

Annual

Report

2015

 **Tanzania**
Development Support

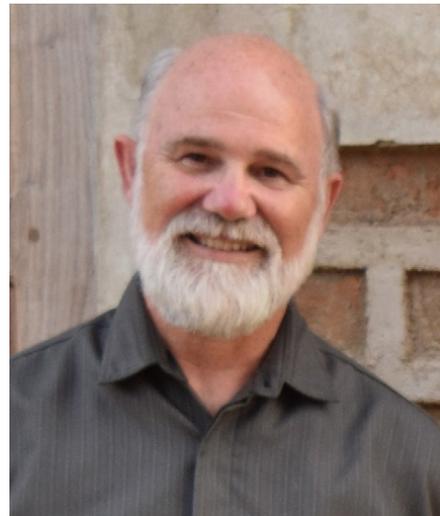
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Rafiki,

Rafiki means friends in Swahili, and I greet you in this 2015 as friends of the girls and boys in Nyegina, Tanzania and the surrounding villages. The 2015 TDS calendar was full of activity as we worked hard to raise the funds to complete construction of the first phase of the Madaraka Nyerere Library and Community Resource Center (LCRC).

Despite a construction glitch that set us back a few months, we made excellent progress on the LCRC construction. By the time the 2015 TDS volunteers and NIU study abroad students arrived in June 2015, the exteriors were finished and the volunteers could spend time painting and prepping the windows for the main library building. Construction continued through the fall on the interior elements, especially electrical. We installed both an electric grid connection and also a solar lighting system to use as the main energy source, holding down operating costs for lighting at night.

TDS also seeks to leverage development dollars to maximize impact. Your LCRC donations helped to construct the first public flush toilets in Nyegina, thereby improving overall public health. In addition, we co-constructed the facilities with Nyegina Secondary School so that the high school boys now have flush toilets for the first time. As a bonus, the water connection and septic was adjusted so that the boys now can take regular showers; this is a “luxury” that was introduced to the school when we built the



dormitory for girls in 2009-12, our first TDS project. Not only will your donations insure that library patrons are free of rank odors wafting through the windows while they read, but you have greatly improved the sanitation for the boys, and public health in the village overall. You are making a difference in their lives in ways you could never imagine—forever.

Asante sana. Thank you very much for your continued support of TDS and our work for the girls and boys in Nyegina and surrounding villages of the Mara Region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Kurt Thurmaier". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kurt Thurmaier
President



OUR MISSION

To improve the quality of life of youth, especially girls, in the Mara region by supporting improvements to education and other community-identified priorities. We partner with indigenous organizations in Mara, and other supporting organizations, to achieve our objectives.

SPOTLIGHT ON SAFE WATER

In 2015 TDS assembled a team of partners to help fund Safe Water Mugango (SWM), an organization of women entrepreneurs in Mugango, Tanzania, who are manufacturing and selling safe, inexpensive, dependable water filters. TDS provided funding to kickstart the business which has two complementary goals: to help address the crucial health problem of safe water access and to generate local income. Both of these goals further the TDS mission of improving the quality of life of youth, especially girls, in the Mara region.

In the Mara region, as with most of the rural areas of Tanzania and much of Africa, the lack of access to clean, safe water is a critical and persistent obstacle to improving the daily lives of local people. To be potable, water for cooking and drinking must be boiled if



Women in the village of Mugango started the project as a means to provide safe drinking water while earning an income for their families.

a reliable filter is not available. The foraging of firewood and collection of water for cooking and boiling is a labor-intensive and time-consuming process, typically requiring a family member to walk long distances carrying heavy loads. Often it is the children in a family who must bear this burden, leaving him or her with limited time to attend school regularly or to study. Most often, girls are given this chore, because it is the cultural norm. The result, of course, is that girls face disproportionately negative educational outcomes. Illness from

water borne contaminants also contributes to high drop-out rates for all students.

SWM helps to redress these problems by manufacturing a local supply of water filters to sell to Mara villagers. The prototype of the filter was developed by Safe Water Ceramics of East Africa, a non-governmental organization based in Arusha, Tanzania.

The filters require no energy source, such as wood burning, require very little maintenance and have a five-year life-cycle. They are also inexpensive, consisting of a kiln-fired ceramic filter placed inside a plastic bucket with a spigot at the bottom.

SWM was formed by a group of women potters in the village of Mugango, south of Musoma. Their primary goal for this business is to earn money to educate their children.

