

The Kibbuse Vocational Technical Center has accomplished a lot of good with very few resources for a long time. The KVTC students have managed to score at the top of National exams despite having poor housing, teachers who don't have the proper certification and lack of space and equipment. Updated and more rigorous government standards for rural schools now threaten closing KVTC unless major changes and improvements are made - and quickly.

It is time to aggressively step up our assistance to this important vocational center, the only one in the Kibaale District. KVTC has the slogans "Job makers, not job seekers" and "Never give up!" It has been successful in its mission to equip its students. Many have opened auto repair garages, small retail outlets, tailoring shops and other businesses. Now the school needs a sizable boost to continue their good work. They are not giving up and neither are we!



The Hill House, KVTC Proposed Staff Residences

Thanks to you, our generous donors, we are ready to begin.

Our first step is to verify land deeds documentation for parts of the property for new construction. Once that is done, we are financially ready to okay their starting construction of the boys dormitory you've read about in previous updates, an essential for government approval.

Our second goal is to encourage and enable the interior refurbishing and exterior completion of the "Hill House" (*see photo*) for staff housing. Many of the teachers live in distant towns and commuting is not a reasonable option. For years, KVTC has rented rooms for them from various local landowners but due to inflation the rents have skyrocketed 30%! We estimate the cost of this project will exceed \$35,000. If any of you are teachers, retired or still working, think of what it would mean to have a decent private room with adequate sanitary facilities and good lighting if the alternative would be the spare room in a mud-floored village cottage with no electricity and only a remote outhouse. If that triggers some sympathy for our Ugandan partners in education, please give generously to our KVTC Building Fund!

Inflation in Uganda has also nearly doubled the cost of food for the students and staff. The students are fed *posho* three times a day, and beans are added for the lunch and dinner meals. *Posho* is maize, or corn meal, added to boiling water and whisked. Breakfast *posho* is a thin liquid that can be drunk; lunch and dinner *posho* is much denser and can be cut into slabs with the edge of a dish, then covered with a bean sauce. One of the hopes of the school is to acquire more land to grow vegetables to add to the student's diet.



Posho

Despite these challenges, the most recent communication we received from KVTC ended with Psalm 100:1-5 "Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! Know that the Lord, He is God! It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people and the sheep of His pasture. Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise! Give thanks to Him; bless His name! For the Lord is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations."

Their love and trust in the Lord fires our faith, and we hope, yours as well. We at Friends of Kibbuse are also blessed when we read notes from you faithful supporters of this work. You can always get in touch with us via our website FriendsofKibbuse.org, or shoot an email to me, Amy Pollock, at amypollock65@gmail.com or Communications Director Bob Schuyler at bnbschuyler@gmail.com. If you have a question about the work, we will personally reply to you.

Contact Us:

Email: Info@friendsofkibbuse.org

Postal: Friends of Kibbuse, PO Box 592, Jenison, MI 49429

Website: www.friendsofkibbuse.org