



Annual 2019 REPORT

10 YEARS
HOW FAR ■
WE'VE COME



 www.edpowerment.org



Dear Friends,

In 2010 I began an EdPowerment blog, “Our Stories, Their Stories.” Five years later, what was to become the final entry, “Meeting the students where they are,” detailed how we choose a specific path of learning for each student we help based on his or her individual circumstances and aptitude. The blog gave way to the time demands of our evolving programs. The stories, however, had only just begun.

Today, 10 years after EdPowerment’s founding, our story is all about their stories: how over 20 of our sponsored students are now succeeding in colleges and universities; how another 40 are using the formal and informal skills provided by EdPowerment to change the trajectory of their lives; how students, once rejected elsewhere, come together each day at KIWOCE (Kilimahewa Women & Orphans Center for Education) Open School, an exemplary model of active learning; and how youth with special needs and intellectual disabilities are being identified and included in Tanzanian society.

Only you, our donors and supporters, could have made their individual stories – and our collective story – possible. Each student we serve was, at some point, denied the chance to realize his or her potential. Your financial support reversed this path. While each student may not achieve equally, all regained the right to “pursue happiness” and the chance to transform not only their own lives, but also those of their families and communities.

On behalf of EdPowerment’s management, the dedicated and talented Tanzanian teachers we support, and above all, the many young people who can grasp a future worth living, thank you. We look forward to many more remarkable stories that will unfold because of our investment in these young people.

Gratefully,

MOIRA MADONIA

Founder, EdPowerment

KIWOCE OPEN SCHOOL

Steady and deliberate progress. This has been EdPowerment's path at KIWOCE. What began as a woman-led community initiative to provide a safe place where young people, no longer in formal schools, could still learn is now a Tanzanian educational NGO. Where a small group of teens gathered 10 years ago, hundreds now come to KIWOCE for secondary school equivalency certificates, computer training, seminars on study skills and healthy living, a Saturday Boys & Girls Club, a full-service library, and internet-related support services.

In 2019, a beautiful KIWOCE's girls' hostel opened on the second floor of an existing classroom building. Now the Center can accommodate up to 60 females in a secure and supportive environment. In addition, "study huts" added a comfortable, additional space for learning, discussion, and socializing.

Each individual who comes to KIWOCE today is able to take the next step toward an independent life that breaks a cycle of poverty, dependence and rejection.

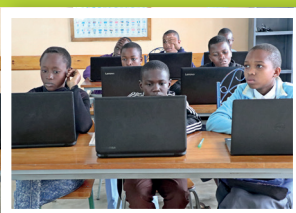


KIWOCE IMPACT 2019

Private candidates secondary school program.....	89
THRIVE Pre-Form 5 & Pre-University program.....	8
Pre-Form 1 (3-month) program	137
Computer Training	25
Summer Enrichment Camp	97
Life Skills Seminar	132
Girls & Boys Clubs	150
Other Youth Community Clubs	112
Adult Community Support Group	20



STUDENT HUTS
Learning can include games!



COMPUTER TRAINING
Laptops, software and online resources



THE GIRLS AND BOYS CLUB
Sharing how to run a poultry business



THE LIBRARY
Serving students and the community

TOMORROW'S SCHOLAR-LEADER SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

One of the primary reasons that our founding team established EdPowerment was to enable motivated, capable students, who had lost access to a decent (or any) education at some point after primary school, to resume formal learning so they could achieve their potential.

EdPowerment's resulting program consists of long-term, all-inclusive (fees, personal needs, medical and transport costs, life & study skills workshops, counselling) sponsorships until the student completes his or her final year of college or university studies, ready to enter the workplace. (In some cases, sponsorships were limited to secondary/high school, after which students often were able to access resources to continue studies).

Because of EdPowerment's **10 years of sponsorships**

40 students

HAVE COMPLETED THE FOLLOWING COURSES OF STUDY

- 1** Post-Graduate Diploma of Law
- 1** Doctor of Medicine
- 3** BA degrees in Education
- 1** BS in Internet Technology
- 3** College Diplomas:
 - 1 in nursing
 - 1 in pharmaceutical studies
 - 1 in financial management
- 7** College Certificates in the education and health fields
- 5** Vocational Certificates in tailoring, masonry and auto mechanics
- 19** Sponsorships limited to secondary or high school. Some continued to higher education with family resources.

27 students

ARE ACTIVELY PURSUING

- 3** Doctors of Medicine
- 2** Bachelors of Law
- 2** BA degrees in Education
- 8** BA degrees in business-related subjects
- 1** BA degree in international relations
- 1** BS degree in Electrical Engineering
- 4** College diplomas animal health and agriculture courses
- 4** Advanced Level high school certificates
- 2** Secondary School certificates



Vainess
Diploma of Nursing



ROZINA

These photos convey the path to adulthood of many of our students. In 2011 Rozina, who participated in a screening process, was selected into our program because of her potential and her dire personal circumstances. (Here she is shown with her younger siblings and Bibi, her grandmother who took care of her). After 8 years of personal and academic ups and downs, Rozina is now succeeding in her second year of studies at Saint Augustine University of Tanzania.

