

Ilula Orphan Program



Dear IOP friends and family

This month has contained a lot of activities. We have received a lot of new guests, and some have left. We are continuing to work with the examination hall, and have started the construction of Sunflower primary school Tanzania. Read more on the articles below!

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NEW VOLUNTEERS



Dear everyone related to IOP.

I'm very happy that I could keep my promise to go back to my second home, for the second time. This year I graduated as a geography teacher, so my plan is to spend more time at the High School.

I was almost crying when I got the lovely welcoming back from the girls and staff. This time I will only stay for 3 weeks, but I'm planning to get the most out of those weeks.

Greeting from Job (Mr. Kazi)



Jambo!

My name is Ingrid Eriksen, I'm 24 years and from Norway. This is my 4th time at IOP, and as always is feel so good to be back with all the people I love!

My focus during my four weeks here will be to work with the Young Mothers Empowerment Center. I am sure this program is able to do a real positive impact in the lives of the young mothers in Ilula



Hello!

My name is Ton van de Wouw and I'm 19 years old. I'm from the Netherlands and I will stay at IOP for 4 to 5 weeks.

I will want to help wherever I am needed



My name is Sietske and I'm 22 years old. My home country is Netherland.

I will stay at IOP for four weeks, and I hope to do a lot of things to help the people here, IOP and the surrounding.



My name is Anne Ferwerda and I'm 17 years old. I come from the Netherlands, and this is my second time here at IOP.

I will be staying for 6,5 weeks to help wherever I am needed

NEW VOLUNTEERS



Hello, my name is Lynn Mulder (Left above), I'm 19 years old and I come from the Netherlands.

After a wonderful journey starting in Cape Town, travelling to Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi, I came back to Tanzania, Ilula, Masukanzi. I'm really happy and grateful for having this opportunity.

In my travel I met a lot of interesting people, who I shared amazing stories with about IOP. That's why one of the people I met decided to change his plan for his travel to come to IOP instead.

I will stay at IOP for around 6 weeks, and after these weeks I will start university, where I will study to become a doctor.

Hello, My name is Yoonsang Oh (Right above), I'm 22 years old and I come from South Korea. According to the people here, I'm the first person from South Korea to visit IOP, so I'm happy Lynn told me about this place.

I'm happy to come here, and meet new good friends. This is my first visit to Africa, and I already love this continent.

I will stay here for two weeks, and next month I will continue my travel in Europe, and in March I will go back to university to study economy.

We already hope to come back to this place, because we are both so happy here.

Asante sana. Thank you. Dankjewel.

Habari?

My name is Tecla Wanjeri, and I'm from Kenya.

The school year of 16/17 I attended the Communication for Change program together with Fransisca and Uria. We had a lot of fun and many exiting experiences.

As many might know, IOP has a close partnership with Sunnmøre Folk High School, so during my CFC year, I heard a lot about this place. Uria and Fransisca both became good friends of mine, so I really wanted to come visit them and IOP.

I will be staying for 2 weeks, and I will mostly be helping a Ilula YWCA.

Thank you so much for having me, I'm so happy to be here.

HOT WATER TANK



On the posters it says “Thank you for hot water” in Norwegian. That is because we want to thank our Norwegian grandmother Anne Marie for giving our girls at the center hot water to shower in.

In June and July it is winter here in Ilula. That means that it gets much colder than usual, especially in the mornings and evenings. The girls usually shower after school – around 3 or 4 in the evening – when it is already getting cold. So to get to shower in the warm water is a great motivation to the girls. Showering is now something they look forward to, and they smile and enjoy taking their daily shower.

Now we have installed a solar system so that the sun can heat up the water, as you can see on the photos under. We are so thankful for the contribution and the girls are sending you special thanks!



VISIT FROM THE NORWEGIAN EMBASSY



On the 11th of July, we were happy to welcome the Norwegian Ambassador, Hanne-Marie Kaarstad with her family, to IOP for a few hours.

First they visited Sollerud Kindergarten Tanzania, where Hanne-Marie were our guest of honor during the opening last year, March 03, 2016. During this visit, they witnessed how the children were learning through their own discovery. It was interesting to see how our young children became interested in learning and sharing what they understood. Both the children and our teachers were excited to see Hanne-Marie and her family.

They also got to visit the place where Sunflower Montessori Primary School is being constructed. Her kind words and encouragement made our contractor (photo down on the left) see the work completed.

The last stop on the tour, before finishing the visit up with a meal, was our newest Regional Development Project – Farm for Future. Here we are on our steps towards the insurance of the new standard of living for the Tanzanian community. Through this farm, we will create a special platform for Ilula Community to learn different things related to modern agricultural practices. Youth, students, young mothers, Savings and Internal Lending Community (SILC) and Village Community Bank (VICOBA) members, researchers and the large community have an opportunity to gain and share their experiences.



THE NETHERLAND GROUP FROM VOLUNTEERS WORLDWIDE



On the 20th of July we received a big group of 18 people from the Netherland and Volunteers World Wide-an organization that connects IOP with different volunteers through IOP Netherlands, and they stayed until the 29th of July.

When they first arrived, they were met by the girls, staff and volunteers outside IOP. Everyone got one or two of the girls as their special friend that they could get some extra time with.

In addition to the time they spent with the girls, they had a lot of other activities. They visited our foster families, attended the birthday party, the held a marked for the staff at IOP and helped with vanishing and sandpapering. They also spent a day in Iringa Town and had a trip to visit Isimila. They also got to experience of harvesting sunflowers and cutting maize sticks.

Before continuing their travel to Mikumi National Park and Zanzibar, they also got to visit the Maasai village.

Thank you for 10 wonderful days together. We hope you enjoyed as much as we did.



IRINGA TRIP WITH THE CENTER GIRLS



Saturday, 29th of August, was a day filled with surprises for the 34 girls living at the IOP Center. The 12 volunteers who were at the center at that time had arranged a surprise trip!

We all went with the IOP school bus to Iringa Town, and our first stop was Boma House. At this museum the girls and volunteers got a guided tour, and we all learnt a lot of new things about the history, nature and culture in the Iringa region – we even got the chance to try different types of local cloths and old tools for preparing food.

After one and a half hour at Boma House it was time for using some energy at the playground, before we went to Mama Iringa for lunch. Mama Iringa gave all the IOP girls pizza, chips, water and biscuits for free – and for many of them it was their first time to try real Italian pizza! We all really enjoyed our food, and some of us had so much to eat that we had to take a small nap in Mama Iringa's garden, before we travelled to our next destination.

The finally stop for the day was Magic Site, a small zoo with local animals. We divided us in to groups, and went with guides to see the animals close up. During the tour we practiced both the English and Kiswahili words for the different animals in the zoo. As an extra surprise, there was also a playground at Magic Site, and the girls spent the rest for their energy here before we went back to Ilula. In the bus back home almost everyone was sleeping with a smile on their faces. We all agreed that it was a good Saturday, and we were thankful for spending it together.



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