TDS helped launch SWM by purchasing \$14,000 of materials and equipment, including a kiln to fire the ceramic filters. TDS also paid for \$9,000 in training and professional services, and \$2,000 to establish an electrical connection at the manufacturing site. TDS assembled a team of partners to launch this project. In addition to the women of SWM, TDS worked with Umoja wa Maendeleo ya Bukwaya (UMABU), Safe Water Ceramics of East Africa, the Development Office of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Musoma and the DeKalb County Homemakers Education Association.



The system uses handmade ceramic filters to remove sediment and bacteria from local drinking water.

FINANCIALS

Revenue

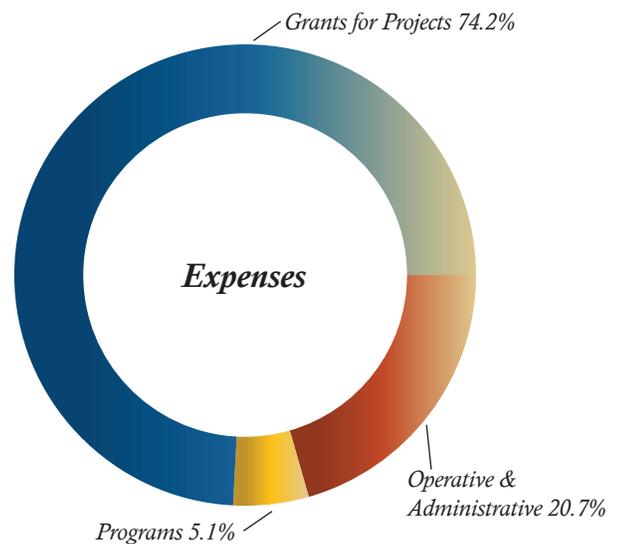
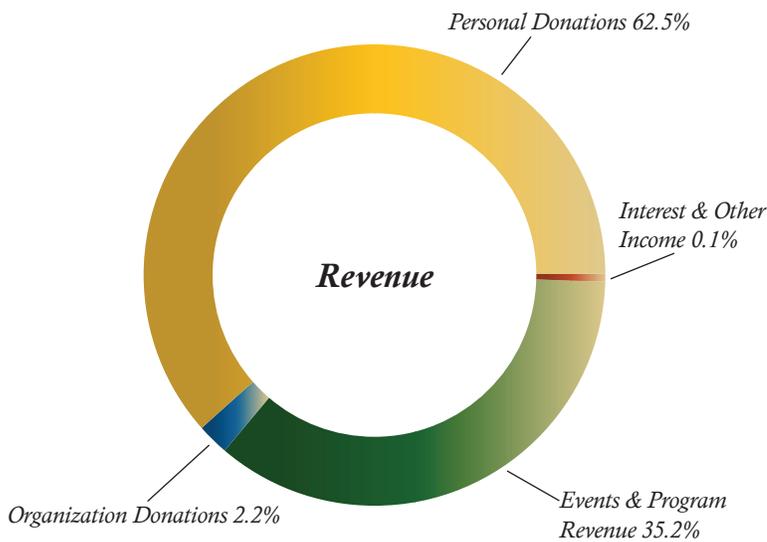
Personal Donations	\$83,512
Organization Donations	\$2,915
Events & Program Revenue*	\$47,034
Interest & Other Income	\$101
Total Revenue	\$133,562

Expenditures

Grants for Projects	\$69,338
Programs	\$4,809
Operative & Administrative	\$19,335
Total Expenditures	\$93,482

Fund Balance 12/31/2014	\$43,646
Fund Balance 12/31/2015	\$83,726
Change in Fund Balance	\$40,080

*Program revenue of \$23,654 was for Kili Climb program trip taken in January 2016.



DONOR LIST

Bold indicates TDS Board Member in 2015.

Gifts Over \$5,000

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Jeanine & Kurt Thurmaier
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Shipfrog Blu Prime
Bank of America
NIU CAUSE
Illinois Tool Works Foundation
St. Peter's Episcopal Church -
Sycamore

Donations to Tanzania Development Support are tax-deductible charitable contributions. TDS is an Illinois-based, volunteer-driven, 501(c)(3) nonprofit. It works to improve the quality of life of youth, especially girls, in Tanzania's Mara region by supporting primary and secondary school improvements and other community-identified priorities.

Tanzania Development Support

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