

# PROGRAMS THE OLIVE BRANCH





# Our Mission

*The Olive Branch for Children ("TOBFC") helps remote communities in Tanzania assess their primary needs and establishes programs that target the most vulnerable in those communities.*

We focus on HIV/AIDS prevention and care, community health care, early childhood education, older adult care, maternal and child health, support and care for people living with disabilities, food security, financial security, water security, sanitation and hygiene, infrastructure development, environmental issues, gender equality, and vulnerable children and women.

The goal is to establish community-led programs which empower remote communities and generate models that can be replicated in communities throughout Tanzania and elsewhere.

Every year, over

**80,000**

individuals are positively impacted  
by our programs operating in over

**40**

different communities.

TOBFC is a not-for-profit corporation incorporated in Ontario, Canada. TOBFC is a registered NGO in Tanzania. While most of our fundraising occurs in Canada, our operations are conducted in the Mbeya Region of Tanzania. Our offices in Tanzania, Kubuni Centre and Collaborative and Zion Home are located in Uyole, Mbeya. Our community outreach programs operate in over 40 communities in the Mbarali District of Tanzania.

All but two of our staff are Tanzanians and generally they come from the communities in which we work. We constantly receive feedback from our beneficiaries, village leaders and the government to ensure that our programs align with the needs of our communities and Tanzania.

# The Region

## ***Usangu Flats***

*As a country, Tanzania has low education indicators. According to the latest Health and Demographic Survey, 1 in 3 children complete primary school and only 7-8 % of primary students' complete secondary school.<sup>1</sup>*



*In the Mbeya Region, only 36.6 % of students' complete primary education and 42 % of the lowest wealth quintile of population have no education at all.<sup>2</sup>*

These low education rates for the populations in our catchment area, translates into high rates of early childhood marriage and teenage pregnancy. For example, 52% of women with no education begin childbearing between the ages of 15-19; this is compared to 10% among women with secondary or higher education.<sup>3</sup> Mbarali has a population of 300, 517; 154, 650 of which are women.<sup>4</sup>

*The Mbarali District has one private hospital (Chimara Regional Hospital), one Public Health Centre (Untengule Health Centre) and 43 dispensaries (30 public and 13 non-public).<sup>1</sup>*

To access health services communities must travel far distances, which is inaccessible due to the opportunity cost of being away from work, cost of transportation, unpredictable terrain/weather and the cost of services once reached.



The furthest communities in our catchment area must travel one hour by motorcycle to the nearest health dispensary, and another hour to reach a larger health clinic. Due to the cost and time traveling our beneficiaries usually opt out of the healthcare system all together.

#### **History of the Usangu Flats**

The available documented history of the Sangu indicate that historically there were three kindred groups; the Mgawa (who settled in Mllamba and lived in the north of Ruaha), Mhami (Settled in the area of Madundasi and Utengule) and Mswaya (settled in the West of Sangu).<sup>4</sup>

These various groups, spread across the Usangu Plains, the catchment area of The Olive Branch for Children, and were ruled by one royal line of Chiefs, the Merere, since the foundation of the Sangu Royal line.<sup>3</sup> Utengule is documented as the location where the line of Chiefs has ruled Usangu in the Chief's palace, until Tanzania was granted independence in 1961.<sup>3</sup>

The house is described as a "two story white building in the center of the village, the only structure of its kind in the area"<sup>3</sup> (pg. 4). The chiefs house was completed in 1896.<sup>4</sup> Because the palace was built in phases, it was a long process that captures the complex history of the Usangu. The house was started to be built in 1870s, based on Arab designs.

By 1971, there stood the initial one-story structure, by 1896 the two story structure was completed.<sup>3</sup> In 1950s, the Chief Alfeo (the current chief's father) had added a small structure. The furthest communities in our catchment area must travel one hour by motorcycle to the nearest health dispensary, and another hour to reach a larger health clinic.

