

Stronger Together in the face of COVID-19!

by Director Shai



In just a few short months, COVID19 has grown into a global pandemic with devastating effects. Like many charities around the world, ABCDreams faces disruptions in our ability to provide support to the children in our program, both on the financial and the procedural fronts due to local laws and health regulations.

We know first hand how hard it can be for you to support your favourite charity, while you may be facing hardships yourself. That is why we wanted to share with you six tips on ways you can support our efforts that do not require a financial contribution.

Six ways to support ABCDreams that doesn't require a financial contribution

1. Share a blog post from our website via social media.
2. Share WHY you support ABCDreams via social media.
3. Please share a photo from a recent fundraising event, and explain why you supported us, via social media.
4. Share our Facebook Charity Page with your friends and invite them to like and follow it.
5. Share our LinkedIn Charity Page with your network in a post, covering why you're passionate about ABCDreams.
6. Share the photo and story of one of the children you support via social media.

Although donations, as always, are needed and welcomed, spreading the word about ABCDreams and the work we do is just as important as a financial contribution.

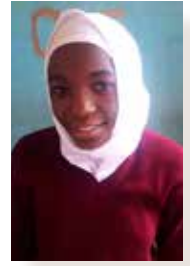
Lastly, on behalf of the ABCDreams board, volunteers and our family members, keep healthy during these unprecedented times and thank you all for your ongoing support!



August

New Additions to the ABCDreams Program

by President Frank



Zania



Benedicto

This year we are excited to be adding 12 new students to our program of educational assistance. These students were selected by our local advisory group, ABCD Tanzania, based on criteria of family poverty and past record of some academic success.

Six boys and six girls were selected from two secondary schools and they are all starting secondary school in Form 1. We welcome them and hope for them all success in the future.

At the time of printing we have received photos and background for 10 of the students and HERE THEY ARE:



Sila



Emmanuel



Gabino



Grace



Joseph



Maria



Neema

Travel to Tanzania 2021 by President Frank

ABCDreams makes an effort to visit our friends, families and students in Marangu West, Tanzania every two years and 2021 is the next scheduled visit. We are hoping that the current situation in the world will be well and truly over by then and a visit can be made safely. However we realize that this may not be possible next year.

In the past we have taken volunteers with us who have been able to volunteer in the community and, through immersion in the rural Tanzanian way of life, have had their lives enriched by the experience. It is yet to be determined if we will



initiate this kind of volunteer visit on the next visit. Folks may be understandably cautious about international travel for quite some time. At this time we are tentatively planning for at least one director to make a visit in 2021.

Help Us Keep Up With Growing Student Success

by President Frank



Adeline -studying Flight
Dispatch Officer

As I happily listed in the article on student success, ABCDreams has 27 students now in advanced level education programs all over Tanzania!

This is incredible and so heartwarming! These young people are all from very disadvantaged families living in poverty on subsistence farms in the Kilimanjaro Region.

The education costs for these students range between \$2000 and \$3000 per year, which often includes their boarding away from home.

We continue to work hard to find sources of funding to pay for these students' educational expenses: foundations, corporations and businesses, fundraising events and you, our donors.

You, donors that this newsletter is directed to, are vitally important to our fundraising efforts. Please continue to make your donations and if you haven't given lately, please consider renewing your donations. We still need your help....any amount is welcome.

If you would like to check on your donation status please just email us at info@abcdreams.ca.



Miriam-studying Rural
Development



Adeline 2008



Nahari-studying
Pharmacy

Benson-studying
Transportation



Audifasi-studying
Financial Management

**We
still need
your help...
any amount is welcome.**



ABCD CARE Tanzania

by Director Lynn

Like many other organizations and groups around the world, ABCD CARE Tanzania, the women's cooperative in Marangu West making personal care kits, has felt the effect of the pandemic. The sale and distribution of personal care kits for girls and women has dropped off significantly. In addition to the pandemic effect, the cooperative is currently faced with the challenge to prove the quality of their product to the Tanzanian National Bureau of Standards and Ministry of Health. This is a hurdle that we are confident the mamas can overcome. We wish them all the best in meeting these new challenges.



