



CORE Tanzania

2023 Annual Report



Making Lives Meaningful!

Who We Are



Mission

Access to high quality education in rural Tanzania



Motivating Principles

All children deserve a quality education

Quality education empowers children and communities

Healthy children can learn more effectively

Environmental awareness is crucial to our planet's future





Dear Friends,

Finishing the Phase 2 classroom building was an important 2023 milestone for Twegashe School. It finally feels like a real and complete school here with our first set of classrooms all occupied, the entire enclosed section of our cafeteria filled with children at lunchtime, and students looking sharp in their new school uniforms. And we are ready to welcome the upcoming 3rd & 4th grade students into the new building in January 2024.

But 2023 has also been a year of preparation for exciting new kinds of growth. In October we signed up a new class of kindergartners AND a

new class of preschoolers. Our hope is that two years of Montessori instruction in English starting at age four will give children the foundation they need to be successful. We also hired and trained four new teachers over the course of 2023 – all of them capable, compassionate and dedicated to their students' success. Early this year we had satellite internet installed at the school, creating a wealth of opportunities for improved teaching and learning. Finally, in 2023 we finalized plans with Lakeside School in Seattle for Twegashe to serve as a site for their Global Service Learning program beginning in June 2024. We anticipate that this will be a wonderful opportunity for our students to practice English, form friendships, and gain inspiration about the possibilities for their lives.

A Letter From Our President

In 2020, the year Twegashe School first opened its doors, Tanzania was reclassified from a “low income country” to a “lower middle income country” by the World Bank. This step had been a development goal of the government for years. You can see their interest in educating children for a new type of economy in the recently revised curriculum, which now includes an introduction to the use of computers beginning in grade three.

Preparing students to be successful in the modern world presents many challenges, even for children who grew up in that world. But here in the village it's an even bigger lift. Consider children like Alicia, looking at a photo of her sponsor's home on a typical U.S. suburban street. Alicia pointed to the street and asked, “Is this a river? Having never been out of the village and never seen a paved road, her question was not surprising. Beyond the handicap of isolation there are serious challenges that stem from the difficult situations many of these children face at home due to poverty, the low educational level of parents, and the erosion of traditional values and support systems.

Twegashe School is committed to continually growing and changing, so we can do the best job possible of helping students to work through these difficulties and make their lives meaningful – giving them basic academic and practical skills so they will have options to choose from when they graduate and also instilling in them a love of learning, expanding their horizons, and inspiring them to dream of a brighter future.

The work of constructing buildings is now nearly complete. From here on out, we can focus on building futures!

Thank you for joining us in this effort! Asante sana!

Michael Banobi
CORE Tanzania Board President

120 children

provided with
student-centered
education



100% solar

power used to operate
the school

100%

student retention
from 2022 to 2023

11 goats

and 5 rabbits in the school
livestock program

7 composting

biofil toilets and

6 girls' urinals

2023

By The
Numbers

20,160 cups

of porridge and
17,460 healthy lunches
served

12,480 hours

of employment
created for residents of
Bushasha Village



\$793K

raised for Phase 2
construction and operation
(10% over our goal)

100%

completion of five new
classrooms, library, and
administration
building



2,100 parent

volunteer hours in the
school garden

168 letters

exchanged between
students and sponsors

CORE Tanzania works with rural communities to provide a quality education option that will help those communities lift themselves out of poverty. Our first step is building and operating a new primary school, Twegashe School, in Bushasha village.

Our school program emphasizes community engagement, strong academics, and a focus on the whole child. Class sizes are small, and instruction is in English so students will be successful in secondary school.

Our goal is for every student who graduates from Twegashe Primary School to have the foundation they need to reach their full potential and make a positive contribution to their community.

How We Work





Twegashe School

Creating a path to a better future!

We opened Twegashe School in 2020 with 30 kindergarten students. In 2023, there were 120 students in grades K-3. Phase 1 of the school includes four classrooms, offices, a kitchen, cafeteria, latrines, water supply, housing for six teachers, and a solar

power system. This year we completed construction of the Phase 2 school building, which includes five more classrooms, a library, and an administration block. You can read more about this project on our Construction page!