Due to the cost and time traveling our beneficiaries usually opt out of the healthcare system all together. By 1988, the house became inhabitable. Alfeo lived in this house until his death, therefore he is the first chief who cannot live there because of its condition.<sup>3</sup>



The land where this house is specific to the culture of the Sangu. It is believed that the first chief put a protective shield on this land to protect the chief and those buried on the property.<sup>4</sup> It has been stressed by Chief Merere, and community members, that the chiefs duties cannot be moved to any other piece of land or structure.<sup>4</sup>

In Sangu culture, the palace is where they were able to store all the historical artifacts, it's an official meeting palace for the Sangu Elder Committee and the burial place for all Chiefs and any traditional believer.<sup>4</sup>

This is the single building that captures the above kindred groups and their history, and is believed to be the last chance to preserve the Sangu Culture.<sup>4</sup> Chief Merere has emphasized that within Utengule, the standing Palace is a symbol of Sangu culture and emboldens a sense of cultural preservation in the communities.<sup>4</sup>

If the Palace is to degrade to a state beyond the scope of conservation efforts, the Chief believes the younger generations will have no motivation to preserve and participate in traditions.

*TOBFC is currently looking into efforts to restore the Chiefs Palace and preserve the Usangu culture.*

#### **References:**

- [1] United Republic of Tanzania (2016) Demographic Health Survey and Malaria Indicator Survey 2015/16. Dar es Salaam: Minister of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children.
- [2] United Republic of Tanzania (2012) Population and Housing Censuses. Dar es Salaam: National Bureau of Statistics, Ministry of Finance.
- [3] Walsh, M. (1983) Merere The Arab: Legitimacy Upside-down and Inside-out. Department of Social Anthropology, University of Cambridge.
- [4] Chief Merere (2018) "History of the Sangu" Interviewed by: The Olive Branch for Children

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH CARE

- Zion Home
- Peace Home
- Montessori Kindergartens
- Montessori Academy
- Academic Scholarships

## KUBUNI CENTRE AND COLLABORATIVE

- KUBUNI Centre
- KUBUNI Sports
  - Kubuni Sports
  - Kubuni Cup

- KUBUNI Arts & Craft
  - Kubuni Music
  - Maisha Carpentry
  - Maisha Artisans
  - Maisha Boutique

- KUBUNI Innovation
  - Kubuni Camp
  - Faulu sasa
  - The Okoa Project



# TOBFC

The Olive Branch For Children



## TOBFC PROGRAMS

*What you see is a complete overview of all our programs, that belong to the Olive Branch in Tanzania. Click on one of them and get further informations.*

## HEALTH CARE

- Mobile Medical Clinic

## COMMUNITY CARE

- Complete Community Care
- Water is life
- KICKIT mobile libraries
- TOBFC constructions

## CLIMATE CARE

- Reforestation + Revitalization
- TOBFC better fuel

## FINANCIAL AUTONOMY

- Community Cooperative Banks
- Social Funds



CHILDREN AND YOUTH CARE

# CHILDREN AND YOUTH CARE

ZION HOME  
PEACE HOME  
ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

MONTESSORI  
OUTREACH PROGRAM



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# ZION HOME PEACE HOME ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

*The Zion and Peace homes house more than **80 children and youths**.*

*The Zion Home is situated in the village of Uyole, Mbeya, and Peace Home is located in Mswiswi, Mbarali.*

The homes provide comprehensive care, education, nutritious food, a safe living environment, enriched extracurricular programming, and connections to valuable resources and opportunities.



In addition, TOBFC commits to full sponsorship of each youth's education. Montessori and primary level education are provided directly at the Zion Home through the Olive Branch Montessori Academy. Students are supported through to the secondary school, community college, technical college and/or university levels of education.

Our children are accomplished and hard-working students, supportive brothers and sisters, and incredible young leaders in their communities. Through our village outreach programs and Tanzanian Social Welfare, more children are constantly being placed with us. The reasons why children are placed with our homes vary.

**However, the most common are:**

- *Girls who are in danger of being sold into early-childhood marriage*
- *Children with unfit or deceased parents, with no surviving family, prepared to look after them*
- *Children achieving high academic standards who are unable to access the education they deserve*
- *Children with long-term health needs including HIV, heart conditions, hearing impairment, et al.*

# ZION HOME PEACE HOME ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

By providing children with a safe, loving environment, we are helping them reach their potential. TOBFC is committed to ensuring the children and youths in our care receive the educational opportunities that will allow them to pursue their academic goals.

Moreover, we believe it is vital to prepare the children and youths at the Zion and Peace Homes for successful professional careers. School fees, university fees, technical college fees, school transport, uniforms, stationery and text-books are the biggest and most important annual expenses for TOBFC.

Securing regular funding for the education of our children and youth will not only help the most vulnerable gain a formidable voice within their communities, Tanzania and abroad, but will work towards closing the income gap between rural and urban populations.

