

Tanzania Teaching Foundation 2019 Annual Report

Mission

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 enrolls students who will enter secondary school (high school) three months after the beginning of our program. The program gives students the necessary skills to successfully progress through the educational system. We are “*teaching them to fish*” – so that they will develop 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.



Volunteers with family of former student, Elieza

2019 Pre-Form 1 English Program

2019 was the eleventh consecutive year we have sent volunteers to teach. Volunteers Ivy Metz (from Brooklyn, NY) and Laurie and Dr. Burnell Schaetzle-Hill (from Olympia WA) served as our teachers. They had a successful class of young Tanzanian students eager to learn valuable English skills. These three volunteers developed meaningful and lasting relationships within the Manow community. It was hard for all of them to say goodbye.



Burnell, Ivv. and Laurie

Milestones

Since we took our first 40 students in 2009, we have had more than 453 students in our classes. With their improved English skills students have excelled in secondary school. We continue to receive good reports from Tanzanian teachers who note that students from our classes have high English proficiency which helps in their secondary school classes. Most of our students successfully complete secondary school; and many continue to through university. Our initial students have now completed degrees at the universities including: medicine, engineering, education, accounting, and agriculture. We are so proud of them. They are taking their places as leaders of their communities.



Sekela, 2009 Pre-Form 1 English graduate, returned to MLJS as a teacher

Following the Pre-Form 1 English program, we pair American sponsors with the four top performing boys and girls in the program to provide four-year scholarships to the students. However, the volunteers wanted to sponsor an additional two students. So from the 2019 Pre-Form 1 class we have six scholarship students. All of our generous American sponsors support their students through 4 years of secondary school at our sponsoring school Manow Lutheran Junior Seminary (a private boarding school). Since 2009 we have provided full or partial scholarships to 24 students. Beginning in January 2020 we will be supporting an additional 6 new scholarship students. All sponsors receive emails from their student approximately monthly.

Highlights of the 2019 Pre-Form 1 English Program

Each year, we depend on volunteers to undertake the intense three-month teaching schedule, requiring great flexibility in understanding a new culture, patience, resourcefulness, energy, a goodly amount of humor, and a slight theatrical streak. This year was no exception. Volunteers Ivy, Dr. Burnell, and Laurie served as our teachers extraordinaire. Highlights of this year include:

- The students' English proficiency enabling them to tease the teachers occasionally.
- Laurie and Burnell joined one of the three church choirs that sing each week.
- Ivy's "Super Hero," Miriam - a girl whose mother passed away during the class, but managed to continue. Miriam also stood up for another girl being bullied by a boy.
- Elohim, who turned around his performance in the class by studying 4 hours every day and more on weekends.
- Dinner invitations from a number of the community members.
- An opportunity to support the Pre-School to help make ends meet for the next five years



Laurie and Ivy with some of their beloved students.

Ivy, Laurie, and Burnell have each been enriched by their service. *Tunashukuru sana!* (We are deeply grateful) to these three and all of our volunteers for the gifts each has brought to the program.

TTF is looking for volunteers to teach who will consider this a service opportunity. If you are interested in this life-changing opportunity, please contact Nancy Winters by email at wintersnl@comcast.net

Nancy Winters, Executive Director
Tanzania Teaching Foundation