



True Grasses Report 2015

Note from the Founders & Team Leaders

We want to thank all our amazing supporters who have helped us achieve in 2015! Those twelve months have seen True Grasses (TG) impact on more disadvantaged girls and young adult mothers across Tanzania than ever before. With funding limitations, we had to re think both our plans and our management. Anna Ruth is now in the Netherlands to be in closer contact with our supporters and we look forward to a new chapter of True Grasses with new confidence as we commit to our cause of empowering girls through education.

2015 Achievements

Official Registration

We were officially registered on the 28th of January 2015 as a certified Trust according to the laws governing the trustee Incorporation Act 200 of Tanzania with the certificate number 5054. This was a target that we set back in 2014 when we thought about starting the Trust and now we have! Having a registration certificate is a phenomenal achievement.

Kisarawe School Project

Building in Kisarawe is challenging as the place has no go roads, no electricity, no builders and worst of all no water. These are the challenges we face daily in our work as we build a school in Kisarawe. With limited funds, lack of infrastructure and lot of red tape from the government to get building permissions, we are getting the the first buildings built.

2015 made us to focus on sinking a water well to provide the much needed water to the school construction and the community as a whole. The water issue is temporarily fixed and we are focused on helping the villagers get Kisarawe School registered and on the map. Though this is not an easy task, we have the school office and equipment store constructed. And we have a team of local strong committed team of builders in place and we are hoping, by the end of 2016, our first 3 classrooms will be complete.



(Kisarawe school store building & Kisarawe water well drilling both at initial stages)



International volunteering projects

Our international volunteering possibilities saw great success with our visitor volunteer from the USA who was able to do a filming projects for Kisarawe and take pictures. Another visitor from the Netherlands did some volunteering for True Grasses while planting trees.

You can view Andrea’s work that she did for True Grasses at

- Education for my daughter-(check vimeo)
- Water for my daughter- <https://youtu.be/vMuWWgkCLOk>



(Andrea From USA-Film & Photograph & Jeanette from Netherlands planting trees)

Pearl Nursery School

After constant requests from the local church and the community villagers, we started a community Kindergarten school to help the children in the village attend school (rather than wait until they are seven years, when they are supposed to enrol for school; according to Tanzanian school law). Also this was so after discovering that families within the surrounding villages always walk long distances to find a nearest nursery school. By the end of the year the nursery had grown to hold over 15 children of nursery going age. Ms. Christine Kweka has been managing and developing our Nursery school. Now the community is fully behind the nursery and we hope 2016 will see child numbers swell and this calls for a playground in the school.



Pearl Nursery school kids with: 1 Anna Ruth and Jeanette, 2. Parents, teachers, TG staff and 3. Teachers (during Nursery school Last day of School-18.12.2015).

Pay-it-Forward Micro Credit project



The Micro Credit Project gives small interest free businesses in kind loans in form of pigs to the deprived, excluded and vulnerable people living in communities of extreme poverty to start micro business of farming to achieve wellness and self-sufficiency. For the last 12 months since we started, we have given out pigs and chickens to families. We have seen families become self-reliant and able to send their children using the pig that they received.



Trust Working Office

True Grasses Tanzania Trust was able to acquire an office in Shirimatunda where we rent an office building from the community church of the area called Matunda Christian Fellowship Church. We operate from this premise until the Trust is able to have its permanent structure. The office is located around 3 kilometers off Arusha road within Moshi Municipality. All the activities of the Trust are handled here all year around.

Development of our Tanzanian Team

It has also been a year of great development for our Tanzania team, which now has four full time members and four part-time members. With Simon and Anna Ruth Nambafu now based in the Netherlands for an extended period of time doing fundraising, we are pleased to announce True Grasses Tanzania new school project manager Mr. Mark Mwarabu. He comes with a broad and solid working experience in school management and leadership for more than 30 years. He has served as a school head for various government and private secondary schools and also is a consultant on various educational related programs for various organizations both internationally and locally. Mark will be based in Kisarawe to oversee the school building and registration and will provide support to Pastor Wilibard Mushema, who as of January 2016 will be True Grasses Tanzania coordinator.



(Mr. Mark Mwarabu- New School Project Manager & Rev. Wilibard Mushema- New True Grasses-Tanzania Coordinator)

Goals for 2016

In Tanzania

Our plans for 2016 are mainly going to focus on building the first three classrooms of the Kisarawe school, having it registered and on the map for the communities of Kisarawe as we empower communities through education.

In the Netherlands

In the Netherlands, we hope to expand our fundraising team further with the addition of two new roles of Fundraising Officer (working on Trusts and Foundations) and Volunteer Coordinator (to help with our Kisarawe school building project trips or help to run the summer projects in Tanzania). We are seeking Volunteers to help with getting our story heard. This is a flexible role and can be done part-time in hours to suit and from any location. Please contact Anna Ruth if you can help. This is an urgent need for us.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

We would just like to say thank you to you all for your continued belief and support. Let us join hands make education a basic human right to Tanzanian girls in the 21st century.

Get involved

If you wish to support us further then there are many different ways of getting involved
Join our Trustee Board: We are looking to add several more trustees to our NETHERLANDS board. Email info@truegrasses.org to find out more about becoming one of our trustees.

Become a regular giver

We are looking for more of our supporters to sign up to a monthly donation of as little as 5Euros. To sign up, www.truegrasses.org/donate

Please visit our website at <http://www.truegrasses.org>