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INTRODUCTION

We continue to express our sincere gratitude for your loyal support of our monthly IOP newsletter. Your time, effort, and commitment mean a great deal to us, and we truly appreciate your dedication to walking with us on this journey.

This month, our organization has experienced many wonderful and memorable moments. We have carried out a variety of activities, including dynamic scouting programs, renovation and construction projects, the introduction of structured sports lessons, and a vibrant women's forum, among many others. We invite you to read this article and journey with us through these stories of hope, progress, and shared achievements.

KIDS' CORNER PRESCHOOL

This month at the school there were two major activities done at the school apart from scholastic work that included:

- Roofing of the playground at the school. As for this month, roofing of the playground building has been done so the internal finishing is waiting where we would need the plastering and painting. Also having the equipment to install for the kids to play.
- Toilet maintenance; during the reporting period of June, we reported that the toilet pit had sank, so new pit was constructed that has been related to the renovated toilets and the kids are using it already.



ILULA PEACEMAKERS VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTER (IPVTC)

The college had a wonderful month where different productive work was done at the college, these works have been very impactful at our college as it will ensure the betterment of our college. The following are the list of works accomplished already;

- Ten goats have been purchased for our college also, Grasses suitable for goat forage have been planted within the pasture are already showing growth. These grasses will regularly watered to ensure they thrive, particularly during the hot summer months when natural forage may become scarce. This



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proactive irrigation strategy will provide the goats with a reliable food source even during periods of high temperature and low rainfall.

- Harvesting crops; with the different plots that were cultivated the college managed to harvest 14 bags of maize and 3 bags of sunflower. These crops will be very crucial for food production for the students at the college.
- Cultivating tomatoes, green papers and other vegetables; the old garden where the vegetables have been harvested are already planted with the new vegetables.
- New registration of 3 new students (2 ICT Class and 1 Cosmetology class) these are short term students.

VOLUNTEERS AND CABIN

This month there were ten volunteers who visited the organization and performed different works including;

- Welcoming party and goodbye party; we welcomed 10 volunteers from the Netherlands (Youth group and one family) who have been at IOP for the different times during the month of July and performed different works. During the welcoming and goodbye party all the IOP staff and children participated in the event.



- Family visiting; the volunteers visited different families in Ilula where they learnt about the family's history also provided families with sleeping mattresses, hygiene items and food parcels to help the families. Apart from this, the volunteers had a day where they spent with

other families where they engaged in their daily routine and learnt different things like food preparation and house management. It was a wonderful day as they also played with the kids in the families.

- Painting works: the volunteers had painting works done at the orphanage where they painted the wall at the boy's wing and the girls' wing.

- Teaching and helping kids: they spend different days at Kid's Corner preschool where they assisted in teaching the kids also helping the kids with different issues like assisting at the playground, taking the kids to the washrooms and assisting them during breakfast.



- Working at Ilula Lutheran Hospital; One of the volunteers spent the day working at Ilula Lutheran Hospital as a nurse. At the hospital worked together with other local nurses in patients attending.
- Baby sitting the kids at IPVTC; on Tuesdays and Thursdays volunteers worked at IPVTC during the Young single mothers' programs where they were assisting with babysitting the kids so that the mothers would focus on the studies.

- Working at workshop; maintenance of chairs and tables at the IOP workshop, Building the new cowshed together with Erick, also sewing clothes with Osolina.

- Kitchen work; food preparation for the volunteers at the orphanage. They worked together with the cook.

- Helping kids with homework; after school hours the volunteers assisted the children at the orphanage with homework. It was a good time as during this time they had an opportunity to interact with the children.



- Market; during their visit at IOP, youth groups travelled with some clothes for sale to support the senior citizens. These clothes were arranged and sold to IOP staff.
- Training; The Stan family provided training to employees in communication and leadership and how to give feedback at work. This training was provided for some employees who were willing to attend. It was very good training as it allowed employees to reflect on how they have been communicating as leaders and how they have been giving feedback to various stakeholders. It also strengthened relationships between employees.

INTRODUCTION OF PRACTICAL SPORTS LESSONS AT LORDS' HILL AND SUNFLOWER SCHOOLS

After a long period of reflection and careful consideration of our students' long-term interests, the IOP leadership is proud to introduce a new subject at our school of sports which will include both theoretical and practical sessions, supported by our newly employed sports teacher.

