Greetings from Tanzania – we hope you and your loved ones are keeping safe and well?

It’s naturally been a somewhat challenging past 3 months with the outbreak of COVID-19 with all schools including our Campus and Kunduchi Day Care Centres being closed. But, as many of you may have faced at home, we have been busier than ever trying to work through the changes needed during lockdown to continue to look after the education, health and general welfare of the 1,000 children within our projects. For example:

• We’ve worked with local schools to deliver home study packages to the children at the Children’s Home and ESP.
• Developed and distributed holiday study packages to our Day Care Centre children.
• Delivered food packages to our Day Care Centre children and their families.
• Provided mosquito nets and resuable masks to our partner orphanages.
• Trained the teenage girls at the Children’s Home to make reusable pads.

Staff rotas have been changed to limit the number of times people need to come and go – which for our caregivers and support staff has meant working 1 week shifts where they live and work full-time and then get to have the next week off to be with their families. A sacrifice they have all made without a passing thought.

Sadly, it may not surprise any of you to learn that funding is becoming more challenging so we hope you don’t mind that we have included a simple 1 page, step-by-step guide to doing a Facebook fundraiser. We have always been so lucky to be supported by so many great people over the years and are truly grateful, but if any of you could do some local fundraisers on our behalf it would be a tremendous help in these challenging times.

Asante sana
CHILDREN’S HOME

While we normally only see our kids at the weekends and in the evenings after school, they have been home fulltime since school closed in mid March. To ensure that the children continue studying even though they are not going to school daily and the situation might feel like holidays, we expanded study time from two to four hours per day. The kids worked through material provided by their schools and our Education Sponsorship Team and learnt to help each other when needed.

In order to improve the kids’ language and speaking skills, we arranged debates on topics chosen by the children and their caregivers. The kids worked out arguments for the both sides and debated in two groups against each other.

The afternoons were free for fun activities like football and netball to maintain the children’s physical and mental health during isolation.

HEALTH PROJECT

Our Health Project driver is taking all neccessary precautions when transferring kids from our partner projects to the hospital, in order to ensure that we can continue to provide the children with this important service.

In the past months we have paid special attention to supporting our partner orphanages. For example, we have provided 112 children and their caregivers with face masks as well as providing all of the children with new mosquito nets to ensure a safe sleep.

EDUCATION SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME

All students in our Education Sponsorship Programme have big dreams about who they want to be when they grow up and what they can do to help their families and country. Sponsoring a child’s education isn’t just about ensuring they have an education it is about helping them break the cycle of poverty and helping them to help change the future of Tanzania and the future generations of African children.

To sponsor a child and help change the future of Tanzania click here.
The past three months have not been easy for anyone, more so for young people who can only hope that this will not be the way to live from now on. Learning was put on hold, especially in the marginalised communities where access to the internet and technology is limited. We are privileged that through the support you tirelessly give us we have been able to reach out to young people in these challenging times. Having schools closed, young people were prone to indulgence in risky behaviors, as they spent a lot of time at home, either helping their parents or not doing anything.

To secure and protect them, we introduced home studies to all our readers from the community Library, which is the only Resource Centre, where they can find books and other literacy materials within the community aside their schools.

Our students in both Nursery and Secondary Schools have had access to education right in their homes as we were able to run home schooling and studying programs. This has boosted the confidence and hopes of the young people in Lifuwu - it has given them certainty that their future will not be wasted.

The health of children and their mothers has always been one of our main concerns. Despite the challenges that everyone is going through, Lifuwu clinic staff and our office have worked together to make sure that the rural areas around Lifuwu are still reached and properly served. We have been able to provide transport for outreach services, so that children get their monthly immunisation and their health and well being is monitored. We are delighted to have been able to reach out to over 500 people through clinical outreach services.

Water has played, and is still playing, a crucial role in combating and preventing the spread of COVID-19. We made sure that the community had an adequate source of clean and portable water. With the help of our donors, we have been able to repair three crucial boreholes at the Clinic, Primary School and Nursery School.

As the school year comes to an end, these three dedicated students are still looking for sponsors, we are urgently searching for potential sponsors who can help them to stay in school by paying for the necessary school materials, transport, school meals and much more. If they remain unsponsored, they will drop out of school in September, which we are clearly desperate to try and ensure does not happen. These children deserve the chance to complete their education.

If you are interested in sponsoring Cosmas, Henry or Edmond, please click here.
Did you know that supporting help2kids is now easier than ever before? Through Facebook you can quickly and easily start fundraising campaigns for your favourite help2kids project and invite all your friends to donate, share the campaign and spread the word!

We have put together a short guide on how to set up a campaign:

1. Search for Facebook fundraisers.
2. Click on the DONATE button on the Facebook page.
3. Select the nonprofit you want to support.
4. Enter details about the fundraiser.
5. Set a fundraising goal.
6. Write a compelling story.
7. Pick a cover photo or video.
8. Customize the description.
9. SPREAD THE WORD!

The last and most important step is all about making your fundraiser public! Share it in your newsfeed, invite your friends to donate and share and use the Fundraiser-Button to spread your campaign in your Facebook-Story.

DONATE BUTTON

You can also make a one-time donation by clicking the DONATE Button on our Facebook page. It is easy and fast and you can be sure that we receive 100% of the donation as Facebook does not deduct anything!
help2kids thanks all our former and future volunteers for your hard work on our projects in Tanzania and Malawi. We thank our supporters from all over the world for every small and big donation during these difficult times. Your generosity and dedication changed our children’s lives for the better! We are thrilled to be able to bring you this newsletter with updates from our projects. For more regular news, please check our Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and website!

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