



# Volunteer Trip to Tanzania 2019

by Frank Smith, President

**We are now planning** our next volunteer trip to Tanzania for February of 2019 and it's so exciting to anticipate this adventure! Those who have gone on past trips with ABCD exclaim enthusiastically that it was the trip of a lifetime for them...immersion in a warm and welcoming community, with a chance to make a real difference in the lives of disadvantaged children. Some folks add on an unforgettable safari or trip to exotic Zanzibar!

We have a group of about a dozen folks at this

**When:** September 8, 2018 at 1 pm

**Where:** Community Room  
York Region Police Station  
Prospect Street, Newmarket.

**You are invited** to come out to this no-obligation meeting to hear all about this memorable trip.

Contact us at [info@abcdreams.ca](mailto:info@abcdreams.ca) for information.



Trip Volunteers at the School



# Student Success Is What It's All About

by Frank Smith, President



We are thrilled to be able to report so much student success. Several ABCD senior students have completed their post secondary schooling and are poised to find careers in their chosen fields, thereby securing their dreams for their futures. I will give some details below on many but some students are still in the midst of their job searches.

When students move on from the ABCD program to productive working lives, this means that ABCD Canada can ask ABCD TZ to identify additional needy secondary school students to be added to the program. So our work continues helping young people to succeed and find their own place in the world and to give back as productive citizens of their country.

**Honest Peter** will complete his degree in Social Work this September! ABCD's first university graduate!

**Richard and Yumatade** have completed their training in Tour Guiding and are searching for jobs with safari companies.

**Hyasinta and Mary** have completed their teacher training and are searching for jobs in primary education.

**Mary M** has completed her medical assistant training.

**Lusia** has completed her nursery school training.

**Levina, Benson and Tumaini** have been accepted to university and join **Oscar, Joven, Melkizedek, Miriam and Amani** as ABCD university students at different institutions all over Tanzania!

**George and Maria** have been accepted at college, joining **Airini**.





# The Dream -P-e-d-d-l-e-r-s- - - -

by Frank Smith, President

Early in June, a group of ABCD supporters came together as a team called The Dream Peddlers to ride their bikes in collaboration with the CAP Network, a Canadian charity that has organized this fundraising event for the past 14 years. It was wonderful to be invited to join this event in Toronto.

We had 8 amazing riders on our team and the ride was over 11 kilometres long, starting and ending in High Park after a beautiful journey along the shore of Lake Ontario. A lunch was provided after the bike ride with lots of opportunity for networking with other charities that have similar goals to ABCD.

Our team members each found sponsors for their ride and we were able to raise over \$4000 to go towards the education of ABCD students. We are already excited for next years ride!



## The Dream Peddlers

## Crowdfunding – Share Your Passion

By Shai Laserson, Board Member

Supporting ABCDreams doesn't have to be just with money...the simple act of **sharing your passion** for the work we do can go a long way!

Be it on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram; we invite you to share your passion for the work we do with your friends and family. **What can I share you ask?**

We'd like your support in promoting the following crowdfunding project:

**ABCDreams is funding water tanks** at 8 severely underfunded primary schools in the villages of Marangu West, Kilimanjaro Region, Tanzania.

**Sounds great, but how do I share it?**

### Water Tanks for Primary Schools

1. Visit: <https://www.gofundme.com/water-tanks-for-schools>
2. Click "Share" for Facebook or Tweet it on Twitter
3. Tell your friends why you believe they should support our project

**Supporting us through sharing our common passion** can go just as far as monetary support, so we'd like to thank you in advance for taking a moment to share your passion with others! Thank you!



Crowd Funding Water Tank



Little ones look at their classroom

# Building School Infrastructure

by Terry Maynard, Board Member

As I walked along inspecting a school wall, I saw an entire 50 meter section sway when I pushed it with my hand. To my horror I watched children pop their faces out a window further down the wall. Little did I know that the unstable wall was part of the building closed to students.

It gives me peace of mind knowing ABCD is sending funds so that local tradespeople can repair and build critical school infrastructure. It might be a struggle for some students to achieve good marks, but schools' classrooms should not make their struggle harder.

This year ABCD is funding: School repairs; 1 Classroom repair; and 5 Fresh Water Storage Tanks.

We are pleased to support the local tradespeople in the building of infrastructure projects as it gives us a double bang for our supporters' bucks! Will you please help us raise the funds we need for this year's projects? The article "Crowdfunding - Share The Love" will give you many ideas for helping.

