

Marafiki wapendwa

Ni matumaini yetu mnaendelea vizuri ninyi na familia zenu na wote mna afya njema.

Katika jarida hili, tutawapatia taarifa kuhusu mradi tulioanzaisha wiki chache zilizopita, inayohusu ugumu wa kupata elimu ya msingi kwa baadhi ya familia.

Hata hivyo unajua kwamba huwa tunaanza jarida letu kwa ushuhuda wa raia wetu anayejitoa kupambana na umaskilni. Leo Lusekelo Nelson Mwandemange ambaye ni mwanafunzi wa Dar es Salaam ametufafanulia jinsi gani yeye na rafiki zake alivyokataa kwamba baadhi ya wanafunzi wanalazimika kuaacha masomo yao kwasababu ya ukosefu wa ela.

Dear friends,

We hope everything is fine with you and your family and that you are all in good health.

In this Newsletter, we are going to give you some information about a project we launched a few weeks ago, concerning the difficult access to primary school, for some families.

However, you know that we always start our Newsletter with the testimony of a citizen who is committed in the fight against poverty. Today, Lusekelo Nelson Mwandemange, a student from Dar es Salaam, explains us how he refuses, with his friends, that some students have to stop their studies because of a lack of money.

Kuhamasisha marafiki zako inawezekana...

Katika maisha hatuwezi kuepuka tofauti, na binadamu kwa asilia tumeumbwa tofauti lakini nia ya sisi kuumbwa tofauti kwa rangi zetu, maumbile na akili zetu sio kuleta tofauti kwenye haki. Kimsingi tunapaswa kupata haki sawa. Haki ya kuishi, kula, kusoma, kufurahia maisha na kupata vyote ambavyo vimeumbwa kwa ajili ya mwanadamu.

Pamoja na hayo, Duniani tunaishi pamoja na wenzetu ambao wanaishi katika ufukara, hawajapata nafasi ya kusoma, hawana uhakika wa kula na kunywa, hawajui walale wapi na hawajui hatima ya maisha yao. Hawana jibu la lini utakuwa mwisho wa matatizo yao na hawana matumaini.

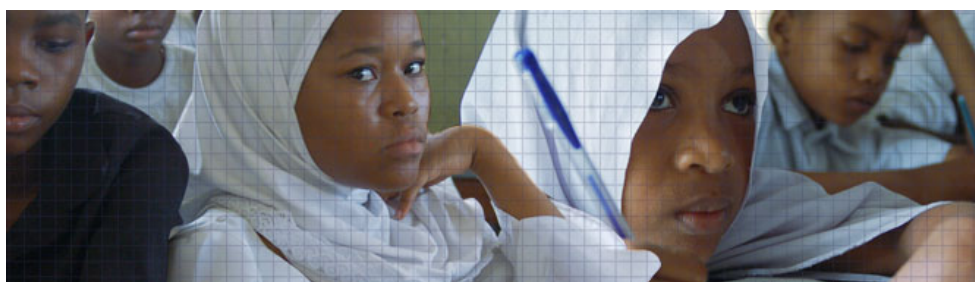
Mara zote ninapoona watu wengine wakiteseka moyo wangu unakosa amani na naumia sana

To mobilise your friends is possible...

In life we cannot escape differences and we are naturally born differently, in terms of colour, shape and mindset, but what I believe is that the intention of us being created differently did not mean difference in access to rights. Basically we all have equal rights : rights to live, eat, receive an education, enjoy life and rights to all necessities of life.

Despite our differences we live on earth together with our fellow men, some who are extremely poor : who do not go to school, who do not know what to eat and drink, who have no home and who have lost hope, not knowing the destiny of their life.

Personally whenever I think of those who are in trouble and who are deprived of their rights, my heart is in pain and loses peace because I know



The photographs in this newsletter are from HakiElimu website.



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kwa sababu najua ni jukumu langu kuwasaidia lakini nitawezaje kuwasaidia wote?