Academics

Twegashe's school program reflects the conviction that all children can learn if provided with adequate support. Class sizes are limited to thirty students, and teachers and volunteers spend extra time with students who are struggling. Teachers use a wide range of teaching methods to engage students in learning and to promote critical and creative thinking.

Most kindergarteners arrive at Twegashe knowing only Kihaya, the language spoken in Bushasha. Our teachers use English for instruction from the beginning, while Kiswahili, the national language of Tanzania, is introduced in Grade 1. Our aim is to

provide children with a strong background in English that will help them to be successful in secondary school, where all instruction is in English. We also ensure competence in Kiswahili, which is vital for active participation as Tanzanian citizens.



Health and Agriculture



Twegashe works in partnership with the local clinic and with families to ensure that all students are healthy. In addition, we provide children with a nutritious breakfast and lunch

daily so that empty stomachs do not interfere with children's ability to learn. The school promotes public health through the curriculum and community events.



Our fruit and vegetable garden provides healthy foods for our students. Parents help to maintain the gardens. A parent donated several goats, and this initiated our livestock program. These agricultural projects provide hands-on learning for students and are helping the school move toward self-sufficiency.

Agricultural projects also allow us to promote positive farming practices in the local community. In 2023 we expanded our agricultural program to include a project raising rabbits.



Environment



Twegashe School is committed to environmental sustainability. The school building is powered by solar energy. Our “microflush biofil toilets” use only a cupful of water to flush. A worm-based composting system digests the waste, rapidly converting it to compost that can be safely used on the garden.

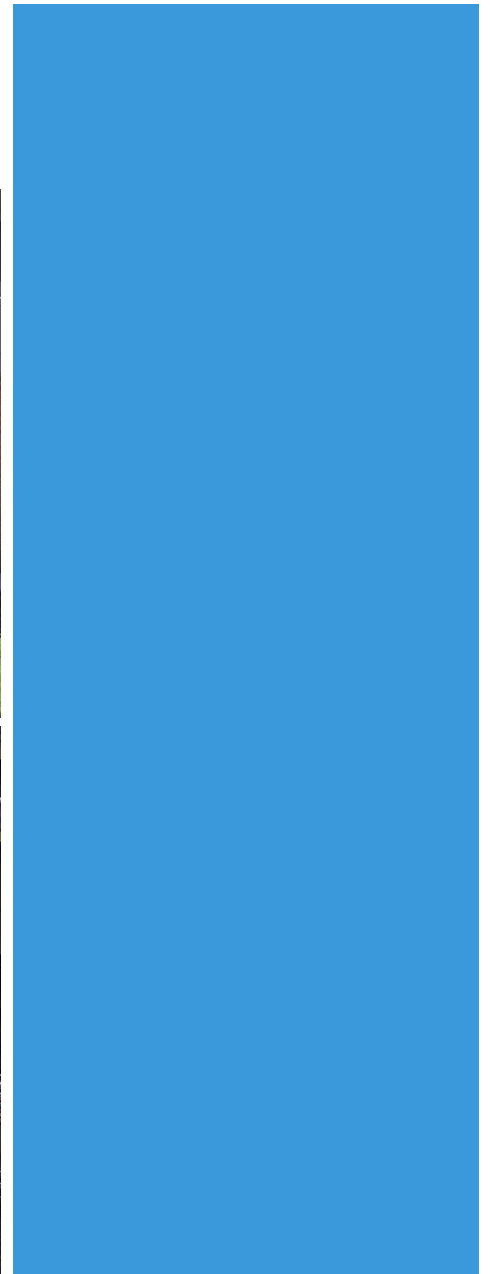
We are currently using propane as a healthier alternative to firewood. Our school layout has dedicated space near the kitchen for a biodigester. When our agriculture program has grown to include more livestock we’ll have the option to use biogas instead of propane for cooking. We also promote environmental sustainability through the curriculum and through programs aimed toward the wider community.

Community

Community is central at Twegashe School. The campus is located on a 45-acre site donated by Bushasha Village, and the motivation for a new primary school to use English as the language of instruction came from the community. All village children are eligible for admission. Twegashe parents are encouraged to be involved in their children’s education. Parents have demonstrated their support by volunteering and also by making financial donations.