## What makes our homes different?

- *We invest in high quality education*
- *We provide our youth with internship opportunities and connections to the businesses in Mbeya for future employment opportunities*
- *We ensure our youth, as able, engage in post-secondary and/or technical college training*
- *We prioritize nurturing the relationships of our youth with their surviving family*
- *All youth in our care volunteer with TOBFC in their own communities*
- *All essential staff of our homes are Tanzanian*
- *None of the operating costs of our homes are predicated on "voluntourism".*

This ensures the sustainability of our projects and minimizes the exploitation of children in our care. TOBFC also supports 30 more children who live with their surviving families, enabling them to access education and better nutrition. We offer leadership camps, family trips, after-school tutoring, sports programs and camps, gender equality mentorship programs to the children and youth within our care. The Zion and Peace Homes nurture future leaders.

School fees, university fees, technical college fees, school transport, uniforms, stationery and text- books are the biggest and most important annual expenses for TOBFC. Securing regular funding for the education of our children and youths, will not only help the most vulnerable gain a formidable voice within their communities, Tanzania and abroad, but will work towards closing the income gap between rural and urban populations.

## The total projected school fee costs per year for TOBFC:

YEAR	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<b>TOTAL SCHOOL FEES</b>	\$ 38,800	\$ 46,400	\$ 45,400	\$ 68,200	\$ 64,600	\$ 66,200	\$ 75,400

# MONTESSORI OUTREACH PROGRAM

## MONTESSORI KINDERGARTENS

TOBFC has established over 30 Montessori Kindergartens, with over 2,000 students enrolled annually. On average, there are 65 students per class, 50 % of whom are female.



Our program merges the Tanzanian curriculum with the Montessori pedagogy, using Swahili as the teaching language. We provide our schools with new materials for their Casa Classrooms regularly. In addition, TOBFC implements health initiatives for children registered in the schools including handwashing, de-worming and anti-fungal campaigns.

Montessori Pedagogy is based on the work of Dr. Maria Montessori. Her educational theories were formed through her extensive observation of children and how they learn best. She prepared activities that help every child in their development.

According to Montessori, children who work in a carefully prepared environment are more concentrated and have better self-control. Didactic tools, named 'materials' are designed and implemented in the classroom to help the development of the mind, concentration, coordination, independence, socialization and sense of order of the child.

Montessori pedagogy is child-based and 'scientific'. It deconstructs educational barriers, helping children become independent, confident and academically capable. The materials are made from easily and readily available items, supporting the application of the pedagogy in resource-poor settings.



# MONTESSORI OUTREACH PROGRAM

Our Montessori Program is unique as it partners with each community, in order to foster community investment and support, ensuring the program's success. In order to have a school built in their respective community, leaders must approach TOBFC and request the Montessori program. The community must provide an initial structure and/or land where TOBFC can build.

The community is responsible for putting together a school committee and presenting a potential teacher candidate to TOBFC. The candidate joins our Montessori Professional Development Program on a 6-month probationary period. The teacher is employed by the community.