## CARE ABCD Tanzania

by Lynn Bird, Board Member

Since 2014 **ABCD** has been helping girls to stay healthy and miss fewer school days by providing them with personal hygiene kits. The creation of a local woman's cooperative in 2017 to make the hygiene kits has become a wonderful success story. They call themselves **Care ABCD Tanzania**. Thanks to a generous donor, **ABCD Canada** has funded **Day's For Girls** mobile training program in Kampala, Uganda to travel to Marangu West in January 2018 to provide an extensive training program for mamas in the cooperative. They were taught the standards required for making the hygiene kits, how to make soap, how to locally access materials and supplies, and were also taught some basic business practices. **ABCD Canada** has committed to buying 50 hygiene kits from **Care ABCD Tanzania** to donate to school girls in need. We plan to be a regular customer! Pregnant Tanzanian women can continue to receive support from generous volunteers in Canada who make kits and annually send them to Tanzania with ABCD volunteers.



Care ABCD Eva, Days for Girls Team  
(Julius, Suzan, Lidya) & Ewald



Care ABCD Soap Making



Care ABCD Mama Adeline receiving  
diploma from Mr. Kaniki



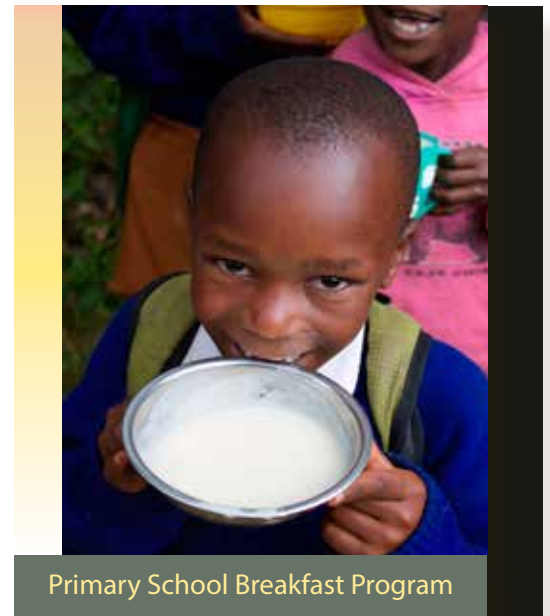
# The Changing State of Education in Tanzania

by John de Ronde, Board Member

There has been little or no investment in the education sector in Tanzania beyond day-to-day running costs in the past 3 decades. As a result school infrastructures are failing while teaching and learning suffer from low morale and inertia on the part of many teachers. We hope now, with the new president, that change is in the air. **The World Bank** has also commented in favour of change in Tanzanian education. The current president came into office on a platform motto “Hapa ni Kazi tu!” (here is work only) and we hope for positive reform in the education system.

Perhaps that reform has started with the government making education up to and including secondary level free for all. This does not include school lunches, however. Lunches can no longer be provided from school funds augmented by parental contributions as in the past, but provided entirely by the parents. Thus, ABCD contributions for our students can no longer go to school principals on behalf of the parents. They must instead be paid to a parents consortium who will buy and prepare the food. For this they may still use the school kitchens. Parents are still also responsible for other costs such as uniforms and school supplies.

**ABCDreams Canada** will continue to support the primary school breakfast program. We continue also to support students who board at the secondary school as this program is also free from restrictions. Our traditional support structures remain in place therefore, and the community conveys its heartfelt gratitude.



## Changes to the ABCD Canada Board

by Frank Smith, President

Irene is leaving our board and I want to thank her very much on behalf of the whole board for her past service. The good news is that Irene has generously agreed to continue to support ABCD as our volunteer accountant! Irene is also considering travelling with us to Tanzania as a volunteer in 2019.



If you have recently donated... we thank you very much! If not, and if it's been some time since you last donated, please visit the website to see how easy it is, and to see what your donations actually accomplish for the children. You will receive a tax receipt for donations over \$20. Tax receipts will be issued within 30 days. Thank you for caring.

# ABCD GALA FUNDRAISER – a newcomer's perspective

By Irene Byrne

"Best fundraiser I have ever attended!"

Last November, I attended my first ABCD gala fundraiser and was so impressed by all the care and planning that went in to making sure each guest had a fun time from start to finish.

The evening was full of fun activities, art at the table, drumming (which was my favourite and most memorable part), an amazing band, a solo guitar player, incredible food from start to finish buffet style allowing guests to enjoy refreshments all evening, an amazing silent auction, dancing and of course friendship.

This event moved from activity to activity seamlessly, casual but on schedule. I couldn't stop talking about what a great event this was – I'm already looking forward to the next one!



Popular Drum Circle



Backboard Blues Band



Dancing up a Storm