

ILULA ORPHAN PROGRAM (IOP)



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Project NEWSLETTER - March 2016

Sollerud Kindergarten Tanzania and Young Mothers Empowerment Center (YMEC)

Dear Friends,

Ilula Orphan Porgram would like to convey greetings from all members who attended the official opening of Sollerud Kindergarten Tanzania and Young Mothers Empowerment Center. The members who attended were; the community of Ilula, IOP staffs, volunteers from various countries, Iringa region commissioner, District Commissioner and representatives from the government offices. Everyone was happy and wondered the appearance of the building which reflects the *new standard of living for the Tanzanian community*.

On the 3rd of March it was finally time for the official opening of Sollerud Kindergarten Tanzania and Young Mothers Empowerment Center. In this newsletter, you are welcome to read and share your opinion about Sollerud KT and Young Mothers Empowerment center.

Number of Kids at SKT

"Sollerud Kindergarten Tanzania is one of the best schools in Iringa region with good learning facilities, buildings and playing unit", this phrase was spoken by the regional education officer during the official opening. This is the very vital indicator for the brilliant and shining future for Ilula Orphan Program and the community members in Ilula, and of course all people who were waiting for a long time the, quality education. The school opened on 18TH of January 2016, with 27 kids. The number of children have been increasing every day, no matter the high season for agriculture where by people uses their money in the agricultural activities. Every person is looking for this opportunity. After the official opening,

there are now 60 children in the kindergarten. More kids are expected to come within this month, as they have requested for the joining instruction.

Officers attended the official opening for SKT



The photo above shows; The Norwegian ambassador, Hanne-Marie Kaarstad. She was there as our guest of honor to make the opening official. Other guests that attended were the Reginal Commissioner of Iringa, Member of Parliament, District Development Officer, Chairperson of Kilolo district, Division Officer, a representative from Y-Global, Osmund's family, Principal from Sollerud Kindergarten Norway, media and many others.



Children from Sollerud KT together with The Norwegian ambassador, Hanne-Marie Kaarstad and other people.

IOP New standard of living for the Tanzanian Community

Teaching

IOP Management has requested Berit M. Skaare to be the supervisor/principal of the school to provide leadership skills to, or coach teachers and implement the slogan: “*we learn from each other*”. Currently the school have four teachers and two helpers. Sollerud Kindergarten Tanzania uses Dr. Maria Montessori’s teaching methodology, which helps children to learn and adapt to the environment quickly. The school has diverse visual learning materials. Many locally-made materials are available for easy understanding. Children are taught in English, as it is medium of instruction and Kiswahili as a compulsory subject to teach. The school invites volunteers from different countries, to be part of this very essential process for making children learn.

Outdoor playing unit

Sollerud Kindergarten Tanzania has an outdoor playing unit which is modern to our environment. It is this uniqueness that makes children feel more comfortable to have a comfort place to play, when they for example have break time. Thanks to the supporters for this important arrangement and structure.

Official Opening day

On March 3rd 2016 It was a special day for IOP and Ilula. Many people were at Sollerud kindergarten, with full security lead by regional police commander. Children were wondering what all the people were during there. There were many volunteers from Europe and America, and also policemen with guns. The guest of honour was the Norwegian Ambassador of Tanzania, Hanne-Marie Kaarstad. Berit Skaare was the one who picked the Ambassador up, so you can imagine how difficult it was to drive with Tanzanian government protocol. Many of the invited guests were given time to give out a speech or a greeting from friends. The speeches were very encouraging and focused to the prosperity of IOP.

Fundraising event!

We also had another fundraising for the school bus, and this time we collected 22 million Tanzanian Shillings. So now we are very close to the goal of buying our own bus! We really appreciate all the contributions that has made this amazing project happen. Thank you so much, each and every one of you. A special thank you to the Osmund-group, together with Sollerud kindergarten Norway, Y-Global, Iringa Regional commissioner, Member of Parliament, District Development Officer, Chairperson of Kilolo district, volunteers from Europe and America, Ilula community and IOP staffs for making this possible

Young Mothers Empowerment Centre (YMEC)

"Am glad that I can have time to talk and share the experience with my fellow Young Mothers here at the Center" said Jackline, a young mother of 22 years old, with one child of 3 months. Young Mothers Empowerment center has been a way of motivating Young Mothers to take actions of their life. Recently, 13 young Mothers established a Micro finance group by using VICOBA (Village Community Bank). Through this modal, young mothers are able to save 1000 Tsh to share, and 500Tsh as a social fund for their own security. Apart from many challenges they are facing, distance has been a challenge for young women who wanted to join the center. Due to that challenge, the project considers recruiting young women who are located near the Center. Still some of young mothers are walking more than 4 Kilometer with their babies on their back each way. Due to this, IOP/Ilula YWCA has considered also using the school bus for the young mothers. The bus is now picking up the young mothers in time, so that when they arrive Sollerud, the children in the Kindergarten are ready to be driven home. When all the children have been driven, the bus comes back to Sollerud to drive the young mothers back home in the evening. IOP/Ilula YWCA hopes to provide this transport service for the whole period of the program as much as the funds will allow. Thanks to Y-Global, for the great support to the program.



Young Mothers coming at the center by bus



Young Mothers in a VICOBA meeting

We learn from each other!

Any suggestion on this newsletter may be directed to;

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