

Mamma Nubra's Youth Development Project

(Dec 2nd, 2011 - Apr 14th, 2012)

This program of activities began last December, as part of an action research project conducted by Dr. Nubra Elaine Floyd, PhD, while serving as a Fulbright Fellow at Mount Meru University in Northern Tanzania. The project was undertaken in response to twelve young men, who were at one time living on the streets in the Arusha area and now said they needed a way to earn rent money and also schooling. Some of them remembered Professor Floyd from her in 2008 and 2009 visits to Mkombozi, a local child advocacy agency, and, after meeting with their staff to discuss her current interest in former street children who have become successful adults, she decided to offer each of these young people 60,000tsh or six months rent for participating in the pilot version of a vocational development project.

As of April 2012 a total of 350,000tsh had been paid on a monthly basis to individuals identifying themselves as landlords for six of the original project participants. All of the remaining six have expressed interest in continuing with the project despite lapses in attendance, and the total amount paid so far to their landlords has been 150,000tsh. Another six who began in March of this year have also said they want the activities to continue, and their landlords have so far received a total of 80,000tsh. This brings the total paid to date for the group of eighteen to **580,000tsh**. Assuming additional funding, the project will resume in early 2013 for at least one month, so these twelve can qualify to earn the full amount initially available for rent payment. Three young men who have so far been successful in this regard met their obligations with participation in the following activities:

- Dec 05: Bamboo Restaurant – Fieldtrip Planning Session
- Dec 07: Fieldtrip to Small Enterprise Development Association (SEDA)
- Jan 20: Bamboo Restaurant – Fieldtrip Planning Session
- Jan 28: Fieldtrip to Mt Meru University (Plastic Recycling Project)
- Feb 24: Bamboo Restaurant – Workshop Planning Session
- Feb 25: Christ Anglican Church – Life Stories Workshop

Two others, who were not able to attend the sessions held during February, completed their obligation by participating in the following activities:

- Mar 30: Bamboo Restaurant – Fieldtrip Planning Session
- Mar 31: Fieldtrip to Mt Meru University (Plastic Recycling Project)

These five participants also received bonus payments totaling 145,000tsh in acknowledgement of project completion. One young man, who came for the planning session but was unable to take part in the March field trip, completed the obligation by helping to publicize a Pre-Earth Day Bazaar held on April 14th in the Bamboo's Garden, and his final rent payment is due in early May. All of these original project participants

will now be eligible for vocational advising and support, as funding becomes available, and they have indicated the following educational objectives:

Baraka Bakari Juma	To enroll: Arusha Technical College
M. Juma Mohammed	To enroll: New Horizon (<i>Learn English Language</i>)
Mohammed Juma	To enroll: Themis Secondary School
Nicolaus Joseph	To enroll: New Horizon (<i>Learn English Language</i>)
Mohammed Amosi	To enroll: New Horizon (<i>Learn English Language</i>)
Gasper Frank	Currently enrolled: Arusha Technical College

The April 14th event held at Bamboo Restaurant was sponsored by the Arusha Street Vendors Organization (ASVO). Members of this organization have been helping to coordinate project activities and to provide Swahili–English translation. Two who are paid at the rate of 10,000*tsh* per day have received a total of 195,000*tsh* as stipends. A special debt of gratitude is owed to three Mt Meru University students (Reverends John Rotich, Evans Ngare and Moses Obinda) who volunteered to take major responsibility for the recycling project, while also serving as English-Swahili translators. The cost for meals and refreshments provided for both project assistants and participants at the Bamboo came to 121,500*tsh* plus 60,000*tsh* for using their Garden as meeting space. Another 112,000*tsh* covered the cost of cafeteria meals provided, during fieldtrips to MMU, and 28,000*tsh* was paid for minivan transport. And finally, it must be noted that this kind of impromptu community based project would not have been possible without the gracious cooperation of Mamma Neema Phineas, Bamboo Restaurant Manager.

Project Spending To date

Participant Compensation	920,000 <i>tsh</i>
rent payments to landlords	580,000 <i>tsh</i>
bonus payments to youth	145,000 <i>tsh</i>
stipends for coordinators	195,000 <i>tsh</i>
Other Project Costs	380,000 <i>tsh</i>
Restaurant food service.....	121,500 <i>tsh</i>
Cafeteria food service	112,000 <i>tsh</i>
Garden meeting space charges	60,000 <i>tsh</i>
Minivan transport charges	28,000 <i>tsh</i>
Misc operating costs (internet,photocopy,etc)....	58,500 <i>tsh</i>

Total Expenditure = 1,300,000*tsh**

*about 800*usd*