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Dear friends, Brenda and I, along with all the Board members of the Kibbuse Foundation and Friends of Kibbuse, extend our heartfelt thanks for your continued support and generosity with this report of a deeply challenging, but surprisingly productive year. Your investments continue to reap good fruit in rural Uganda!

We are sending this with Christmas blessings from our cozy "snowed-in" Grand Rapids condo! May you all find warmth, joy and family comforts as you share this always special Holy Day, the day our Lord and Savior, our Redeemer and King, burst into this dark world as the brightest baby ever born!



Dec. 2022 Newsletter



LOOKING BACK at 2022

This has been a year of persevering through trials, both here and in Uganda. Rev. James's catastrophic accident, post-Covid supply chain and travel issues, the Mubende Ebola outbreak and lockdown, and sudden loss of staff members, all have provided formidable obstacles to Clinic and Vocational Center operations. Regardless, the work has gone on. The school had only a slightly reduced enrollment and has sent two groups of students to national exams, in July and November. The Civil Engineer and Contractor have been



Immunization Day at the Good Samaritan

re-engaged (post Covid) and will commence construction of the Boy's Dormitory (rendering above) early in 2023, and plans for new Faculty housing are in the works (see "Looking Forward" below). The Clinic has seen a steady rise in clientele and (aside from salaries) is seeing enough income from fees and drugs sales to cover normal operations.

Both the Clinic and the school have kept us up to date with timely reports. The November report for the Good Samaritan Clinic patient flow, though less than October, when the Clinic staff went on the road to immunize children and infants, still showed near three hundred people were served. If you are interested in more detail about the GSC and its services *please click [here](#)*

THE NYAMARWA KIBBUSE VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTER

KVTC has also had a surprisingly good year, as we reported in the July and November Newsletters. What we didn't publish at that time were testimonies prepared by Communications Director Robert Asiimwe, one by a student and one by Anatolious Mukisa, one of the school's longest serving faculty members. The student, Derrick Niima, is unusual in that he comes from far distant eastern Uganda to Nyamarwa, because at KVTC he can afford the tuition and still get quality training. Anatolious Mukisa is unusual because of his long tenure. He has served the school for nearly 15 years, first as a line teacher of Motor Vehicle Mechanics, until his considerable mathematics expertise and leadership abilities were recognized by Brenda Schuyler while she and her husband were still living and working at the school. She recommended him to KVTC Principal Mugume for promotion, and he was made Head of the Motor Vehicle Mechanic program, a position he has filled with distinction for nearly ten years now. He has turned down opportunities for higher salary at bigger schools to stay and serve in his home community. We delight to honor him. A long-serving pastor at Madison Square Church in Grand Rapids once challenged his congregation to hang in with the long haul through difficulties, citing special rewards when people 'commit to a long obedience in the same direction. Anatolious has clearly demonstrated this. To read their stories click on their name below:

- [Derrick Niima](#)
- [Anatolious Mukisa](#)

LOOKING BACK to 2014 - WHY FRIENDS OF KIBBUSE PERSEVERES

Friends of Kibbuse is an unusual Non-profit organization. It is a "small" ministry supported and funded by people primarily from West Michigan and it funds and supports the work of a "small" local ministry in Western Uganda, the Kibbuse Foundation, serving Nyamarwa Sub-county in the Kibaale District, one of the most impoverished districts in the country, with our major and continuing commitment to assure timely payment of salaries to all Kibbuse employees.

From its inception, FOK has defined its efforts narrowly, though with a willingness to grow as God leads us. We support the two primary outreaches of the Kibbuse Foundation, each of which serves a significant sector of an impoverished community: young people seeking marketable vocational skills at the Kibbuse Vocational Training Center and, at the Good Samaritan Clinic, serving farmers and villagers in a remote area of the sub-county which has no other medical provider.

The work of the Kibbuse Foundation (founded in 1996) has significantly impacted the Nyamarwa Subcounty communities over the past 26 years, and especially since FOK came on board in 2014, helping provide competent professionals to serve and lead these two critical ministries. Both the Clinic and the Vocational Center have seen slow but steady advances, both in facility development and quality of services. Friends of Kibbuse has, like Anatolious Mukisa, committed to a long obedience in the same direction.

Nevertheless, people often ask us questions like, “Why are KVTC and the GSC not yet self-supporting? Aren’t you just creating a dependency? What is your exit plan?” For our *condensed* answers to these questions, *click* [Here](#)

LOOKING FORWARD - 2023 PLANS AND HOPES!

First and foremost, our hope is that Rev. James Adyeri will soon be completely healed and cleared to drive and work again. Please pray for God’s grace, favor and healing as he presses on with physical therapy and treatments for his eyes.

Secondly, the Kibbuse Board has initiated preliminaries to the construction of the Boy’s Dormitory for KVTC! The funds are at hand, the Engineer has been retained and Bills of Quantities (estimates) are in process. Our hope is that construction will begin in late January or early February.

Thirdly, we are seeking funds (and have a good start, but NEED MORE!) for transformation of the currently unfinished and unused two-story edifice on the hill overlooking the KVTC campus into a finished residential hall providing private quarters for at least eight and possibly ten KVTC faculty members. Presently all staff and faculty who do not have a residence of their own in the village are housed in rented quarters, which are not only substandard and uncomfortable, but becoming too expensive for the school to afford. This has been a chronic problem for years and has led to operations deficits and disgruntled faculty and staff members from time to time. Having a staff residence with adequate sanitary facilities, concrete floors, glazed windows, lockable doors, electric connections and finished plaster walls will revolutionize life for our dedicated faculty.



Help us transform this shell of a house into a safe and comfortable faculty residence!

2023 TEAM TRIP!!!



This was our 2020 Team. Wouldn't you like to be a part of His-story in Uganda this coming June? Invest ten days that will change your

As stated above, we are currently seeking funds (\$35-40,000) to do the hill house construction. Part of this will come from folks who wish to join our 2023 TEAM TO NYAMARWA this coming June. We hope at least 16 participants (2020’s team had 21 members!) and will need at least 8 to ten who are comfortable in the construction trades, the most important being electrical, plumbing, metal frame window and wood frame door installations (on masonry), painting and floor concrete pouring and finishing. We also hope to have some folks with agricultural interest and experience (we already have a bovine expert, Tom Sterk, coming to continue work he began in 2020), folks with medical experience and interest, one or two who are computer savvy - and ANYONE who just loves working with kids; we always do a partnership with a local primary school run by a Kibbuse board member.

The cost of the journey will depend a lot on air fares when they are booked, but taking into account inflation there in Uganda, and a generous contribution toward the team projects, it is likely that

life and the lives of many others!

each participant will need to find somewhere between \$2,200 and \$2,500.

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INTERESTED? Contact Nate Kamps at nate78kamps@yahoo.com or 1-616-437-4256 for more specific information or to register for the trip.

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