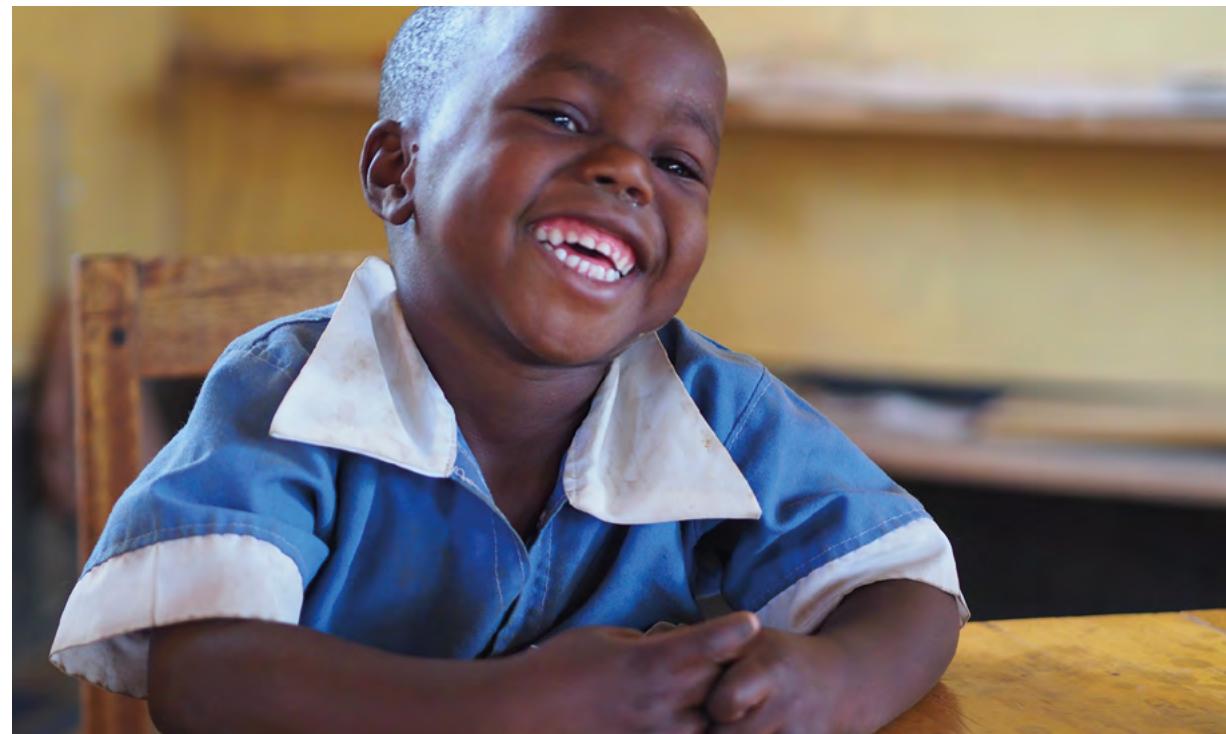
TOBFC asks that the community contributes to the building of the school, such as fetching water for mixing cement, providing food and housing for construction workers and loading and offloading construction material transport trucks.

TOBFC covers all other costs associated with the school, including the rest of the teacher's salary, furniture and learning materials for their classrooms.

To ensure the quality of education, our Montessori teachers receive ongoing training, including an annual, 15-day, intensive, course hosted by TOBFC. In 2017, two of our staff began the AMI Montessori Diploma Program in Dar-es-Salaam on full scholarships provided by the Arthur Waser Foundation.

TOBFC cooperates with local and district governments to bring quality, early-childhood education to rural communities.

TOBFC has established 30 Montessori Kindergartens (each a "*Casa Classroom*") and has completed the construction of 17 Montessori school buildings, for children who otherwise would have no "*formal*" education.



# MONTESSORI OUTREACH PROGRAM

## MONTESSORI ACADEMY

In 2018, TOBFC founded our Montessori Academy in Uyole. It provides top quality, early childhood, and primary level education for children and youths at TOBFC.

The school combines Montessori-style learning for children, with project-based learning for youths, providing them with the best possible academic foundations for the future.



The school has four classrooms. The Casa classroom, the lower primary classroom, the upper primary classroom and the transition year classroom. In addition, it has a beautiful library, staff room, resource centre, an extensive garden and playground, performance space, dining space and some farm animals for interactive learning.



We have a maximum capacity of 25 students, maintaining a 4:1 ratio in each class. In addition, the school taps into local talent to work with the students, including running weekly dance workshops.





KUBUNI CENTRE AND COLLABORATIVE

# KUBUNI CENTRE AND COLLABORATIVE

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# KUBUNI CENTRE AND COLLABORATIVE

*Kubuni - "to create" in Kiswahili serves as a platform to support local capacity building, innovation and knowledge-sharing with the aims of creating equal opportunities for Tanzanians.*



- **Capacity Building:**

*We define capacity building as the process of developing and strengthening skills Tanzanians need to thrive in today's world. We do so by providing training, workshops, and support with the end goal of students being able to complete tasks independently.*

- **Innovation:**

*We define innovation as being original and creative thinking. The Kubuni Centre provides the space and materials for designers, tradespeople, artisans, and entrepreneurs to experiment, create and make mistakes in their product and business designs. We believe the best products are made through doing and re-doing!*

- **Knowledge Sharing:**

*We define knowledge sharing as the transfer of valuable skills, methods and information through international, national, and local relationships and networks to everyone involved in our projects. We believe that the best way to learn is to share experiences, not to copy off of blackboards!*

**The Kubuni Centre is our creative hub.** Focused on community empowerment, the Kubuni Centre, provides the skills, resources and physical space for Tanzanians to actualize their innovative ideas.

