

Dear Donor,

We are so grateful for the support and generosity of our wonderful donors. Because of charitable donors like you, Building Blocks in Africa was able to adapt to the changing needs of the communities we partner with and continue towards our goal of building self-sustaining schools and brighter futures for the students and communities we serve. 2022 was full of challenges all around which made the successful projects that much sweeter.

Porter's School in Ghana

The school opened in 2019 and now has almost 300 children enrolled! We are actively working on making improvements around the school to accommodate the growing number of students. The Grade



4 classroom was completed and we are working on financial planning with Papa, the local Project Manager and School Director, to expand through Grade 6.

Papa started a project to build an outdoor kitchen to protect the kitchen workers from the sun and rain. He provided half of the funds and your donations helped to complete the project.

As the school has grown, it became clear the bus was much too small to meet the needs. A gracious donor advanced the money so we could have time to work on our bus donation campaign. Papa was able to use these funds along with the profits from selling the old bus to purchase a school bus to start the 2023 school year off right come January! Smaller projects are always in the works when it comes to the school. Your donations also helped to provide new desks, chairs and tables as well as improve security with locking window shutters, security lights and safety railings.

We visited in October and were able to attend a PTA meeting. We were amazed by how many parents came and participated. It was a packed house! They were all so grateful for our donors and everything that you have done to improve their community. The work that Papa has done to help his village and the sacrifices he makes to ensure the school is successful was incredible to see. We are so grateful to have the opportunity to help him in his efforts to give the kids in his village a brighter future.



Mama Yaa's Home for Children

Big news of 2022 - we officially completed Mama Yaa's home for children! The home is beautiful and the family and children appreciate everything you have done to give them a home. They have a kitchen, living and dining room, 3 bathrooms and 4 very large bedrooms with a whole lot of bunk beds. The kids have plenty of space out front for playing some seriously competitive soccer after school. The large covered porch is heaven on a hot sunny day and even more delightful during the rainy days.

Jane has become a call point for the local social workers when a child needs placement until family can be located. So in addition to the 26 kids they took in when Mama Yaa passed away, they have touched the lives of many more children who have stayed with them even if just for a short while.



In early 2023 we plan to gift the family with a washing machine after seeing Jane and the girls do laundry by hand for 17 people! The older kids are off at boarding schools, but when everyone is home for vacations they have a full house for sure.

Jane's Bakery

This year we worked with Jane on expanding the bakery to meet the financial needs of the home. Jane realized the smaller villages in the area did not have a baker so she found women in those villages willing to sell her bread. Her wholesale business has become very profitable. Jane has seen the value and is reaping the rewards of strict financial tracking. She was initially hesitant to increase prices when costs went up, but once she saw how her profits changed depending on price and costs, you could see the business woman emerge.



The economy and inflation have been extremely challenging but Jane is a force when it comes to her bakery. We are hopeful that things will slowly begin to improve as Ghana leadership works to stabilize their economy.

As costs increased and transportation became more expensive, Jane asked us to consider assisting with the purchase of a motorized tricycle to deliver the bread to the villages. We had a donor provide the funds to empower Jane as a business woman and now we are helping to pay for lessons for Jane to get her license and learn how to drive the tricycle!



Bakery plans for 2023 are to look at moving the bakery to the home for convenience so Jane can more easily take care of the kids, home and bakery. The goal for the bakery is to provide for all financial needs of the home as well as education funds for the children.

Spring of Hope in Kenya - Community Garden

The community garden is thriving. They have been through several successful harvest seasons and Noel, our local Project Manager and future School Director, is a natural farmer and business woman. The seeds that were planted in the fall of 2021 provided enough capsicum that Noel was able to use the profits to buy seeds, pay the labor to plant the zucchini harvest and help purchase a motorcycle to transport the produce to the local market. The capsicum harvest proved so successful that when the zucchini was harvested, the local supermarket purchased the majority of produce. In all, they harvested 20 tons (44K pounds) of organic produce! The profits provided the funds to pay for the grounds keeper to live on site and care for the garden, purchase seeds for the next harvest and add to their savings.



Noel planted trees of all varieties earlier in the year and determined which trees work best in the garden. In October, we helped to plant over 100 more trees - fruit trees as well as trees that will be windbreakers for the school grounds. Once the school opens, the produce from the harvests and trees will help provide food for the students and opportunities for them to learn how to grow their own food. The trees surround the school property and proved to be difficult to water by hand. Your donations helped Noel add water lines to water the trees.

The bees we helped purchase last year are very active. The first harvest did not provide honey, which is to be expected with new hives. With the fruit trees and vegetable harvest, Noel anticipates the bees having plenty of work to do and she is hopeful the next honey harvest will be fruitful.



