

EdPowerment 2018 Annual Report in Brief

As EdPowerment takes stock of its three programs after nine years of operation in Tanzania, its impact becomes more apparent and tangible.

- ⇒ Post-primary students placed back into the formal educational system are graduating from our holistic long-term **SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM** and assuming independence in the workforce and society.
- ⇒ Other teens, otherwise unable to continue their studies, and locals of all ages are gaining workplace skills and equivalency certificates at **KIWOCE OPEN SCHOOL**.
- ⇒ **CONNECTS AUTISM TANZANIA** has moved its advocacy to a practical level, working with school districts to implement classroom assessments/strategies and vocational programs for the intellectually disabled.

All of this progress attests to a resilience that marks EdPowerment. In 2018 alone, our students overcame unrelenting personal challenges -homes that crumbled in adverse weather, misdiagnosis of medical conditions, family dysfunction and deaths, to name a few. At KIWOCE, teachers worked with students' daunting personal situations so these teens could succeed in the classroom. The Center's management, meanwhile, persisted through countless government hoops to register as an official Testing Center, a designation that will boost the Center's reputation and income. And CAT stayed the course through the frustrations of continual shifts in government educational authorities and regulations.

The biggest test, however, of EdPowerment's resilience in 2018 – for our students, teachers, local and U.S. management – was the tragic loss of our Financial and Operations Manager, Tom Kway, on May 25. Tom had grown with us since 2010. With a reassuring smile, he tackled all challenges, big and small, in a way that made life better for everyone. We continue to miss him every day, even as we carry out his legacy of kindness, openness, and the willingness to improve oneself, while serving others.

Thank you for sustaining EdPowerment's mission, using education to transform lives otherwise unfulfilled.

Moira Madonia, Founder & President



Mary Munishi, a graduate of our Sponsorship Program with a Bachelors in Accounting, Moira, Frank Fidas, KIWOCE School & IT Manager, and Mama Grace. Mary is now pursuing a CPA in the evenings while handing the finances for our Sponsorship Program, teaming with Frank and Mama Grace to advise and supervise our students on all matters, academic, professional and personal.

A camper at Kilimahewa (KIWOCE)'s Annual Enrichment Camp shows the amazement of youth experiencing a computer for the first time. This is the exposure that KIWOCE brings to all its students year-round in order to propel their curiosity and learning.



KIWOCE Open School, the formally registered outgrowth of the Kilimahewa Educational Center, welcomed over 300 students in 2018 to a variety of coursework & programs focused on qualifying students to re-enter higher-level or vocational programs, or preparing them to pursue their own small businesses.

Talking IMPACT: Virtually all KIWOCE students who took the critical Form 2 and Form 4 Secondary School National Exams passed, a few in the highest “divisions.” These were the best results of all “Open Schools” (whose students most often have been written off) in the area. In addition to the Center’s daily schedule, a **Boys and Girls Club** took hold in 2018, bringing motivational speakers and activities to teens in desperate need of practical knowledge and exposure. At the same time, local secondary schools brought their Form 4 (final year) students to learn test-taking and other key information that could better prepare them for their National Exams. **KIWOCE’s library** now offers almost 1,000 books, including sets of Review Books that local teens attending government schools can use after school and on Saturdays. **KIWOCE serves the entire community.**

GREAT NEWS: With support from the T & J Meyer Family Foundation and targeted fundraising efforts, a second-floor girls’ hostel was ready to open in 2019, giving up to 80 young women the opportunity to live at the Center in a secure environment conducive to personal development.



KIWOCE students demonstrate active learning strategies that distinguish their education in a memorization-based system. Here it’s a physical geography lesson.



One of KIWOCE’s students presents her arguments in a debate with a neighboring secondary school.



To the left: Dickson triple times as teacher, library manager and coach. Here he urges on the KIWOCE “futbol” team in a local match. Above, Frank (center) congratulates his young adult students, who have just earned their Computer Training Certificates.

Tomorrow's Scholar-Leader Sponsorship Program celebrated the graduation of its first doctor - Dr. Winnie- who is now doing her residency at one of Tanzania's top hospitals; its first lawyer, Angel; and its first teacher, Veronica, once a student at KIWOCE. These young women join our prior graduates from degree, diploma and certificate programs, carving out careers amid Tanzania's endemic youth underemployment. The difficult job market has led EdPowerment to intensify its career guidance and soft and life skills classes through its mandatory THRIVE program during all school breaks.

Talking IMPACT: As of 2018, EdPowerment's unique sponsorship program, one that intimately works with each student over a period of up to 10 years, has served nearly 70 students. 32 of our students already have moved forth from their sponsorships with secondary school certificates, vocational certificates, college diplomas, and university degrees, depending on his or her situation. At year-end 2018, roughly 30 students continue to progress toward viable careers, strategizing and building connections that will be vital as they move from the classroom to the workplace.



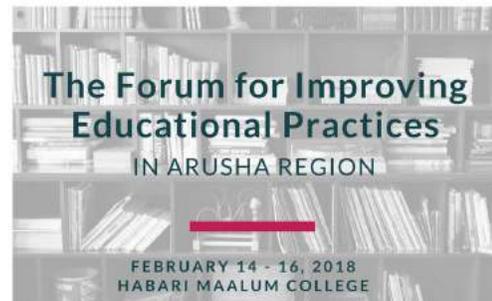
Pictured left: Ino (Innocent) reclaimed a future by coming to the Kilimahewa Educational Center (now KIWOCE). He was part of a group of students whom EdPowerment enrolled in a private secondary school after KIWOCE prepared them for their Form 2 National Exams. We continued Ino's support to A Level High School (Forms 5&6) and welcomed Samwel to our program when we learned that he could not continue schooling despite his good "O Level" results. Both succeeded in A Levels,

Samwel earning academic distinction, and they now await university postings. Pictured right: Kelvin, a student we nurtured through secondary school, transferring him when we realized he needed a more supportive environment. Today he is earning a Certificate in Animal Health and Production and hopes to pursue a Veterinary License by earning top grades.