Earlier this year, her beloved grandmother died and we were able to bring her home and support her through the funeral. This past summer, she showed her true teaching talents, working with KIWOCE's students before returning to her University. She demonstrates the transformative power of EdPowerment's sponsorship program.

A NOTE ON THE TANZANIAN SYSTEM

Primary school

Secondary School

Form 1

Form 2

Form 3

**Form 4
National Exam**

Many students complete formal learning at the end of primary or secondary school. This chart applies to those who can continue formal education based on scores and resources.

**(Forms 5/6)
Advanced High School**

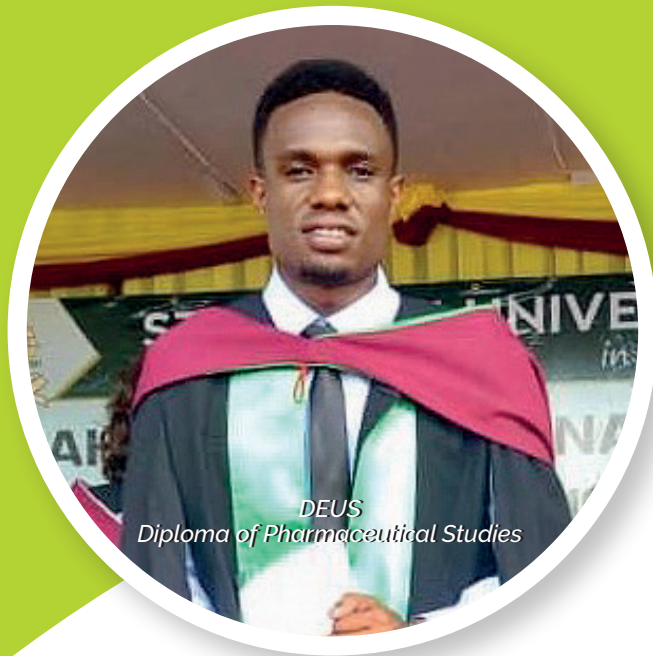
**Form 6
National Exam**

University

**College/Vocational Certificate
College Diploma**



*Jackson, 1st year medical student
and August, who hopes soon to follow in his path*



*DEUS
Diploma of Pharmaceutical Studies*



*FLORIAN
Bachelor of Arts with Education*

Looking ahead, EdPowerment commits to completing all current sponsorships and accepting, on a case-by-case basis, exceptional students who have already completed secondary or high school but cannot continue to college or university studies because of personal or financial hardships.



THE KIWOCE-SPONSORED STUDENT CONNECTION



Most of the students in EdPowerment's sponsorship program come from the Kilimahewa area surrounding the Center. While difficult personal circumstances brought them to KIWOCE to resume their studies, their strong academic promise and motivation gained them a spot in EdPowerment's sponsorship program, where they could better fulfill their potential. Every break they still come to KIWOCE for academic reinforcement, skills building and guidance from its caring staff.

Today, three of EdPowerment's sponsored students have returned to the Center, not as students, but as exemplary, dedicated teachers. Veronica, whom we met at KIWOCE in 2009 as a teenage volunteer unable to attend formal secondary school, completed her Degree in Education at the University of Dar in 2018. Florian, also a student at KIWOCE in 2009, completed his BA in Education in 2019, as did Ally, who was taken into the sponsorship program when his family's inability to pay school fees threatened to end his secondary education.

TODAY, Vero, Florian and Ally are invaluable role models for KIWOCE students and the surrounding community. They demonstrate how education transforms one's life. Their passion to share their knowledge and experience makes students aware of what they can attain with hard work and KIWOCE's resources.



T H E S T A R T
VERO



T H E S T A R T
FLORIAN



T H E S T A R T
ALLY

CONNECTS AUTISM TANZANIA

In the summer of 2008, Kerri Gilbert and Jillian Swinford, colleagues at the Sonia Shankman Orthogenic School in Chicago, Illinois, ventured to Tanzania to teach as volunteers. Thus began their connection to Grace Lyimo, KIWOCE's founder and a Director of Jillian's and Kerri's international volunteer program. (Mama) Grace shared with Kerri and Jillian the fact that her son, Erick, was autistic, but had not been diagnosed until he was an adolescent.

She described the void – and the hostility – that engulfed Erick and those with intellectual disabilities in Tanzania and the dearth of knowledge about this condition.

