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Message from Chairperson: Rosemary Sheffer



YAWE Social Enterprise Centre was established in October of 2023. Our mission is to improve the standard of life in communities through healthcare, education, and sustainable socio-economic development. YAWE Social Enterprise Centre, will sponsor education for students and educators, specialty workshops, skills training, scholarship programs, healthcare education and training, and other educational and healthcare opportunities to support development. Additionally, the organization will support solar installation projects in communities, to provide sustainable electricity and technological devices, including, but not limited to, solar refrigeration, smart phones, and computers to improve communication and connectivity, and enable healthcare technology.

In our short time that we have been a nonprofit, we have already made an impact in the lives of vulnerable youth living in impoverished regions with very little access to education and electricity. We are already starting to see the positive ripple effect from of our efforts including solar installation and educational support move through the Katoke region, in Uganda touching the lives of many and strengthening the community. I want to personally thank all our supporters, donors, board members and Ugandan's that are donating their time and skills to install the solar systems and educate the youth as part of this common mission to improve the standard of life in a sustainable way through education, socio-economic development, and healthcare education.

Solar Installations:



We completed two separate and complete solar systems in two short months of being an organization. Each system consists of two 100-watt panels, a battery, converter, and 6 lights. Four lights illuminate the interior of the home, and two lights are exterior for security. The system is also designed with power outlets to charge a cell phone, and power a television or computer to enable outside communication. This system pictured, was installed in Katoke, an isolated rural community in the Rwenzori

mountains, Uganda. A satellite dish, smart phone and 52-inch television was also installed in this

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home which serves as the community's gathering place as well as the home of the Bira family who have five children but also care for additional orphans from the community. This installation was done by local Ugandans from Solar Grandma Project, an organization that is training youths to install and maintain solar systems providing valuable hands-on experience and training on this process.



Vocational skills and market expansion with friend organization YAWE Foundation, Uganda:

YAWE foundation, a friend organization was founded 20 years ago in Fort Portal Uganda. Their mission is to create improved standard of living among the community through sustainable socio-economic development where unity and solidarity amongst communities allow the advancement to improve livelihoods. YAWE foundation is training vulnerable youth and youth living with HIV job skills like tailoring and screen-printing. Students receive a certificate after completion of their training but have limited established avenues to use those skills to help generate income for themselves and the YAWE foundation. One of our goals working with YAWE foundation is to establish more market avenues, local and international, for the goods their students produce in the tailoring shop and the newly created screen-printing department. YAWE Social Enterprise sponsored a screen-printing class by providing a screen-printing instructor, materials, and donated Mac Book Pro computer so four students from YAWE foundation could learn to operate the screen printer to produce branded items for schools and make souvenirs and crafts that will be sold to help support the YAWE foundation. In 2024, we plan to help YAWE set up relationships with various stores, restaurants, tourist attractions and hotels that are willing to sell the crafts and souvenirs produced by YAWE graduate students and increase visibility of YAWE foundation within Fort Portal to better serve the community.

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Sewing / Pattern making Class with Rosemary Sheffer:



December of 2023 our Chairperson Rosemary taught a sewing and pattern making class in the tailoring department of the YAWE foundation. Here she taught 6 graduate students how to make an equestrian rail shirt. This was the first time the students had been presented with a sewing project using a European pattern and electric JUKI serger which was also donated to the YAWE foundation for future use. Two shirts were completed and sold in the USA and all proceeds were donated back to YAWE foundation. The students gained new skills with how to sew and adjust a paper pattern and use new equipment to obtain a professional quality finish. The promotion of this class and shirt on social media prompted the ordering of an additional custom rail shirt to be made by the graduating students and currently has raised \$900 in donations for YAWE Foundation and a possible market avenue for the tailoring department.

