



habari

Updates on the work in Tanzania



Eva's Story

We were introduced to Eva in October 2019. She had taken a bad infection in her right leg and due to lack of finances, could not afford to get it treated. When the family finally saved enough money to see the doctor, her leg was so bad that it had to be amputated from the knee down. Eva also has a bladder condition, which due to being left untreated, had now left her incontinent. Eva is 16 years old.

When we met Eva, our main aim was to get her to a hospital where we could get her examined and any possible treatment availed of. She was examined and we had a MRI scan done to see the extent of her bladder damage. Unfortunately there was nothing that could be done surgically to rectify the damage that had already been done. All we could do was manage the symptoms and make her as comfortable as possible.



Over the lockdown Eva went home as the schools were closed. This is when another problem developed. Eva was abandoned by her mother many years ago and lives with her elderly grandmother who due to bad eyesight and old age cannot meet her daily physical needs. Eva had developed sores from sitting and deep wounds due to lack of personal care and lost a lot of blood from her wounds. We were called by her uncle to inform us of her problems, collected her from her home and took her to the hospital. Her wounds were so bad that Eva had to be catheterized and given antibiotics and pain medication.

She is now back at the dormitories at Hombolo Special School and being looked after by the Matron. She is receiving daily personal care and attending the clinic regularly for treatment. We purchased iron tablets and also sourced a special pillow for Eva's wheelchair. This will hopefully take pressure off her wounds and ease her pain.



Graduation Celebrations

The journey for these girls started in July 2019 when they were interviewed and offered a place on our sewing training course. It didn't take long for the girls to get to know each other and become like a family unit during the week, as they boarded and trained on site. Countless hours were invested in the girls by our teachers Andrew and Loy and all of their hard work has paid off.

End of course examination consists of the girls making, from scratch, three different types of clothing: a dress, two different types of skirts and blouses. In this exam they don't get to ask for help from the teacher or other students and they will display what they have made on their graduation day.

Before the graduation the teacher grades them, awards them and if required, informs them as to what they could improve on, based on what they have made.

After seeing what these girls can produce, we have no doubt that they will all graduate this year. We are so grateful to our wonderful teachers and for the dedication of all the girls. This trade will enable them to earn a living and even start their own business, as we have seen happen with last year's graduates.

Vocational training provides an alternative route for those who cannot make it the academic route. We have proved this to be another way to empower young women and give them options.



Winifreda – (Class of 2020) says:

“I wanted to learn sewing even before I got this chance for training. When I was in class 6, a woman from my village made me a dress for Christmas and I loved it so much that I wanted to be able to sew like that. I enjoy coming to school and I never get tired of sewing. On top of that I love being here because I have made new friends and also learned other things like gardening.

My dream is to be a famous designer one day.”

Where there's a will, there's a way ...

For many rural families, all cooking is done on an open fire using charcoal. This is the only affordable form of fuel for many but unfortunately the Tanzanian government are opposing the use of charcoal at the moment, which is significantly raising the cost of buying it.



To help with this problem, our sewing girls have started to collect firewood around their homes during the weekend and bringing bundles back to our Academy on Monday mornings. This practical help not only reduces our costs for cooking, but also shows a willingness to give something back in return for their training opportunity. What a thoughtful gesture from the girls.





WATER TANKS

We have had been blessed to be able to build 52 water tanks, with the finances to build another 4. These tanks collect precious rain water and store it for the children to drink at school every day. Tanks are fitted with a security lock during out of school hours. This ensures that no water is wasted. As there are no boundaries or fences at the schools in Dodoma, we need to preserve the water for the use of the children. The lock is then removed at the beginning of the school day again.

Thank you to everyone who has financed or part financed a tank. These are vital in order to provide safe, clean drinking water to the children.



HOUSING PROJECT

The housing project is doing well. We have completed and handed over 4 homes to families in need and have received the finances to build another 4 houses. You can see in the picture the old house where a family lived; the roof was being supported by tree branches. Now the family can be safe and secure in their new homes with meshed windows for ventilation without the worry of insects coming in. Their fear of the rains washing their old home / mud hut away is now gone.

Thank you to everyone who has supported this project

We affirm the following commitment to every person who sponsors a child through kids4school:

- To honor Jesus in all that we do.
- To directly impacting each child's individual development. We've seen over and over again that what happens in the life of a child is much more significant than what happens in the environment that surrounds that child.
- To use money only for the purpose for which it was raised.
- We encourage supporters to develop meaningful relationships of encouragement with the children they sponsor.
- To encourage children to respond to the Gospel, to learn about Jesus and discover a lifelong relationship with God.
- To be financial accountable.

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