Baada ya kujiuliza swali hili kwa muda mrefu nilifikiria kuanzisha shirika la kusomesha wanafunzi yatima na wasio jiweza tangu mwaka 2005 nilipo kuwa shule (Jitegemee ...high School) shirika tukaliita Tanzania Students Aid for Orphans (TASAO) ambapo kazi yetu kubwa ni kuhamasisha wanafunzi kusaidia wenzao yatima ili kuwalipia ada na mahitaji muhimu ya shule, kwa kuwa elimu ndio silaha pekee itakayoweza kuwatoa rafiki zetu kwenye umaskini na ujinga.

Kupitia TASAO tuna fundisha wanafunzi juu ya ubinadamu kujua kuwa kusaidia sio lazima mtu awe na akiba ya fedha nyingi bali kujitoa kwa kuelewa kuwa ni wajibu wa kila mtu kuwasaidia wengine, na tumefanikiwa kugeuza mawazo ya walio wengi juu ya swala hili na tunaendelea kuelimisha wengine.

I am responsible for their problems even if I am not the cause of their problems, and I always think of how I could support them.

Having asked myself that question, I thought about forming a student organisation through which orphans and vulnerable students would get support. I founded Tanzania Students AID for Orphans (TASAO) whose main activity is mobilising students to support orphans and vulnerable students, helping them pay their annual fees and other academic materials, because we know that education can rescue them from the circumstances they are facing.

Through TASAO we educate students, teaching them a humanitarian spirit, so that they recognise that you don't necessarily need a big amount of money in order to help others, but that helping others is a responsibility bestowed on us by nature. We thank God we have succeeded in convincing a majority of students to accept supporting their fellow students ; and we still continue.



Sio rahisi kila mtu kupata elimu ya shule ya msingi.

Wengi wa watoto ambao hawaendi shule wanatoka katika familia zenye na zinazoishi katika hali ngumu. Hata hivyo shule kwa Tanzania ni muhimu kinadharia na ni bure. Hivyo kwa sababu zipi hawa watoto hawaendi au wanaacha shule? Si tunadai kuwa na jibu kwa swali hili wala kuwa na uwezo wa kulijibu mapema. Tuwe watu wa wastani. Tunaweza kufanya nini, kuleta mchango wetu mdogo katika hatua iliyochukuliwa na nchi inalenga katika kutatua tatizo.

It's not easy for everybody to access primary school.

We know of the important efforts made in Tanzania to reach a quality education and the spectacular progress achieved. However, as anywhere else, even in the wealthy countries, sending all the children without any exception to school, is a challenge. And nobody can be satisfied with this situation. What does the future hold in store for these children who don't go to school or who leave school before reaching standard 7 ?

Tunajua umuhimu wa juhudi zilizofanywa na Tanzania kufika katika elimu bora na maendeleo ya kustaabisha yaliyopatikana. Hata hivyo kama mahali pengine na hata katika nchi za kitajiri, ni changamoto kuwapeleka watoto wote shule bila kuacha wengine. Na hamna mtu anayeweza kuridhika na hali hii: Nini yatakuwa maisha ya baadaye ya hawa watoto ambao hawaendi shule au ambao wanaacha shule kabla ya kufika darasa la saba?

Tunajaribu kufanya nini?

Tunajaribu kuandika simulizi za kimsingi kwenye ushuhuda wa wazazi, jamaa na wakati mwingine watoto, katika familia zinazokabiliwa na ugumu wa kupata elimu ya msingi.

Haya masimulizi yataonyesha juhudi, mafanikio, ugumu na kushindwa kuwafanya watoto waende shule.

Kwanini tunafanya hivyo?

Maisha ya kila siku ya watu maskini yanakuwa ni ya mashaka, majanga yasiyotegemewa, ajari... Wakati mtoto asipoenda shule, mara chache tatizo ni moja tu: kwa ujumla kuna sababu na matatizo tofauti ambayo yanafuatana na yanayoimarishana... Kama tukitaka kujaza jedwari kukagua masanduku, tutapata baadhi ya takwimu zinavutia, lakini hatutaelewa kwa vizuri uhalisi wa maisha ya watu maskini.