This will open a wide field for our students as now they will balance traditional classroom learning with active, outdoor physical education.

The introduction of these sports sessions serves two main purposes which are firstly, the school will fully be complying with the requirements of the new national educational curriculum and secondly the school will be expanding our educational scope to identify, nurture, and develop young sports talents, preparing them to become the sports stars of tomorrow.



Also, our long-term goal as an organization if this program succeeds, is to register an official football academy for our schools under the **Tanzania Football Federation (TFF)**. This will provide a structured pathway for talent development and open an alternative career and job opportunities for our youth in the sports industry.

As the subject is newly introduced at our schools it will be implemented in two ways as follows:



- **At Lord's Hill:** Sports will be a formally registered subject under the new curriculum from next year and the students registered in form one class from next year will be part of their core subject in class. While introductory sessions have already begun in select classes.

- **At Sunflower:** Building upon the theoretical sports lessons already in place, students will now transition

into a comprehensive program combining both theory and practical field sessions.

The main sports that have been introduced firstly include; Netball, Volleyball, and Football. Though we have successfully launched this program using limited resources and generous initial donations from well-wishers. To ensure every student has equal access to quality training, we welcome all

stakeholders, sponsors, and wishers to support us with sports equipment, including balls, kits, cones, and nets, trainers and funds if possible so that we can put our playgrounds in a better environment, especially since they are still of a very low standard to allow children to learn professionally.

Your support will go a long way in shaping the future of our students. Thank you for your continued partnership and support.

FARMING PROJECT

In a year marked by steady effort and smart farming, a 64-hectare footprint delivered an impressive harvest of 880 sacks. This translates to roughly 13.75 sacks per hectare, a ratio that reflects both efficient planning and favorable growing conditions. The harvest not only fuels the project's commercial ambitions but also reinforces a core mission: growing enough food to nourish children in the community while sustaining viable crop income for ongoing programs.

What helped the season succeed:

- Careful land preparation and consistent spacings to maximize light, air, and soil health.
- Timely planting, good fertilizer application, and weed control to protect yields.

Looking ahead:

- Analyze the per-hectare yield in context with input costs to optimize profitability.
- Explore value-added opportunities (quality products, branding, micro-pack sizes) to strengthen demand.
- Plan for risk management, including weather contingencies and diversified cropping to stabilize annual outputs.
- Clear more land for agriculture to increase farming land for IOP to the areas that have not reached yet.

ILULA ORPHAN HOME

In July the children at Ilula Orphan Home participated in various activities after coming back from their homes after two weeks holiday break where they also brought 12 buckets of maize from their guardians for meals support for those who afforded to get it. These activities include;

- Soap making; Children produced 140 liters of liquid soap for cleaning, dishwashing, and handwashing.
- Birthday party; A joint birthday party was held for 6 children born in June and July (including Ockman Ngao, Neema Issa, Rayvany Konga, and Angelina). A total of 26 children and 2 caregivers celebrated with cake, pilau, meat, potatoes, salad, and beans.
- Small shop for the children; personal hygiene items auction (soap, toothpaste, lotion, etc.) raised 82,000/= Tsh. This small shop is usually done at the orphanage for the purpose of teaching children how to budget the money that they receive from the orphanage as pocket money. They learn how to track how they have spent it.
- Dinner at Highway café; A volunteer sponsored a children dinner at Highway Restaurant for 31 people (26 children, 3 caregivers, 1 matron, 1 sponsor) featuring chips, chicken, and soda.

- Health & Medical Updates: 5 children fell ill during the month and received hospital treatment.

Finally; children received different gifts from the volunteers who had visited the orphanage this month which included daily essentials like slippers and sanitary pads.

COMMUNITY EMPOERMENT PROJECT

Under community empowerment project there are various projects that will be reported including the **women forum, scouts, young single mothers, renovation of mama house and construction of the playground at IPVTC**

WOMEN FORUM

The session brought together local leaders, community members, and stakeholders to review the platform's achievements and address key social issues through targeted presentations.

