



Juni 2022

Dear FOUNDER P. MARTIN, BOARD OF DIRECTORS - GISELA and WALTRAUD, SPONSORS, our Youth Representative in Europe, Rebecca, friends and parents in Vienna!

In my open letter to you all, I would like to share with you my experience after six months with our Foundation "Promoting Youth – Crossing Boundaries". Firstly, in our foundation, which is called in Tanzania YOUTH CROSSING BOUNDARIES FOUNDATION, we received the state registration as a non-governmental organization on 19 January 2022. We have three main officers: Coordinator is Alphonse Leonard, Secretary is Joanitha Kichemu, Treasurer is Magreth Mpupua. We also have different departments where our volunteers work together: Agness Burreta, Exaud, Miriam Joseph, Thobias Razaro, Michael Mgeni, Jane Didas, Ellisius.

Secondly, we have identified different programs to build a new community for the future. For each month we have a different focus. There are different ways in which we support them:

To date, we have 110 students that we give scholarships to; from primary school to university. In another part of our country Tanzania, where some are orphans or have single parents who are living in a difficult situation, and others who are HIV/AIDS positive. Then we put on various programs for our students.

In January we started to provide them with **school supplies** consisting of exercise books, pens, pencils and a compass. We also provide them with academic workshops. This is because in our country, those who study at a public school and come from poor families do not have the opportunity to attend a workshop at the beginning of the year. So, we want to make sure that every child has the same rights to get all the resources for their academic performance, which is why we provide them with these school supplies and the workshop. We also give the 110 students a daily allowance of 20 Euro a month as part of our scholarship.



We also have students who attend boarding schools outside Dar es Salaam for whom we provide school fees and school supplies. Our students are located in the Moshi region, Zanzibar, Morogoro, Mwanza, Mtwara, Iringa and other regions of Tanzania.

With the scholarship, we want to enable our children to have the right to education. Apart from that, I have experienced that many poor families cannot afford to provide health care for their children. This has prompted us as a team to introduce a health scholarship for 80 students. We believe that education without health coverage is difficult for students and they cannot fulfil their dreams.

In February, we set up a **Valentine's Day program** to provide loving support to children (youth) outside our city. So, we went to the coastal region of Kibiti, and met 294 students and 9 teachers. These have only three classrooms and in their school, they don't have access to fresh water, which means they don't even have a water system or a well in this school.

We were very shocked about this situation and it bothers us a lot as parents. So, we brought school supplies for the 294 students and also for the 9 teachers; apart from the fact that the motivation of the students to attend the school is very low because it is far from home and many of their families cannot afford to give pocket money to their children. As missionaries of God, we have agreed with the teachers to set up a **Porridge Scholarship** for these 294 pupils for one year at a cost of 150 Euros per month. With this, we want to encourage them and support them in fulfilling their dreams.

In March, we launched a **community project for women**, considering those women and girls who have a difficult life but would have ideas for income. We convened a women's summit where we offered different workshops (example: self-confidence building). We brought our female team members together with these women. Through this network, they try to support each other, form cooperatives, and find ways to improve their situation as women.



April was the Islamic fasting month of Ramadan. Since about half of our children come from Islamic families, we made a program with the leaders of the Islamic organizations. We discussed with each about the **position of our youth in education**, then about living together in our Manzese district. On the day of the project, together with the head of the local government, we cleaned the public hospital in our village and a school. An iftar meal, the breaking of the fast, was then held there. About 400 people took part in this program, of which about 200 were children. Such an action between Christians and Muslims together was a first. It helped to improve mutual understanding in this poorest part of Dar es Salaam.

In May, we launched a **school project**. We conducted a survey in four primary schools in our district and found that there is no "waste management system" (a place where students can collect all their waste). Similarly, there are no attractive school gardens for the children. So, we designed four dump sites for the waste in these schools. Then, in a big day of action with all the students and teachers, we cleaned the school yards, built rubbish rooms, created gardens. In the process, we taught the children how to keep their environment clean and safe. In addition, we reminded our local government that it is their responsibility to take care of our children as future citizens; and that it is the right of children to learn in a clean environment.

In June, we launched our latest community program so far, known as the **Building Community Project**, to mark the International Day for African Children on 16 June. In the first part of the project, we visited a kindergarten for disabled children. We built a playground, repaired the toilets and bought school supplies for the children. Then we had long talks with the parents. We wanted to encourage them that their children are images of God. Their children are beloved, they do not need to be hidden. Our society should learn to be considerate of children with special needs. That is why it is important that children with disabilities can come to school every day. As a foundation, we will organize a bus system so that these children can also be brought to school. It is equally important not to carry guilt within oneself. Many parents believe that they are sinful because the child is disabled.

From our office we will keep these disabled children close to encourage them and give them joy and confidence while they are in school.



As a second part of the project (Day for African Children), we will visit our National Museum on 18 June 2022 with 200 children to teach them about African history. On that day we will have lunch together and watch the film “Royal Tour” in which our outstanding President Hon. Samia Suluhu Hassan will present a documentary about tourism in which we will see our national parks, attractive places, Kilimanjaro and our beautiful island Zanzibar. In this way, the poor children shall be able to see something of our beautiful country Tanzania.

During these six months, we have conducted many programs and gained a lot of experience with young people with their challenges, potentials and dreams. We try our best to solve these challenges and give them hope and courage. So far, we have been able to support 450 children of our country in these six months.

Dear sponsors, dear helpers, through your donation, your money, your ideas and your prayers, we have been able to help these 450 young people. Even though you are far away from Africa, you have made a lot possible, thank you very much!

We would like to thank our founder, Father Martin, from the bottom of our hearts for his heart and passion. His unique heart and the way he loves our youth through his prayers, money and plan for the future of our foundation saves many children's lives. We all thank you, Fr. Martin!

In the same way, I would like to thank the Board of the Foundation: our "Mama" Waltraud and "Mama" Gisela, as we call them. Thank you for all you have done for us! May God bless you!

Then our thanks also go to you, our many friends in Vienna and Germany. You have taken a lot of trouble and visited us. Especially we think of the last group in November 2021: Reinhard, Joseph, Rebecca and Mjude! With joy I thank our father Joseph, the elder brother of our founder Martin. All your trust and togetherness gives great courage to our youth in Tanzania. Joseph is a holy name because he is the foster father of Jesus. He is the spiritual patron for our 450 children.



We also thank all our sponsors and friends! Thank you very much and may God bless you for everything you give and donate to us.

Last but not least, we would like to once again single out our youth friend Rebecca and thank her for visiting us and sharing ideas about our projects. For agreeing to be our ambassador in Europe to convince other young people to join together and support our young people in Tanzania.

Thank you so much for supporting us in giving these 450 young people a life of dignity and without hunger. With your ideas and your prayers, we will work to build a new society.

The story of Moses, which I read in Exodus 1-2, shows us how God uses all kinds of people to ensure the survival of the child. God cares that the children live and have everything they need to survive and thrive. Amen.

Your friend

Alphonse Leonard