**The Kubuni Collaborative brings together various skilled personnel** (mentors from Canada, USA, Ireland, Germany and other countries) to create knowledge sharing opportunities with Tanzanians in the Mbeya Region. Our international mentors approach their mentor/mentee relationships, as a chance for Tanzanians to hone their skills and implement their new ideas with a significant amount of support throughout the development process. Both the mentor and mentee have valuable knowledge to bring to the table.

# KUBUNI CENTRE AND COLLABORATIVE

We create these networks through working with 4 local universities/colleges in the Mbeya Region, and various international universities. These net-works of universities allow us to provide placement opportunities where Tanzanian students are able to work directly with international students, provide research opportunities for international students and have more collaborative projects.

**In 2018, our Kubuni Centre and Collaborative had 4,050 direct beneficiaries and 10,000 indirect beneficiaries.**

## KUBUNI MUSIC

In 2018, we launched Kubuni Music, the branch of Kubuni that supports artists to create music that matters including songs on gender equality, HIV/AIDs and other life skills.



## STEP UP YOUTHS FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

In 2018, TOBFC launched the Step-Up: Better Me, Better Tanzania Camp which combined sports, vocational training and business seminars for youth. Over 150 youths have participated in our camps.

### Our camps include:

- *Sports development, introducing new activities to the community, as well as improving existing football (soccer) skills;*
- *Artisan and vocational training, teaching new, transferrable skills, including painting, batiking, beading, basket-weaving etc.;*
- *Business seminars, helping youths learn how to write business proposals, balance budgets and develop new, and creative ideas; and,*
- *Academic workshops, reviewing previously learned material in all the formal, secondary school subjects and introducing new materials to get a jump start on coursework.*



## KUBUNI CARPENTRY

Our carpentry program provides apprentices with experience-based learning under the tutelage of highly skilled professionals. Our program connects apprentices with skilled mentors, intensive training, access to machines and space to work.



### We currently have five apprentices:

Kulwa and Doto joined the TOBFC Family in 2015. They have tremendous talent and are quick learners. Born hearing impaired, Kulwa and Doto have overcome significant challenges to access education. The boys have apprenticed under Richard Boutin and Ivan Rhodes. They are flourishing as carpenters.

Barkari joined the TOBFC Family in October 2017. Immediately, he showed a knack and interest in the trades. In 2018, we added two more apprentices Mwajaja and Nelly.



HEALTH CARE

# MOBILE MEDICAL CLINIC





### MOBILE MEDICAL CLINIC

Our Mobile Medical Clinic ("MMC") operates in our rural catchment area, serving 22 communities monthly.



**We deliver lifesaving services and medicines directly to our beneficiaries, including:**

- *HIV Testing and Antiretroviral distribution with Nurses from the closest Government CTC*
- *Infant and Maternal Health Care, including vaccinating infants and children with the standard set of childhood vaccines*

- *Condom Distribution, STD information and Family Planning Assistance*
- *Blood Pressure Testing and follow-up and Non-Communicable Disease Information*
- *Monitoring of Nutrition in Children under 10 years old, and distribution of "Plumpy Nut" (ready to use therapeutic food, a peanut-based paste for treatment of severe acute malnutrition)*
- *Provision of Medical Care for minor illnesses, referrals, and transport to Mbeya for major health cases*
- *Provision of wound care and burns, and training of primary caregivers in First Aid and continued care*
- *Provision of maternity kits for expectant mothers*
- *Sponsoring of certain, surgical interventions*

We strive to make our MMC as effective as possible. All of our MMC nurses are from the closest CTC. Through our clinics we provide capacity building and training opportunities to polish their skills.

Our clinics are paired with our Complete Community Care Workers. They support their local dispensaries and health centers, facilitate our MMC, visit our clients and host health seminars in their communities. We invest in ongoing professional development for our Complete Community Care Workers, including running quarterly seminars.

### FEET FIRST PROGRAM

The Feet First Program is TOBFC's wound care program. The program has provided valuable podiatry services to over 600 individuals in our district.



Our Feet First Program specializes in wounds caused by Diabetes, Leprosy, and other Chronic Illnesses, as well as, traumatic wounds, caused by minor or major accidents.

In addition, the program provides treatment and/or management of lower limb problems such as arthritis, neuropathy, plantar fasciitis and fungal infections.

Our program provides at-home services to ensure all patients are able to get the care needed and become healthy and active members of society again.



