in their intellectual, physical and emotional growth.

Best performers’ outing

To encourage and motivate other children to perform well in school, this quarter we had a special gift to our children who had a good performance. Apart from rewarding their good results we also saw a need for rewarding their efforts.

The children, who showed an exceptional level of academic improvement were given a special outing where they saw new places, had a short tour around the city as well as special dinner. The moment was so inspiring; we believe they will be motivated to do even more!

Football Tournament Fashion Show

Fashion is an indispensable part of our lives. In this quarter, during the football tournament, our children performed a fashion show that was awesome. Their talents and unique abilities expressed in various ways are what we are always working on to improve, so they become the people they were meant to be.
help2kids Health Project

Mid-August Health project started a health club programme of which has ten representatives from four partners (Bajeviro, Chakuwama, Watoto Wetu, and Children’s Home). Through this club, we will be able to know to what extent health workshops are effective to the children and to bring children from our partners together to create physical and mental awareness.

Workshops

At the beginning of August, the Health Project was able to conduct a workshop for one of our partners, Bajeviro, which involved girls and addressed social issues that they face during their adolescence period. The primary purpose was to exhibit discipline and resilience which will help them display strong character and responsibilities in their everyday life and also they can fight for their values and beliefs as well as identify areas where they can make improvements.

Early September we had one of our empowering activities to our caregivers, we managed to provide them with training on how to deal with health issues such as stomach ache and asthma that our children may face. AAR doctors delivered the workshop. They describe different ways of giving first aid, prescription of medicine for children regarding their age and weight and advice of adding essential medicines to the first aid cabinet.

EDUCATION SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

New ESP Selection

Last month we selected ten standard seven students to join ESP next year. The students are selected based upon academic merit, not upon a personal relationship or favoritism. The students are rated by their internal testing results and the final examination which gives us a good view over their academic achievements, their enthusiasm to learn and their high-performance capability.

Parent engagement

When we find something that works, we collaborate with parents and government to scale this up to all students; this approach means that we can achieve systemic change with interventions that are proven to make a difference. Last month we met with standard seven parents to discuss how we can accommodate pre-form one course together. Pre-form one classes are meant to prepare pupils to start secondary education with at least an introduction of what he or she will be expected to learn at that level. Pupils learned all the subjects in Kiswahili so they are gradually introduced to English at this point.

Sponsored Students

Since our students are benefiting from our health program, last month our students were taken to hospital for eye checkups where they met with an eye specialist. Those who were diagnosed with eye problems were given medicine and glasses.

BAJEVIRO PRIMARY SCHOOL

Our kids have had a busy couple of months here at Bajeviro. In June, we held our annual holiday break sessions with the objective of raising our students’ academic achievement levels, and we have continued with our monthly Saturday classes. In July, our fantastic Rainbow team achieved second (boys) and first (girls) place in our annual help2kids Charity Football Tournament, which brought much excitement to the whole team.
Currently, we are supporting our standard 7 pupils with their upcoming exams, and we are getting ready to close this term and prepare everything for the last academic quarter. As you can tell between the help2kids Charity Football Tournament and gearing up for the national examinations, we have been running at full speed! Nevertheless, fun and games have been ongoing, with friendly football matches between teachers and volunteers and a full day of celebrations for the end of the term, we are ready for the next and last stage of this year!

**KUNDUCHI DAYCARE CENTER**

**Parent’s Committee Meetings**

Parent’s involvement has always been our key to helping children do well academically. To ensure this, we met with the parents’ committee recently to keep them informed of what has been going on in the school and also maintain active, ongoing participation of the parents in the education of their children.

**Community Engagement**

In this quarter, our social license to operate in Kunduchi village has been secured through community engagement activities. This time around we engaged the community in the World Clean-up Campaign organized by Nipe Fagio, where the village leaders, parents, volunteers, and our English Corner students had special training and later on participated in cleaning the environment around the beach area. It was awesome to have different groups of people and backgrounds working together as one in keeping their surroundings clean.

**VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**

During their time here, our volunteers like to engage in community activities. On Saturday 15th September, they participated at the World Clean-up Day organized by Nipe Fagio. The name of this Tanzania organization means 'pass the broom' in Swahili, and it aims to raise awareness and promote sustainable development initiatives.