Kerri and Jillian felt compelled to help Grace advocate not only for her son, but for all youth with such disabilities. And so, in 2012 Autism Connects Tanzania became one of the three legs or programs on which EdPowerment was built. Seminars, workshops, advocacy events, networking with other stakeholders and government officials... ACT undertook all these activities at the grassroots level to (1) to dispel stigmas, (2) teach parents, educators and society-at-large the truth about these conditions and (3) urge society's acceptance and support. In 2015 ACT transformed into CAT, Connects Autism Tanzania, an independent Tanzanian NGO.



Mama Grace
educating teachers



Teachers taking part in discussion during
one of CAT's seminars



Kerri, Jillian and Mama Grace team up in 2012

In 2010, there was no word for Autism in Swahili. Today, there is not only a word, **USONJI**, but there are multiple initiatives in school units in the Moshi-Arusha area because of CAT's work. CAT has moved the needle through relentless efforts to educate all individuals and organizations involved in special education and disabilities in this region.

Using media, one-on-one meetings, local events, a range of seminars and forums – and any vehicle possible – CAT pushes the educational system, workplace and society to involve and recognize the rights and needs of these Tanzanian citizens.

In 2019, CAT opened a Youth Center in Arusha (in partnership with Building For Generations), to serve as a model of vocational training to government units and other special needs organizations.

EdPowerment remains CAT's primary funder (with Focus For Health) as we encourage the NGO to seek other operational grants and funding support.



A MANAGEMENT REPORT: TODAY AND THE NEXT 5 YEARS

2019 was a year of transition. Mary Munishi took over local management of the sponsorship program. Mary is uniquely qualified for this task since she, herself, was a sponsored student who succeeded exceptionally, graduating in 2018 with honors from the Tanzanian Institute of Accountancy. She knows the workings of the Tanzanian higher education system and the challenges that our students face when leaving their protected environment. She cares for each student while currently pursuing a CPA.

The Kilimahewa Women and Orphan's Center for Education (KIWOCE) became an official educational Tanzanian NGO and Test Center in 2019. In addition, a girls' hostel added a new component to its student capacity. This progress increases the Center's local recognition and ability to attract students to its modern facilities and teaching methods. While this growth is positive, it also requires stronger management. Therefore, EdPowerment has increased its staff support to include financial and administrative positions that will safeguard sound operations going forward.

Lastly, while taking on a Youth Center, CAT also began a pilot program to introduce inclusive classrooms into select schools in the Arusha/SIHA area. CAT continues to share and reinforce teaching strategies for special needs students, such as the IEP, bringing international experts and their resources to Tanzania whenever possible.



Stacey working with Rebecca, lead language teacher, last summer



Jillian led a class in writing and video taping plays at this year's Camp



Cocoa enjoys a moment with some of our college sponsored students in March



KIWOCE's dedicated teachers

FINANCIAL REPORT

EdPowerment employs strict monitoring of all Tanzanian program expenses on a quarterly basis, requiring to the extent possible receipts and documentation that prove monies are used for intended purposes. Support from EdPowerment's founder exceeds all administrative costs, ensuring that all donations directly fund programmatic expenses.

INCOME

Individual Contributions	\$ 134,094
Grants	28,000
NYC SPIN Event	32,130
On-Line Campaigns*	7,209
Matching Funds	5,900
Other	90

TOTAL INCOME	\$ 207,423
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*2019 Giving Tuesday proceeds of \$12,001 were posted in 2020.

EXPENSES

KIWOCE (Kilimahewa Educational Center)

Staff Compensation	\$ 47,216
Security	2,465
Land use contribution	8,762
Facilities, equipment & supplies	18,459
Events, clubs & misc.	5,034

SUB-TOTAL	81,936
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Tomorrow's Scholar-Leader Sponsorship Program:	56,290
Support for Mrike Secondary School:	3,451
Funding for Connects Autism Tanzania:	44,453
General administrative costs in Tanzania:	4,148
U.S. management trips (excludes lodging)	6,270
Banking & U.S. administrative costs:	7,688

TOTAL EXPENDITURES:	\$ 204,236
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Board of Directors

Moira G. Madonia, President & Founder

Kerri Elliott, Vice President & Honorary Board Member, Connects Autism Tanzania

Jillian Swinford, Director & Secretary

John Corbett, Director & Treasurer

Corinne (Cocoa) McGovern, Director

Stacey Lauren, Director



EdPowerment in Brief

OUR FOCUS

CORE ACADEMICS • PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT • EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

OUR APPROACH

– ACTIVATE –

CURIOSITY • INITIATIVE

– NUTURE –

SELF-KNOWLEDGE • SELF-RELIANCE • ACCOUNTABILITY

– BUILD –

CONFIDENCE • COMMUNITY • CONNECTIONS

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