The educational segment focused on three primary areas:

- Combating Gender-Based Violence (GBV): Facilitators emphasized the critical role of community forums in identifying, reporting, and preventing gender-based violence, urging residents to break the silence and protect vulnerable groups.
- Responsible Parenting and Child Upbringing: The discussion highlighted the mutual responsibilities of parents and children, stressing that strong family foundations and active parental guidance are essential for building a disciplined and safe society.
- Financial Literacy and Loan Management: Participants received vital education on accessing public and private credit facilities, managing loans responsibly, and utilizing funds effectively to boost small entrepreneurs and household income.



The event concluded with a renewed commitment from Ibumu residents to actively utilize the ward forum as a tool for community development, behavioral change, and economic empowerment.

TRAINING ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND GOVERNMENT OPPORTUNITIES TO YOUTH

The Ilula YWCA youth had an opportunity to get education on the opportunities provided by the government to small entrepreneurs especially on the small and medium entrepreneurs identification cards and loans that help to facilitate their growing businesses. This training was crucial as all the past young mothers; youth peace makers and the anti-drug club youth attended the training. The community development officers of Ilula and Uhambingeto wards provided the training.

YOUNG SINGLE MOTHERS

- NIDA: Young single mothers successfully obtained their national identification numbers (NIDA), which is a positive step toward getting their national ID cards. 30 young mothers successfully obtained NIDA cards.
- Program: We continued conducting training within the program, proceeding with education on child growth and upbringing, as well as psychology lessons.

SCOUT

Participation in the Sports competitions in Iringa; The scouts participated in the Secondary Schools Sports Union (UMISETA) which is held annually by bringing together students from



various schools in Tanzania. This year their activities were held in Iringa region within Iringa municipality. In these activities, scouts from Kilolo District under IOP had the opportunity to attend these games to carry out various administrative activities. During the activities they worked together with municipal authorities to ensure smooth daily operations. The activities were completed within one whole month. Total Participants: 5 Young Scouts (3 Male, 2 Female).

Operational Roles Performed included; Safety Supervision where they acted as crowd-control monitors during sports matches, coordinated official protocols and reception of regional leaders, Welcomed, guided, and directed visitors and spectators arriving and maintained perimeter watch and secured key event zones.

Scouts' participation in Uhuru Torch Race (Mwenge wa Uhuru);

In the Uhuru torch relay exercise held in Kilolo district, our scouts had the opportunity to participate in this exercise where they were in the management, security and reception unit. During the Uhuru torch camping they had the following tasks; Protocol Logistics where they managed the formal reception of high-profile government officials, assisted local law enforcement with crowd management during the night and provided structural security for the main gathering areas and overnight resting sites. Total Participants: 20 Young Scouts (12 Male, 8 Female)



Capacity Building Camp; this was done in Ibumu village where they learnt on Environmental Stewardship, Leadership Simulation, and Emergency Readiness. Total Participants: 48 Scouts (28 Male, 20 Female)



School Visits for the purpose of quality assurance were inspected and evaluated ongoing community projects run by local scout groups, mentorship & Training where they provided direct, structured leadership lessons to grassroots scout troop leaders also, taught foundational scouting principles to scout leaders to

build scout group leadership. 17 Scout Troops visited within Kilolo District

RENOVATION OF MAMA HOUSE

The Mama House (Malisa's house) is currently undergoing major renovations to enhance safety and meet modern living standards for our young mothers and their children. This vital project includes raising the building's walls, replacing the roof, and enlarging the windows to significantly improve natural light and ventilation throughout the home. These structural upgrades will transform the house into a safer, healthier, and more modern space that supports the well-being of the young single mothers and their children. We extend our deepest gratitude to our donors from IOP Germany, whose visionary support and generosity have made this transformative project possible.



CONSTRUCTION OF THE PLAYGROUND AT IPVTC

Construction of the playground at the IPVTC for young single mothers. This playground construction has been funded by the Liv Ulven foundation from Norway. The purpose of the playground is to create a safe space for the young single mothers' children during the program. As it was observed that when the young single mothers are in class sessions the children do not have rooms where they can spend their day, so having the playground will help the children have a place where they can grow and nurture their talents with their babysitters and their mothers focus on the studies and concentrate more on studying.



FINALLY

We warmly welcome all who wish to be part of this inspiring story in our organization. At IOP, you can volunteer in many meaningful ways: supporting and raising children, teaching young mothers, offering French lessons in our schools, or coaching sports such as football, volleyball, and netball. By joining us, you will not only touch lives today but also help shape a better tomorrow and make a lasting mark in history together with IOP.

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

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