Most of the children not attending school come from disadvantaged families living in very hard conditions. Primary education in Tanzania is, however, in theory compulsory and free. So, what are the reasons these children don't go or stop going to school? We do not claim to have the answer to this question, nor are we able to answer it soon. Let's be modest. What we can do, is to bring our small contribution to the effort of the country aimed at solving this problem.

What are we trying to do ?

We are trying to write stories, based on the testimonies of the parents, relatives and sometimes children in families who face difficulties in accessing primary schooling. These stories will tell of the efforts, successes, difficulties and failures encountered in sending their children to primary school.

Why are we doing that ?

The daily life of the very poor people is made up of insecurities, unexpected events, accidents... When a child doesn't go to school, there is seldom only one reason - there are generally different reasons and difficulties that follow and reinforce one another... If we want to fill a table, checking off boxes, we will get some interesting statistics, but we will not better understand the reality of life of the poorest people.



Jinsi gani tunaweza kufanya hivyo?

Tunaenda kukutana na watu ambao tayari mara nyingi tunawajua kwa miaka mingi na ambao tumeshajenga nao urafiki wa uaminifu. Tutachukua muda kuwaeleza nini tunataka kufanya: kutambua kwa pamoja matatizo na vikwazo ambavyo vinazuia watoto kwenda shule kwa kawaida. Pia kutafuta kwa pamoja

How are we going to do that ?

We are going to meet people we know many years already and with whom we have built a trust relationship. We are going to take time explaining what we want to do: to identify with them the difficulties and the obstacles that prevent their child going to school regularly. To explore together with them the avenues they



wao watu ambao wanawaunga mkono (jirani, mwalimu, ndugu....) Tutawaambia kuwa lengo letu sio kutatua hali ya mtu binafsi lakini kujifunza kwa pamoja na kufanya kazi kwa manufaa ya familia zote ambazo zinakabiliwa na hali hiyo. Kisha tutawasikiliza wao, lakini tutawahoji ili kupata taarifa ambayo ni sahihi inavyowezekana. Kwa jumla hatuwahukumu.

Kisha?

Hii kazi inachangia kujenga maarifa kuhusu maisha ya maskini na kufanya sauti zao zisikike. Sisi, katika kazi yetu ya chini, vilevile na waamuzi na taasisi za kitaifa na kimataifa tunahitaji kuelewa zaidi uhalisi wa maisha na mateso ya watu walio katika umaskini uliokithiri. Pia tunahitaji kuelewa wanachofanya siku baada ya siku kwa ajili ya kupinga na kujenga maisha mazuri ya baadaye ya watoto wao.

tried, - what succeeded, what failed. To also find out who supported them (a neighbour, a teacher, a relative...). We are going to tell them that our aim is not to solve an individual situation, but to learn together for the sake of all the families who face the same situation. Then we are going to listen to them, but also question them to obtain information which is as precise as possible. Most of all, we will not judge them.

And then ?

This work contributes to build knowledge about the life of the poorest and to make their voices heard. We, in our grass root work, as well as the decision makers and institutions at national or international level, need to understand better the reality of the life and the suffering of the people in extreme poverty. We also need to understand what they do day after day in order to resist and build a better future for their children.

Tunatumaini mradi huu unawahamasisha kama unavyotuhamasisha sisi. Na tunatumaini mnashauku kushirikiki. Kama ukitaka kujibu au kututumia masimulizi unayoyafahamu au kusoma masimulizi tutakayoandika pamoja na familia tunazozifahamu na zinazokabiliana na matatizo hayahaya, usisite kuwasiliana na sisi.

Tunatumaini kupata habari kutoka kwenu hivi karibuni.

*Wenu timu ya ATD Dunia ya Nne
Dar es Salaam*

We hope to have some news from you soon.

We hope that this project enthusiasts you as much as us ! And that you are eager to participate. If you want to react, or send us stories you know, or read the stories we will write with the families we know and who face the same problems, don't hesitate to contact us.

*Your ATD Fourth World Team
in Dar es Salaam*