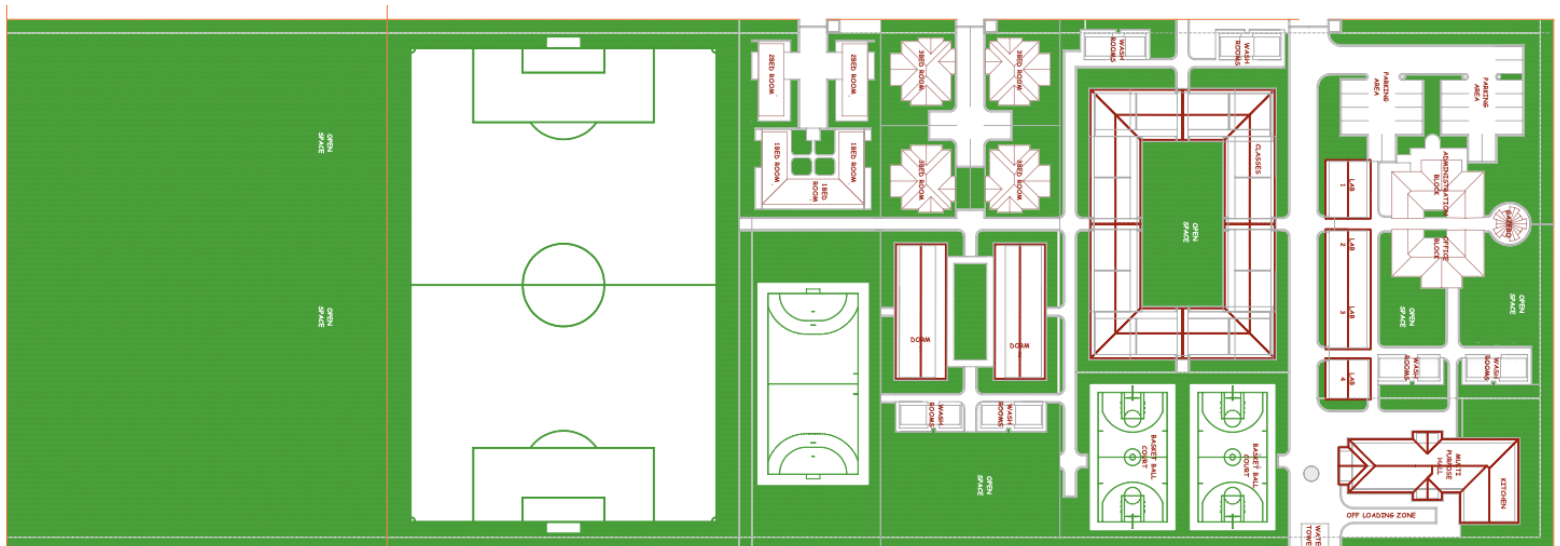
Community Outreach



Unfortunately Kenya's dry season has become a significant drought. The drought affected water and food sources, leaving the community the school will serve in a dire situation. Noel reached out to tell us she would help by providing drinking water from the school water tower and asked if we would be willing to donate to a food drive. We had donors jump at the chance to help and were able to provide \$2,000 to purchase food for over 200 families. Thank you to everyone who helped with this community outreach project. The relationship Noel is building with this community is strengthening the ties with our future school.

Spring of Hope School for Girls

The secondary school for girls is in the works with the goal of opening doors to students in January 2024! Noel has been working hard to get the blueprints just right and was able to submit the plans for government approval in November. Once the government gives the green light, she has 6 months to begin building. The plans for 2023 are to build the first classroom block, administrative block and teacher's living quarters. The school will begin as a day school and once all building is complete, will be a boarding school. The school is a beacon of hope for young ladies in the Maasai community. We look forward to sharing more updates on the school throughout the year.

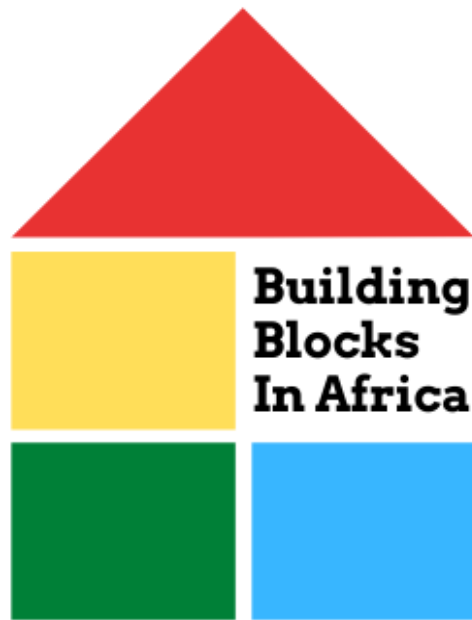


As we go into the new year, we thank you for everything you helped us accomplish in 2022. The impact you have made will last for generations to come. We look forward to everything we will do together to make 2023 the best year yet! We wish you the happiest New Year.

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors

Building Blocks in Africa



Our Mission

Building Blocks in Africa was founded with the dream of making a difference in the world and helping to break the poverty cycle by providing the opportunity for education in remote areas of Africa.

We partner with locals who desire to bring education to their communities. Working together, we build self-sustaining schools and opportunities for brighter futures.

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

~Nelson Mandela~