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Dear friends and colleagues,

We hope you are continuing well and staying safe. We are deeply grateful for your ongoing dedication to our community service work. Your commitment and hard work make our achievements possible.

We invite you to read our April issue to learn about the many activities, accomplishments, and updates from across the organization. Inside you will find stories of impact, upcoming events, volunteer highlights, and important notices.

Thank you for being part of our community and for continuing this journey with us. Together we make a difference.

## **IOP GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

On April 17, the IOP convened its annual general meeting, bringing together members, volunteers, development stakeholders, and government leaders from various levels to review the organization's achievements and set future priorities.

During the meeting there was discussing and approving narrative reports and financial reports for the past year. Participants delved into key topics, including the welfare of students supported by IOP's sponsor program and the organization's development trajectory in partnership with other stakeholders. These discussions underscored IOP's commitment to impactful, community-driven initiatives.



A highlight was the call to action for stakeholders, particularly those within IOP, to deepen their collaboration. Leaders emphasized aligning efforts with the organization's strategic plan for 2025-



2029, aiming for sustainable growth in infrastructure and enduring projects like farms, schools, and roads. "Continued cooperation will propel us toward lasting development," noted meeting organizers.

Also, during the meeting one volunteer (JOS) asked the government authorities not to burden IOP for at least five years so that IOP can accomplish their targets that have to be accomplished

within those five years. This include sending aid at the schools where the government will have to accomplish those tasks so that IOP focus on the sustainability plans.

At this year's general meeting, the highlight issue raised at the meeting was the issue of the road leading to schools where the Chairperson of Kilolo District Council took up this matter and promised that he would contact the Ilula Councilor so that the matter is taken to TARURA for road registration to be considered for renovation as it is among the most important roads that not only IOP benefits from but all members of Masukanzi village.

The meeting was important as the delegates and invited guests left with new ideas and a new perspective on community development.

## SPONSOR PROGRAM OFFICE

- The project attended 48 students who visited the office with different purposes like writing their personal updates to the sponsors, reporting during the short holiday, students who needed counseling and guidance, also those who requested payments for the school. Most of the students were the university students from different colleges and universities.





- Students' payments: 63 (34 female, 29male) students received payments on different things like tuition fees, hostel, fare, and other needs as per reporting period.
- 6 new sponsored students have been registered under the program after getting sponsors.
- The office made school visits to different schools to check on the student's status and progress at the schools. All the students are doing well at the schools and some of the students in the schools were provided with school supplies like stationaries, uniforms, and submission of fee receipts. The schools visited included;

## SCOUT CAMP

This month, various scout camps were conducted in different scout groups across Kilolo District. The activities carried out included the following:

Visiting several schools with the aim of teaching students about scouting rules and regulations, recruiting new scout members to continue growing the scout groups, and training scouts on how to start and develop projects so that their groups can generate income to support and manage group activities.



Holding a two-day scout camp in Ibumu Village, where more than 150 young people attended and learned about different issues regarding scouting, developing skills, discipline, patriotism, and self-reliance. Also, the camping was accompanied with community service where scouts visited different families living in difficult situations and provided them with food stuffs and cleaning supplies.

Conducting an online session in which scouts learned about safety in scouting activities and how to respond when dangers arise. They also learned about various scouting topics, including the founders of scouting, how to be a good scout, and how scouts are perceived in society.

## IOP CENTER UPDATE-APRIL 2026

During the month of April, IOP CENTER continued to provide care and support to children according to government laws and guidelines for child welfare and protection.

Currently, the center is caring for a total of 48 children, including 34 girls and 14 boys. We remain committed to creating a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment for all children.

Throughout the month, the children participated in different self-reliance and daily responsibility activities. These activities included:

- Watering vegetables in the garden,
- Washing dishes,
- Cleaning and maintaining the environment surrounding the home.
- Easter celebration that was on 6th April 2026 children celebrated it together with the UMC Members.

These activities help the children develop responsibility, teamwork, and life skills.

We were also happy to receive several visitors and friends who came to support and encourage the children. The guests (Volunteers) were from Netherlands and Germany.

They generously donated clothes, shoes, and footballs with a total value of 830,000 Tanzanian Shillings. Their support brought great joy to the children, and we sincerely appreciate their kindness and generosity.

We thank all friends and supporters of IOP CENTER for continuing to stand with us in caring for and supporting these children.

**CHEMISTRY LABORATORY CONTRUCTION CONTINUATION;** The construction of the chemistry laboratory at our school The Lord's Hill is ongoing, foundation was finished, walling up is also done. After the walls have been taken care of well the roofing sill start soon.



## **YOUNG SINGLE MOTHERS**

Apart from the weekly meetings for young mothers, several other activities were carried out at our Young Mothers' Center, including the following:

- A lesson on oral health and tooth protection was provided by the Smile Initiative Project. During this session, young mothers were taught how to care for their own mouths and those of their children, as well as how to recognize danger signs related to the mouth and teeth. A total of 33 mothers attended with their children.

- A lesson on safe childbirth and family planning was provided by our guest volunteers. The young mothers were taught different family planning methods and their benefits, to help protect themselves from unwanted pregnancies.
- A workshop was led by guest volunteers, during which the young mothers learned how to make bracelets using beads and other materials such as thread.
- The children were given various games and toys to play with while their mothers were in class, so that they would not disturb the learning sessions.
- Young mothers who were pregnant were visited in their homes and given various items, including birthing kits, sleeping mats, food, preparation clothes, and baby clothes. Three mothers were visited.
- The project was also visited by guests who brought food for the young mothers. The young mothers were served food stuffs.



## KID'S CORNER INDOOR PLAYGROUND CONSTRUCTION

Starting May 18th, construction kicked off on a state-of-the-art indoor children's play area, complete with engaging games designed just for young minds. This timely addition addresses a long-standing need at our school, where a proper play space has been missing—until now.

The play area promises to draw more children to school by making learning fun and irresistible. During breaks, students will dive into brain-stimulating games that sharpen skills while providing much-needed relaxation after classes. For those with parents facing tight schedules—often the last to leave—it's a safe, enriching spot to wait, fostering growth instead of idle time.

What sets this facility apart is its modern, indoor design. It shields kids from different areas during the intense sun and seasonal rains, ensuring playtime year-round. Plus, it doubles as a versatile meeting space for student-focused events, adding real value to school life.

We're deeply grateful to our dedicated volunteers (Ingrid, Hannah, Rakel, Frida and Erle) from Norway who fundraised money during



their stay at IOP for making this possible. With walls already rising, completion is on track for mid-



June. Once furnished and equipped, it'll be ready for students to enjoy, transforming breaks into opportunities for joy and development.

Stay tuned for the grand opening—our school's future just got a whole lot brighter!

### ***Challenge.***

We still struggling to get the school bus at our Kid's Corner Pre-school that will enable the children transportation. As many kids come from different areas around Ilula, some are from distant streets that use motorbikes and tricycles to report at school. This is not safe transport for the children as many are under five years of age, getting a small bus will be a safe way for the students reporting to and from school also will help attract many kids at our school.

Thank you once again for your unwavering support and leadership. We look forward to continued collaboration.

## **FINAL WORDS**

These works that you see have mostly been done by the volunteers coming to IOP who have played a very big role in fundraising and hand works at IOP that have helped reduce costs in running some of the organizational works that would have required IOP to hire many people to perform such tasks.

If you would like to be part of these big and unforgettable experience, kindly contact us through;

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