Fundraising 2020

by President Frank

This is a strange year for all of us, and this includes charities which are trying to raise funds for their causes in the midst of a global pandemic. Events which necessitate groups of people gathering may not be possible for quite some time.

ABCDreams participated again in the CAP fundraising bike ride on June 7. This event is organized annually by the Canada Africa Partnership folks and traditionally involves several charities with teams of bike riders meeting in High Park for a group ride. The riders will all have solicited sponsors. This year, due to Covid 19, the event was held virtually from the participants' own locations in the spirit of individual effort but with community in mind.

The ABCDreams team was again called The Dream Peddlers and we are immensely grateful for the many sponsors who stepped forward to support the team!

The funds raised will help so much towards funding the education of the new children added to the program this year. Fantastic!

Let's Not Forget ABCD Breakfast Programs!

by President Frank

This newsletter has a lot of great news about ABCD student success and that's great, but spotlight also on the success of the ABCD breakfast programs.

ABCD has been funding these programs for many years and, according to anecdotal reports from the school administrators, the programs are having a very positive impact on student attendance and academic performance.

ABCD is funding daily breakfast at 10 primary schools and 2 secondary schools! This means that over 5000 students line up every day to get a nutritious breakfast of millet porridge, nuts and sugar every morning. In many cases, the food that children receive at school is their best, or only meal of the day.

The cost to pay for 500 children to have a hot breakfast everyday for an entire year is \$3000. That's only \$6 per day per child for an entire year of breakfast!

One local company in Mount Albert kindly donates annually to pay for one primary school breakfast. If you know of a company who would also be able to support a breakfast program, please let us know.



Pandemic Beyond Borders by Director Terry

When I interviewed our ABCDreams man on the ground about the impact of the Covid19 pandemic in the ABCDreams supported communities, it sounded like our experience in Canada. It's clear that a pandemic like the Covid-19 is building a common global community.

Just like in Canada, the people in Tanzania are self-isolating, wearing masks and government closed schools are keeping students at home. Even visits to the market (a huge social part of Tanzanian life) is a quick visit and villagers are buying in large quantities to reduce the number of visits to the market. Most imported items are scarce but local goods and produce are still readily available. Local seamstresses are also making masks to supplement their income.

At this writing, Tanzania has a fairly low number of Covid cases at 480 and a death count of 18, with no deaths nor Covid-19 cases in the ABCD supported communities in the immediate area. The most notable case is in the nearby city of Moshi where the Regional Commissioner has contracted Covid-19.

The President of Tanzania has asked all Tanzanian citizens to "pray hard". It looks like this pandemic has brought the entire world together to fight this battle.



Empty Makomu church doesn't stop "hard prayer"

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 \$15. Tax receipts will be issued within 30 days. Thank you for caring.

The Changing Scene for ABCD Tanzania

by Director John

During a meeting held in February with the head of one of our supported schools, Makomu Secondary School and our representative on the ground in Tanzania, I learned that current government policy set out in tax rules of the Tanzanian Charitable Organizations Act of 1994 was being applied more rigorously.

All gifts and donations received by the charitable organization, in this case ABCD Tanzania, should be taxed except where they provide reasonable benefits to resident persons. I didn't have a problem with this as we are already doing this. The act goes on, however, to seek 25% tax from the organization's income when it is involved in its charitable business.

This appears to be open to interpretation. What is meant by charitable business? Did it apply to local fund-raising events? Could some interpretations include payments for infrastructure projects? Our meeting was inconclusive. However, to date, ABCD Canada has not experienced undue taxes as our donations are 'providing reasonable benefits to resident persons'. Our students are the main focus of our donations.

We are having continuing success in our work in rural Kilimanjaro. Happy stories that you see on the ABCDreams website of graduations, the addition of 12 new students and the beginnings of new careers continue to fill us with motivation to continue our work. However, the need for ABCDreams support of students in Tanzania is now more important than ever. Tanzanians, like everyone else, are currently suffering self-isolation and closed schools. The economic impact of the pandemic in much of Africa is as yet unknown. The needs of families who were already struggling might well be redoubled from the effects of this pandemic. ABCDreams continues 'providing reasonable benefits to resident persons' and for this, we are very much welcomed by the community.