COMMUNITY CARE

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COMPLETE  
COMMUNITY  
CARE



# COMPLETE COMMUNITY CARE

*Complete Community Care is TOBFC's group of programs that ensure the communities in our catchment area are **healthy and thriving**.*

**These programs identify vulnerable people in the community, and connect them to TOBFC services including:**

- *Providing companionship to those who experience social isolation,*
- *Supporting vulnerable individuals and families with basic needs such as, food, and safe housing,*
- *Giving medical attention to individuals requiring advice, counselling, treatment and management of health concerns,*
- *Connecting community members to the Mobile Medical Clinic or to other TOBFC services,*
- *Providing Quality of Life services, including cleaning and organizing houses, providing walking aides, toilet aides and mattresses.*

## COMPLETE COMMUNITY CARE WORKERS

The Olive Branch for Children has Complete Community Care Workers in every village we operate in. They are our eyes and ears in the villages we serve, identifying vulnerable individuals in need of our services.



# COMPLETE COMMUNITY CARE

## Our Complete Community Care Workers provide:

- *At-home health services, care, and support for 600 individuals living with HIV/AIDS, Diabetes, High Blood Pressure, Epilepsy and other chronic illnesses and disabilities.*
- *Support their local dispensaries and health centers.*
- *Facilitate our Mobile Medical Clinics,*
- *Visit our Complete Community Care clients and,*
- *Host seminars in their communities.*

Every month, TOBFC hosts health and service provision trainings for the 21 HBC Providers, investing in their continued growth and improvement as Providers.

We have a total of 8,992 direct beneficiaries from our community outreach programs, and a total of 23,000 indirect beneficiaries from per annum.

## FOOD AND SOCIAL SUPPORT

TOBFC targets the most vulnerable families and individuals in our catchment area. Our food support recipients receive food and hygiene products every month. This program addresses the elderly, new migrants, youth under 18 with no surviving family, people with disabilities and people with chronic health issues.

Our program is the social safety net for our area, in a country where there is none. Our program works on a rotating basis, if people due to our support regain the ability to work again, they will be replaced by someone in need.

On top of food and hygiene products, our Complete Community Care Workers have identified a dearth in socialization for some of our food support clients with disabilities and old age. Our staff visit these households on a bi-weekly or monthly basis, sharing tea and conversation with them.

We conduct ongoing evaluations with our food support clients. This constant line of communication has led to the development of various products, including walking and toilet aides, out of our Kubuni Centre, designed to improve the quality of life of our clients.

## ADDITIONAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL CARE REFERRALS

Through our Complete Community Care Workers and our Mobile Medical Clinic, we are able to identify cases where referral to larger hospitals is needed. On a case to case basis, TOBFC funds the referrals and provides qualified medical personnel to advocate on their behalf during their visits.

As most of our beneficiaries are uneducated, it is important to ensure they are accompanied with an advocate who can aid in navigating the healthcare system and ensure they get the care needed. In certain cases, the surgery is funded by TOBFC.

# COMPLETE COMMUNITY CARE

## TEAM HOPE

After identifying households in need of repair, TOBFC sends Team Hope to fulfil the renovations. Team Home is comprised of young men with disabilities who have been trained at the local vocational centre and our Kubuni Centre and Collaborative.



The team repairs houses and dismantles the stigma surrounding people with disabilities. We are providing a positive example to the communities we serve that youth and people living with disabilities can be positive influences in their communities.

## KICK IT MOBILE LIBRARIES

In 2016 TOBFC established 5 KICKIT mobile libraries to promote literacy and reading, serving a total of 11 communities, 600 direct beneficiaries and 1000 indirect beneficiaries on a weekly basis. Our mobile libraries operate on bicycles.

The facilitators, chosen by their communities, attach trunks of books to the back of their bikes, bringing much needed textbooks and amazing storybooks to the 11 communities in the program. They spend 2 hours, twice per week, in each village their particular library serves.



Our facilitators use either our Montessori Classroom structures or a local primary school classroom, to ensure the participants have a safe place to read and study. Our facilitators are responsible for the books, bikes and managing the two-hour sessions. We continuously update our book collection, providing the newest Swahili language storybooks for the pleasure of all the participants.

## CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

TOBFC helps fill infrastructural gaps in the most vulnerable communities we serve in Tanzania. We have completed the construction of 16 Montessori Schools in our catchment areas. In addition, we have constructed a medical clinic and contributed cement for the construction of two other clinics.