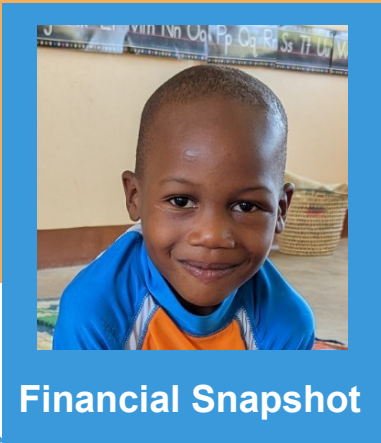
Construction



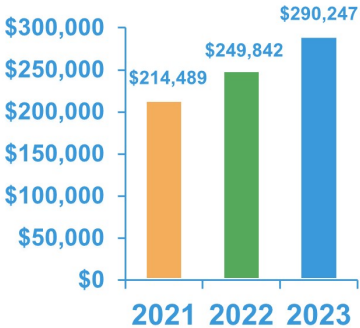
We began the Twegashe construction project in 2019 with a design created by architect Marc Oplinger and a team of other volunteers (see rendering in the first photo). That design has now been turned into reality with the completion of Phase 2 school construction in 2023. This construction added five more classrooms, a library, administrative offices, and additional teacher housing. The Phase 2 construction team trained with volunteer contractor Bill Suhr during Phase 1. We are delighted that the entire team is from the local area. Now that the new school building is complete, they are focused on finishing the final two teacher duplexes.



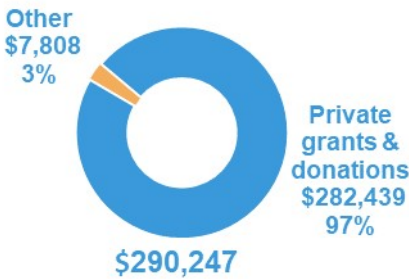
Financials



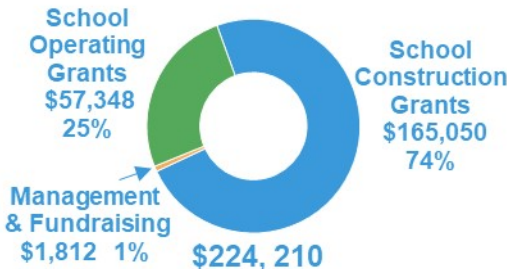
Annual Revenue



2023 Revenue



2023 Expenditures



We have a lot to celebrate!

Thank you CORE supporters! Together we raised \$793,000 for Phase 2 (preschool & grades 4-7 classrooms, library, administrative offices, and three years of operating costs). We exceeded our \$720,000 goal by 10%!



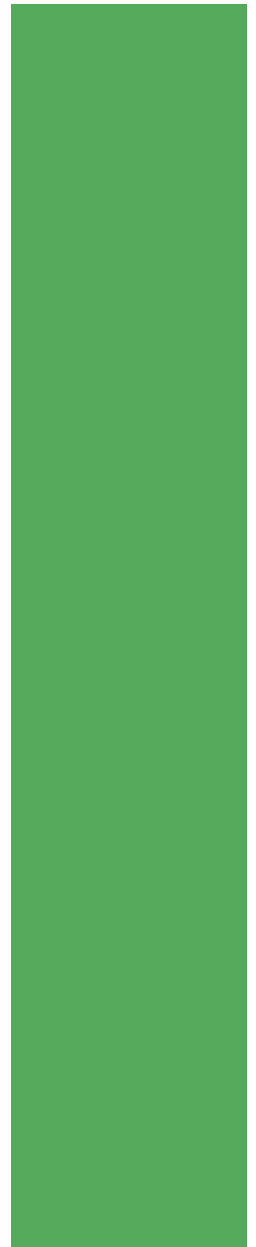
Twegashe School 2023 Parents Day celebration



Thank you



A heartfelt thank you to our volunteers and partners, the Twegashe staff, and our many wonderful donors, whose energy, commitment and generosity are making quality education possible for children in rural Tanzania.



CORE Tanzania
Creating Opportunity
through Rural Education

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