Our three young women - Dr. Winnie, Veronica and Elizabeth- are exceptional. Here they celebrate Winnie's and Veronica's graduations in 2018. Eliza is following in Winnie's footsteps. Once a KIWOCE student finding her way back into the classroom, she excels in her 3rd year at St. Joseph's Medical School, Dar es Salaam.

Connects Autism Tanzania: In 2018 **CAT** continued to transition from advocacy to implementation of programs for the cognitively disabled in government schools. When **CAT** began its advocacy in 2011, there wasn't even a word in Tanzania for autism. Today, the landscape has changed, especially in the Kilimanjaro region where CAT, led by Mama Grace, has relentlessly works with all stakeholders and especially government educational units. In 2018 CAT partnered with special needs professors from SECOM and PATANDI, to introduce ABLS (Assessment Basic Learning and Language Skills) and IEPs (Individual Education Plans) to Special Education Units and Centers in the area. A series of Skypes during the summer with Kathryn Looney, a BCBA and Teacher of Students with Disabilities in Wall Township, NJ, boosted CAT's level of understanding. Having previously worked as a Head Teacher and Behavior Specialist at the Alpine Learning Group, NJ, Kate was able to share critical resources that Mama Grace could bring to her colleagues in Tanzania. This unique networking makes CAT invaluable in the struggle for educational rights for the autistic and special needs community.



Pictured above: CAT is a leading organizer of educational forums that address how to teach those with the full range of special needs. Using media outlets, CAT reaches out to the general public in the ongoing battle to eliminate stigmas that still prevent this population from inclusion. Below: CAT goes to local schools and units such as Sanya Juu and Siha to educate teachers and caretakers on specific strategies that can effectively improve the lives autistic and otherwise intellectually disabled youth.



Financial Report:

EdPowerment employs strict monitoring of all Tanzanian program expenses on a quarterly basis, requiring to the extent possible receipts and documentation that prove that monies are used for intended purposes. EdPowerment’s founder commits to financial support that exceeds all administrative costs. Therefore, all donations directly fund programmatic expenses.

EdPowerment is seeking to build an endowment to ensure the sustainability of KIWOCE, whose student population cannot pay fees that would fully cover staff and program costs.

Income:

Individual Contributions:	\$	244,761
Grants:		58,000
Fundraising/Online Events: *		54,845
Matching Funds:		7,100
Other:		96
Total Income:	\$	364,802

*Includes one-time donations for the girls hostel.

Expenses:

In 2018, EdPowerment completed a girls’ hostel on the second floor of one of KIWOCE’s existing classroom buildings. This was an exception to EdPowerment’s funding norms that do not include major capital projects. We took this step to protect the integrity of the existing 1st floor and more importantly to allow more girls to take advantage of KIWOCE’s unique skills training program in security and comfort.



KIWOCE (Kilimahewa Educational Center)

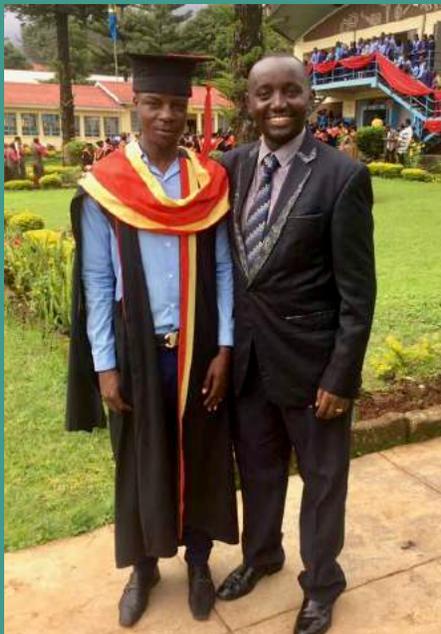
Teaching Staff Costs:	\$	44,864
Security:		2,348
Girls Hostel (Dorm)		89,121
ICT, other equipment & supplies		6,080
Land use/Management costs:		<u>6,783</u>
Sub-total:		151,690
Tomorrow’s Scholar-Leader Sponsorship Program:		67,991
Funding for Connects Autism Tanzania:		45,940
Support for Mrike Secondary School:		13,653
General administrative costs in Tanzania:*		12,089
U.S. management trips (excludes lodging)		7,475
Banking & U.S. administrative costs:		<u>9,943</u>
Total Expenditures:	\$	308,781

***In 2018 EdPowerment took extraordinary measures (costs) to save the life of our local manager, Tom Kway. Despite these efforts, which included a final airlift to Nairobi Hospital, Tom died on May 25, 2018.**



Above left: EdPowerment created the THRIVE program to encourage Form 4 and Form 6 graduates to learn more about their country and the world, while building their English skills. **Above right:** Members of both the Boys and Girls Club learn how to paint Mt. Kilimanjaro from a local artist. Exposure to the arts is something that KIWOCE also tries to bring to local youth through special activities and the Internet.

Right: Students from local secondary schools come to KIWOCE for extra coaching on study and test-taking skills, as well as other life skills and health topics not otherwise taught. **Below:** Manager, Tom Kway, with Alex Massawe as he received his Diploma in primary education.



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