In 2019, we finished the building of our new, Peace Home (sponsored by Muskaan, Peace Pickering Lutheran Church and various other sponsors) in the community of Mswiswi, as well as, completing the major refurbishment of The Olive Branch Montessori Academy and building the beautiful playground at the school (sponsored by the Children's Garden School).

We work closely with the Kujenga Collaborative, a design for development NGO based out of the US.



## WELL CONSTRUCTION

TOBFC has completed 3 wells in remote communities, sponsored by the Walker Foundation and the Montessori School of Kleinburg.

In 2019, Muskaan, another one of our international partners, has committed to sponsoring a well. The wells have positively changed the lives of over 10,000 people!

We are currently designing a rain water catchment system for the communities of Mwashota and Lyan-kunda, as well as refurbishing two wells with an NGO based out of New York, Bees, Trees and Water.

COMMUNITY CARE

## 16 Montessori Schools

### 1. Mwashota

*Sponsored by the Montessori School of Kleinburg*

### 2. Lyankunda

*Sponsored by the Montessori School of Kleinburg*

### 3. Lyanang'we

*Sponsored by Tunakujali Tansania*

### 4. Mbwawa

*Sponsored by Tunakujali Tansania*

### 5. Mwika

*Sponsored by Tunakujali Tansania*

### 6. Ugomtwa

*Sponsored by the awalker Foundation*

### 7. Utengule-Usangu

*Sponsored by the Montessori School of Kleinburg*

### 8. Magurula

*Sponsored by the Aurora Montessori School*

### 9. Nganga

*Sponsored by Tunakujali Tansani)*

### 10. Gomoshelo

*Anonymous*

### 11. Azimio-Mswiswi

*Sponsored by the Toronto Funding Network*

### 12. Azimio-Mapula

*Anonymous*

### 13. Wambilo

*Sponsored by Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua*

### 14. Simike-Mapula

*Sponsored by Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua*

### 15. Ihanga

*Sponsored by LiUNA! 183*

### 16. Ugandilwa

*Anonymous*

BACK



CLIMATE CARE

BACK

# REFORESTATION AND REVITALISATION



# REFORESTATION AND REVITALISATION

The current deforestation rate in Tanzania is approaching **373,000 hectares** per year, making it among the highest in East Africa.

## REFORESTATION AND REVITALIZATION

TOBFC believes we need to find solutions that can increase the standard of living in rural communities while preserving and revitalizing the environment.



### Some of our current and future projects include:

- Planting fruit trees/gardens at the Olive Branch Montessori Academy
- Starting a fruit orchard at the Peace Home
- Planting water retaining trees around the our wells
- Planting fruit trees in public spaces in our catchment area and at our Montessori Classrooms
- Starting community seed banks

