

## Tanzania Teaching Foundation 2018 Annual Report

The Tanzania Teaching Foundation (TTF) is dedicated to improving the lives of individuals, families, and communities in Tanzania through a targeted education program. Our “Pre-Form 1 English” program is designed for students who will enter secondary school (high school) in January after our course finishes in December. The program gives students the necessary skills to progress through their English-medium instructed secondary school system. We are “teaching them to fish” – so that they will find the culturally appropriate solutions for the challenges their society faces. We also strive to develop and sustain relationships with members of the Manow community and to enrich the lives of both Tanzanians and our American volunteers. In 2018 TTF donated two 250-liter stainless-steel cookers to Manow Lutheran Junior seminary (our sponsoring school). These cookers (pictured at the right) use wood much more efficiently, and smoke is vented through chimneys, rather than into the cafeteria which also serves as a study hall.



Each year for the past 10 years, American volunteers have taught English course to 40 students ranging in age from 12 to 16 years old. Most of them live within a 6-mile radius around the small village of Manow in the south central highlands of Tanzania. Over the past 10 years, our volunteers have included both members of the greater Olympia, Spokane, and New York communities. The volunteers teach an intensive curriculum for 10 weeks, with 7.5 hours per day of student contact time. The curriculum focuses on oral, written, and listening skills appropriate for the local culture. We also teach life skills such as nutrition, personal hygiene, first aid, STD prevention, and sustainable farming. During breaks the students play soccer (football). 2018 was the first year that girls played football, and for a while with the boys.



*Girls' football team*



*Ibrahim enjoying Mama Nancy's sunglasses at the football match*



The 2018 Pre-Form 1 English program was the tenth consecutive year we have sent volunteers to teach. Volunteer Ellen Anderson (known in Tanzania as Mama Owen) and Nancy Winters (Executive Director) served as our teachers. They had successful class of young Tanzanian students eager to learn valuable English skills. They continued to foster meaningful relationships within the

*Mama Owen teaching "days of the week"*

Manow community, including leading the students in Christmas songs in the local church on the first Sunday of Advent. The Manow Lutheran Church congregation loved it.

Since we took our first 40 students in 2009, we have had more than 412 students in our classes. With their improved English skills students have excelled in secondary school. Our 2009 graduates will complete degrees at the universities including: medicine, engineering, education, accounting, and agriculture. We are so proud of them. They will soon be the leaders of their communities. We also continue to receive good reports from Tanzanian teachers that students from our classes have high English proficiency which helps in their secondary school classes.



*Teaching problem-solving through puzzles*

In 2015 we launched a program to link American sponsors with the top performing boy and girl in the Pre-From 1 English course. The generous American sponsors pledge to provide on-going scholarships that allow our top graduates to complete their secondary education at Manow Lutheran Junior Seminary (a private boarding school). This year we expanded the number of students we are supporting to four of the top students. This is a rewarding opportunity to make a significant difference in the lives of Tanzania students, and to develop a correspondence relationship with the students. We will continue to recruit sponsors for our future scholarship winners. If you are interested in this exciting opportunity to witness the educational growth of a student, please contact Nancy Winters.

Our work is only possible with the financial and emotional support of each and every one of our supporters. The program requires approximately \$250 per Tanzanian student. These funds cover daily lunch and school supplies for the students, and travel and living expenses for the volunteers. To each of our supporters I say *Asante sana* (thank you very much).

Nor would this program be possible without the 16 people who have volunteered to undertake the intense three-month teaching schedule, requiring great flexibility in understanding a new culture, patience, resourcefulness, energy, and a slight theatrical streak. Our teachers work with what we would consider low tech educational resources – blackboards, dusty chalk, and erasers. After 7.5 hours with the students each day, they come home to quiz grading, sentence correction, and preparation for the next day – and sometime to a house with no electricity or running water. Yet through the grace of God, they have each been enriched by their service. *Nashukuru sana* (I am deeply grateful) to all of our volunteers for the gifts each has brought to the program.



**If you would like to consider teaching the pre-Form 1 English program in 2024 or beyond, please contact Nancy Winters by email at [wintersnl@comcast.net](mailto:wintersnl@comcast.net).**

Nancy Winters, Executive Director  
Tanzania Teaching Foundation