Direct Education Sponsorship:

YAWE Social Enterprise Centre has connected three USA sponsors with three vulnerable youths in our direct education sponsorship program. These youths were chosen because they are vulnerable youth or orphans that have missed an extended period of school due to lack of financial resources and have no other means to gain enough resources on their own to attend school. Our sponsors are supporting these students by paying their school fees, tutoring, and school extracurricular activities. Our organization follows the progress of the students through report cards and interviews with the students and their educators. The students write periodic letters to the sponsors to share their story in their own words how the gift of education is impacting their lives. Ruth and Godwin are thriving in school and have shown immense improvement with both their grades and confidence and are now both excelling inside and outside the classroom. Levi has just been added to the program and will be attending school first term in 2024. Levi is a 9-year-old boy with a single mom that sells pancakes roadside to try and make ends meet. Despite his mother's best efforts, he has missed two years of school but is a

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bright and promising prospective student. Godwin is an orphan; his father was a soldier for the Ugandan army and his mother died during his birth. His grandmother washed clothes to support them but couldn't earn enough to keep Godwin in school. Ruth's father is a subsistence farmer in the Rwenzori mountains who supports nine children, four of his own and five village orphans, her mother is missing.







Ruth age 12

Godwin age 13

Levi age 9

Community Outreach: Katoke

Katoke is a subsistence farming community in the Rwenzori mountains with many vulnerable youths that need necessities like clothing, mosquito nets and mattresses. YAWE Social Enterprise Centre was able to purchase and distribute many bags of secondhand, quality clothes. We were also able to distribute three mattresses, multiple mosquito nets and 2 cases of Ugandan made Rose brand all-natural lemon grass mosquito repellant to help protect the children from mosquitos that carry malaria. To address the lack of economic diversity in Katoke community we purchased a bee keeping suit, smoker and locally made bee hives to enable safe bee keeping and begin the production of honey. The community members told us this equipment would be very valuable for the community because the bees will help with pollination, and the honey they produce will be sold to provide another economic income stream to the community.



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Community Outreach: Book Donation

YAWE Social Enterprise Centre has received hundreds of books of all reading levels from our donors in the USA. On our recent visit to Uganda in December 2023 we took 150 pounds of these books and created location in which the books can be borrowed for free by any community member. Once the books are returned additional books can be borrowed. Two local youths are managing the book collection by recording who borrows them and keeping track of the books as they get returned, maintaining availability for future children to read. We plan on expanding the book collection as more books are donated.



Summary Table of Donations and Charitable Activities:

Activity	Items	Impact
Solar installation: Biira	2x 100-watt solar panels, 1	Created a community
Household	battery, 1 converter, 6 lights,	gathering place, giving access
	2 power outlets, 52-inch	to communication to entire
	television, 1 smart phone,	community and access to
	satellite dish	electricity and internet.
Solar installation: Venerand	2x 100-watt solar panels, 1	Provided electricity to a
	battery, 1 converter, 6 lights,	community member that
	2 power outlets	hosts boarded students during
		school breaks and provides
		tutoring during school
		holidays.

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YAWE Foundation: Screen Printing Class	Mac book pro computer, sponsored screen-printing training class, provided screens, ink, fabric	Trained four YAWE students to design logos and operate the screen-printing press which will be used create crafts to sell to support graduates and foundation.
YAWE Foundation: Sew/ pattern class with Rosemary Sheffer	Juki Serger, patterns, fabrics, scissors, notions, 2 sewing tables (made by YAWE welding department)	Provided materials for incoming 6 student tailoring vocational class. Serger will be used by many to produce crafts to sell to support graduates and foundation. 2 rail shirts were created and sold in the USA raising over \$900 for foundation and lead to an additional order.
Direct Education Sponsorship	3 students school fees, tutoring, school necessities (uniforms) and extracurricular activities covered.	Providing education to 3 vulnerable youth that would have no access to education without donor support.
Community Outreach: Katoke	3 large bags of secondhand clothes, 4 pairs shoes, bee keeping equipment, 2 cases of Rose mosquito spray, 3 mosquito nets, 3 mattresses	Malaria prevention and clothes donated throughout the whole community. Over 50 children received articles of clothing. Mattresses shared by multiple children. Bee keeping equipment will provide sustainable income to the community and help with pollination of plants.
Book Donation/ shared book program	150 pounds of books in all reading levels	Hundreds of books were donated to community, maintained in a central location in Fort Portal where anyone can check them out and return them once read.

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