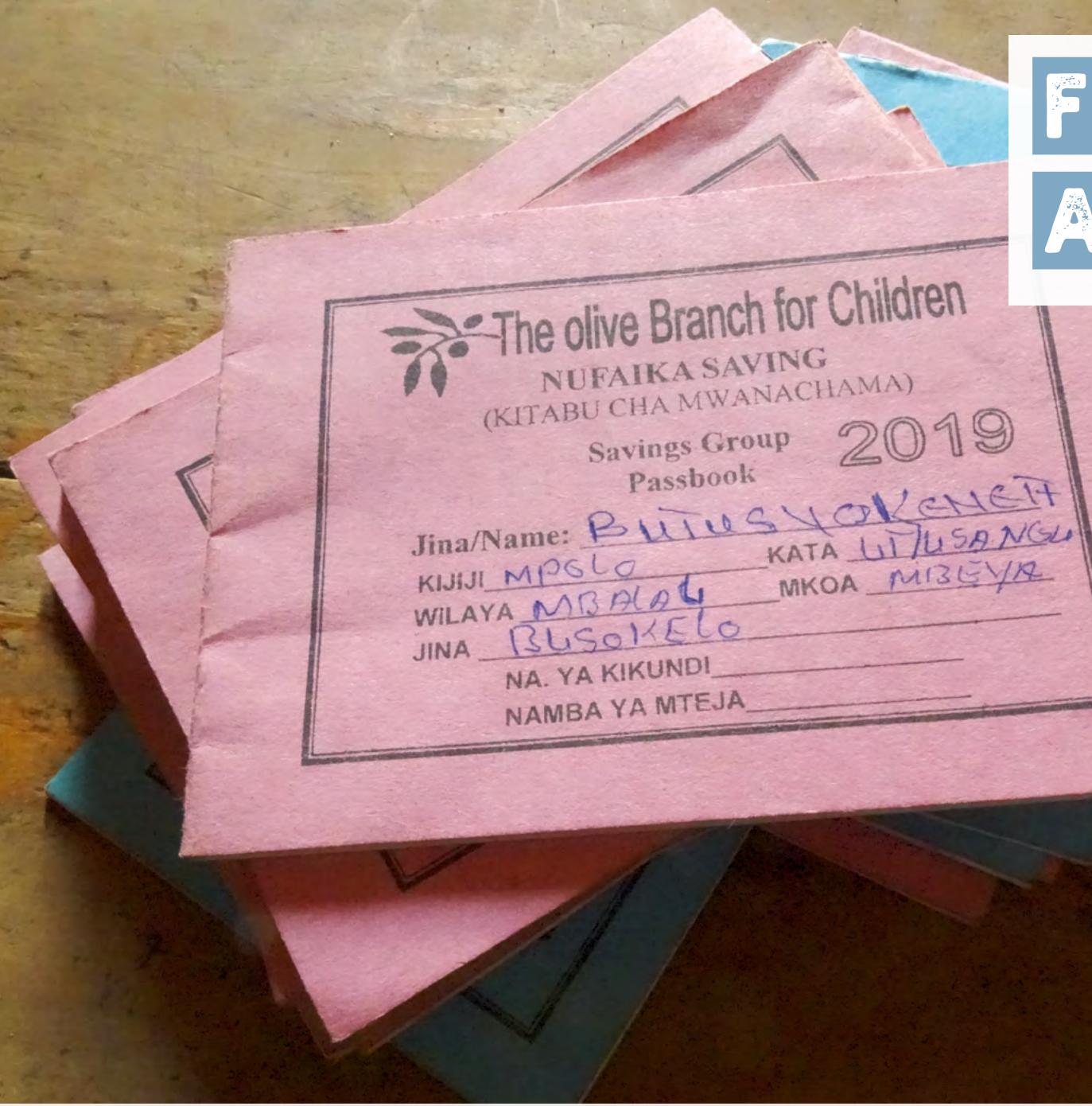
## TOBFC BETTER FUEL

In 2019, after an extensive research project initiated and implemented by TOBFC, we have launched our Better Fuel initiative.



This project is geared toward supporting communities in their efforts to change to natural gas, reducing the amount of deforestation in the area we serve and improving the overall health and quality of life of the communities we work in.

# FINANCIAL AUTONOMY



FINANCIAL AUTONOMY

BACK



# FINANCIAL AUTONOMY

Through **TOBFC's Akiba! Nufaika!! (Save! Benefit!!) Program**, the Organization oversees community cooperative banks that enable individuals to save their money, loan to one another and hopefully achieve a degree of financial security.

Each **Akiba! Nufaika!!** savings group is comprised of at least 15 members. Each such group determines whether its "*fiscal period*" will be 6 months, 9 months or 12 months.



During the applicable period, members can save and invest through the group and receive loans from the group's savings. At the end of the period, each member is returned that member's savings plus the applicable percentage of dividends. The dividends are a result of the interest rates on loans given out by the individual "banks".

The program currently has 164 savings groups led by community members and a total of 3400 members, of whom the majority are vulnerable women.

**Participants in the Akiba! Nufaika!! program have used their savings to**

- pay school fees for their children,
- farm without taking out loans,
- build homes,
- pay off medical bills,
- start new businesses,
- expand their existing businesses and
- support their families.

This program operates in communities outside of the Mbarali District too, serving the Mbeya Vijijini District too.



# Make a donation

*There are numerous ways you can donate to the Olive Branch for Children. On each project page, there are specific items/sponsorships you can commit to.*

The biggest way you can help the Olive Branch for Children is becoming a Monthly Sponsor. To ensure the sustainability of our programs, we need amazing donors like yourself to commit to a monthly donation, whether large or small.

**Monthly donors are key to our success because:**

- Sustainable funds help ensure our programs year in and year out
- Cover operating costs including food for the Zion and Peace homes, stipends for the Montessori Teachers and Complete Community Care workers, rent for the Zion and Kubuni Centre among others
- Allows us to expand our programming for a bigger reach!

*We accept monthly donors starting from a minimum of \$5 (or €3).*

**Any bit helps, and everything makes a difference!**

*Thank you very much*

Tax Receipts will be issued for all donations of \$25 CDN and over!

# FOLLOW US



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