After an early wake-up, the volunteers reached the Kunduchi village, where help2kids runs two education projects and started to collect rubbish along the streets. It was not easy to handle the heat, but they enjoyed doing it together with the local community. Collective action can bring the change we want to see in our societies, and it is a fundamental value to help2kids volunteers.

**ENGLISH CORNER**

We are so thankful to our wonderful local and international volunteers who have been a great help to our projects, more specifically in the English Corner. Their dedication, passion, and commitment to assist the villagers who are mostly Kunduchi fishermen in mastering the English language will always be honored. A million thanks for their time and support!

New Students: Just as they see their fellows who knew not a single English word now being able to communicate effectively, many people from in and around Kunduchi are applying for the English Corner classes. Though due to limited assets, we could only afford to take a few of them this quarter, and we are hoping to have more new students next year.
Both of our partner primary schools marked the end of the academic year with their closing ceremonies. Teachers, students and their families met to celebrate their hard work over the past year. Parents proudly congratulated their children with gifts and learners celebrated by dancing with their family, friends and teachers. Lifuwu Basic Primary School did exceptionally well in their standard 8 final examinations, with more students progressing onto secondary education than ever before!

Malawi Field Manager’s Report

Greetings From Malawi!

We have had a busy few months here in Lifuwu. A record 16 students were selected for secondary school, doubling the amount of sponsored students with help2kids. School recently started for the nursery and primary schools in Lifuwu as well and the teachers are happy to be back working with the students. Combined with Lake of Stars occurring just a few kilometers away, it is an exciting and energetic period for both help2kids and Lifuwu.

I want to thank everyone who has assisted us with our sponsorships thus far. The students are receiving a much needed education because of your support.

Zikomo Kwambiri,
Garrett Berghoff
Field Manager, Malawi
help2kids runs a Maternity Feeding Program at the Lifuwu Health Center. It aims to help women overcome the financial and logistical barriers that often discourage them from giving birth at a health center. We provide healthy and nutritious meals, consisting of Nsmia (maize mill) and vegetables grown in the health center gardens. A safe birth at a health center is a key way to reduce infant and maternal mortality rates. Since the program was implemented in 2015 the number of women coming to Lifuwu health center to give birth has increased.

This winter Mr Yonah, our assistant manager Pattson and our volunteers did some much needed garden maintenance by watering, weeding, planting and building a brand new fence to protect the garden from mischievous goats!

help2kids Malawi: Education Sponsorship Program

Following the release of the standard 8 exam results, we are proud to welcome 17 new students to our Education Sponsorship Program. Gaining a place at government secondary school is a huge achievement, as spaces are very competitive! We wish them all the best in the coming school year as they begin their secondary school education.

Over the past few months our ESP students have been home for the winter holiday. They have really enjoyed coming to the Friendly Gecko and having computer lessons with our volunteers. It has been amazing to see how much progress they have made in such a short time.

The ESP students also went on a trip to Cape Maclear. They visited HEED where they learnt about deforestation and how to use sustainable, renewable energy sources. The rest of the day was spend playing games on the beach.

As usual Grass Roots Soccer has continued to be a huge hit amongst both students and volunteers. GRS mixes education with fun and games to tackle difficult and sensitive issues. It provides a great and productive environment for volunteers and students to learn from another. In July, thanks to a generous donation, the GRS students went on a trip to Lilongwe Wildlife Sanctuary! Fun was had by all, learning about wildlife and conservation, playing in the adventure park and taking a tour around the wildlife sanctuary!
help2kids football tournament is an annual event which pits primary schools’ teams for the chance to win top prize. This year it took place on 21st July in Dar es Salaam with 18 teams competed and Bajeviro Rainbow won the second place. Apart from that there was performance from local artists, bouncing castle, face painting, food and drinks.
help2kids thanks all our former, current and future volunteers for your hard work on our project 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 our projects. For more regular news, please check our Facebook, Twitter and YouTube pages and our website!

help2kids runs project 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 help! Donations are tax deductible in US, Switzerland Germany.

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