

Dear friends, thanks to our generous supporters 2023 we were able to complete the first half of our school building, and purchase desks, basic books, basic supplies, and office equipment! <u>Now, we urgently need to finish our building due to government</u> <u>requirements!</u>

We have been blessed to raise sufficient funds to begin construction of the second half of the building consisting of three additional classrooms and a connecting courtyard, which will add about 5,000 square feet of space to the building.





Family of Africompassion students

New classroom with desks. New foundation under construction Completed first half of building. Primitive school used previously.

The local government allowed us to proceed with classes with only three classrooms, but they are now requiring us to finish the second half of the six-classroom school building as soon as possible. This will allow Africompassion to admit up to 120 more students (240 total).

We have also received an incredible opportunity to have up to \$10,000 of donations matched by the <u>doTERRA Healing Hands Foundation</u>. A generous sponsor has also agreed to match up to \$10,000 in donations!

Africompassion's CEO, Steve Whitehouse will be traveling to Tanzania in early March to coordinate the school programs and incorporate and integrate US teaching materials, such as Saxon Math, Hooked on Phonics, and Core Knowledge with the local curriculum to provide a dual language English-Swahili immersion education. He will also bring dental supplies, including toothbrushes, fluoride rinse, and toothpowder which will become part of the school's health program for the children.



The Africompassion School for Hope will allow these impoverished children to receive a quality education. Instead of a school with 120 students in one classroom, they will have 35 to 40 students in a single classroom and also have the benefit of high-quality, content-rich US educational materials to supplement the minimal, basic resources available to local schools.





Andrew is one of the children of the Africompassion School. He lives with two siblings and his mother, Helen, whose husband died from disease. Two of Andrew's siblings also died as children. He was born with a club foot and struggles to walk. Helen sells vegetables from her garden to earn money.



In mid-2022, thanks to our monthly sponsors, we were able to begin paying our two volunteer teachers and assistant, who had been volunteering without pay 6 hours a day, 5 days a week for two years, which was a hardship for them. We were also able to hire a security guard to monitor the construction site and added two more this year to provide 7 x 24 security of the facilities to protect from theft. This month, we have hired a college-trained, certified teacher, Ann, to lead instruction.



Top row: Steve with Josephine's family with at her home, Jerald (director) and his wife Anitha, Beatrice (teacher)

Bottom row: Josephine (teacher), Ann (head teacher)

Beatrice, Josephine, and Ezekiel are our teacher's aides. Grace is our cook, and John, Ajengi, and James are our security guards. They are each paid about \$75 per month depending on their role. Jerald Malamba is the school director who receives support for his travel expenses as he lives a six-hour drive away from the village and travels there two or three times per month for extended stays.

Josephine is one of the teachers at the school. Before the Africompassion School, she was helping her husband grow food to feed their family and working for other people, helping to tend their gardens. Unlike most of the villagers she has a high school education and was asked to help teach the children in the school. For two years she volunteered as a teacher walking 4 kilometers each direction each day to teach the children. Now, the school can pay her a small salary, which has changed the situation of her family and provided them with food stability.



Josephine's attitude about life has changed as she has seen the school being built and realized what that means for the future of the village children and her opportunity to help them get a better education.

We could not operate the school without our monthly sponsors, and we are grateful for their ongoing support!!

Africompassion Organization has been operating under its NGO government registration to operate a nursery school and has been providing education for 82 children. With the help of our supporters, we have been able to register the school with the government to begin operations as a Pre-primary and Primary School. (Nursery school, preschool, and Kindergarten and grades 1 through 7).

We have obtained permission to expand our program and begin as a Pre-Primary and Primary school this January and have hired a certified teacher to supervise our existing non-professional teachers. We are working on increasing our donor base to support hiring two more teachers besides our existing staff and will charge tuition for the small number of village families who can pay tuition.

Elijah is a young child who attends the Africompassion school. He comes from a very poor family with eleven children that struggles to have enough food to eat. As he has watched the new school being built and started attending school in the new building, his outlook on life has changed and he has changed from being a shy child into being happy and outgoing and is now optimistic about the future. His parents are hopeful about Elijah's future and the possibility that he may be able to get an education to help him have a future and escape poverty.

If you are not already, would you please <u>support us as a monthly sponsor</u> at \$20, \$30, \$60 or \$100 per month? This would help us to sustain the children's education by paying for teachers, food, and operational expenses. <u>We will triple your first month's donation through the doTERRA</u><u>Healing Hands fundraiser.</u>

Or would you please make a triple-matched donation today through our <u>doTERRA fundraiser</u>?





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School construction video: https://bit.ly/afco-school



Village water project video: <u>https://bit.ly/afco-water</u>

