

CREATIVE SOLUTIONS NEWSLETTER



Special points of interest:

To date we have recycled over 2000 wine bottles to create the fence around our learning center!

NEW ROOF AND FURNITURE FOR THE CLASSROOM

Our classroom has a local (makuti) roof, which is beautiful and keeps the classroom and our house cool, but it has to be changed every couple years. In February, Watoto wa Tanzania donated the money to have the roof replaced and also to have new benches and table made for the classroom. We also needed to change our roof as it had been leaking for some time. As the workmen began the project they discov-

ered some structural problems and the job was much more extensive than originally thought. Not only did they just take off the old makuti, they had to replace many of the poles and create new structures on both roofs. What made this more interesting is that it had not rained for a month, then the day they removed the roof on my house, the sky turned black, the wind whipped up and the threat of rain

stared us in the eye. Fortunately, we only got a few drops. Within two weeks both roofs were complete and very well done, so we were back in business. Watoto wa Tanzania has proved to be a real Godsend for our organization.

The roof half finished



MARLIE'S HOUSE GOES SOLAR!

Once again the great folks of Marlie In Paradise have come through! They have raised the money to put solar power in Marlie's House, our volunteer house/computer center.

The system will be up and running by 01 May. The house will be fit with solar lights in all the bedrooms, bathrooms, the computer center and kitchen. All of the computers will be run on solar power, which

means no more electricity blackouts during classes! We will also fit the rooms with solar powered fans for those warm days. Wow, we are so very excited, especially now because of the regular power outages we are having in Zanzibar. I don't know what we would do without MIP.

MUCH THANKS AND LOVE FROM ALL OF US!!

Technicians installing panels



Pre school naptime



S.I.T. students building the bottle wall



CSRS students building a new banda



Asha and Khamis with their students at Zingwezingwe



Ujima

Collective work to build and maintain our community together!

Nasra Yusuf 's Kiswahili students



Ali Chaga giving a tour in Mangapwani



EACH ONE TEACH ONE “HOW IT WORKS AT CSRS”

We operate our organization with the philosophy that everything we learn must be passed on to others. We have embraced this idea since our beginning and now we see it paying off in many situations. Two of our most treasured staff members, Asha and Khamis, who live in a village called Zingwezingwe started a weekend school for children in their village. This initiative was developed without our knowledge and we heard about from others. They teach English to 25 children every weekend free of charge. Classes are held in a

house which was built for doctors which were to work in the new hospital but that project did not materialize. What thrilled me most about their venture is that they felt that it was what they were supposed to do. They never asked for supplies or compensation and when I asked them what they needed, they responded that they were fine. Yanna Zeilstra of Watoto wa Tanzania was so impressed that she decided to donate books, teaching supplies and pencils for the students. Their project has been up and running for five months

now and they are doing great. Last month our Pre-school teacher Nasra Yusuf asked if she could use the classroom in the evening for teaching reading and writing to women in the village. She has 7 students who attend class each evening for an hour. She was inspired to start the class when she realized that many of the parents of her preschoolers were illiterate and could not help their children with homework. Just like Asha and Khamis, she is doing this on her own , from the heart!

This is how we roll at Creative Solutions, identify a need and create a solution!

OUR LATEST SUCCESS STORY

There are always mixed emotions when one of our long term students decides to move on. In the case of our favorite son Ali Yusuf “Chaga”, this is especially true. He has been at CSRS for almost 4 years and has proven to be a tremen-

dous asset and a great friend. Now he will become that for Chumbe Island where he has just been employed. He will work as a ranger on the island and we are excited about the new experiences he will

have. Currently , he is teaching English and serves the student advocate, he is also an excellent advocate for Creative Solutions. We will miss him and wish him all the success in his new endeavors.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 11 — June 11 Vanderbilt University Volunteers

Every year we are fortunate enough to host volunteers from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, USA. This year is no exception. The group will work with our students at CSRS, as well as, teachers from a neighboring school in Mangapwani. They will serve as an English resource to teachers of Mangapwani Primary School in order to increase their language skills.

June 22—25 Roadmonkey Well Rebuilding

A couple of months ago, I was contacted by an organization called Roadmonkey. Road monkey is a philanthropic organization which combines a challenging adventure with a hands-on volunteer project that offers a transformative international experience. Road monkey expedition volunteers will be working on the community well in Mangapwani, replacing the pipes and equipment with updated materials and install a solar pump to bring the water to the surface. Together with local residents, the Road monkey team will rebuild the well as part of their philanthropic adventure! The initial work, removal of old equipment will be done by the community. If you would like to donate to this project, contact Aida at creativesolutionszanzibar@yahoo.com

July 27— 31 Annual Community Health Fair

Our annual Community Health Fair takes place this year from July 27 through 31. As usual we will offer free services to Mangapwani and surrounding villages. Doctors and medical professionals donate their time and expertise to do testing and examinations in HIV/AIDS, Glucose testing, Blood Pressure, Gynecology, Orthopedics, Pediatrics, ENT and Dental. This year's fair will be extra special as we have joining us a group of musicians, artists and performers from Mercer University, Townsend School of Music. Assistant Professor Christopher Macklin of Music History/Musicology will bring the group for 10 days to teach about HIV/AIDS through the arts. They will work with community members including Secondary students and students of CSRS.

December Twelve in Twelve

Twelve in Twelve founder, J.D. Lewis and his two sons will travel to twelve countries to volunteer and help local communities. Working with partner organizations, the Lewis family will contribute to the needs of the local community and experience first-hand helping those in need while acting as ambassadors for the program. A three-person documentary film crew will be present to record the experience in order to educate, promote and connect others to the project. Each location will focus on a different global issue such as famine, HIV/AIDS, housing, education, water rights, environmental and resource issues, child labor, and others important world-wide concerns.

December Annual Holiday Art/Craft Fair

This year's art fair will be extra special with the presence of Hollywood actor J.D. Lewis and his sons. Along with our regular activities, which include, "Make it Yourself Projects, sales of art and crafts, local handcrafts, face painting and activities for kids, and great door prizes, we plan on having performances and live music by our own students.



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Vanderbilt volunteers 2010



**Medical Professionals volunteer
Annual Community Health Fair 2010**

