

ILULA ORPHANAGE PROGRAM

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Ilula Orphan Program (IOP)

P. O Box 151,

Mazombe, Iringa

admin@ioptanzania.org

Dear friends and family, you are welcome to read the news that happened at IOP Tanzania on the April 2018 newsletter.

Articles:

- General Assembly
- YWCA Southern Highlands Meeting
- Birthday Party
- Kitchen and rest room construction

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2018

This year, IOP had its annual General Assembly on the 6th of April. The persons attended were the IOP board, government officials like the representative of the district commissioner, Ward and village officers, religious leaders and the representative of the district director, the head of the Ilula police force, the township executive officer, the community development officer and the social welfare officer. Furthermore the IOP staff was present and the leader of the different IOP departments and the volunteers.

The main objective was to receive and discuss the annual financial and narrative report. IOP members from inside and outside the country come together to see how the organization has been developing, what has been achieved and what are the challenges that IOP faces and find a solution together.

The assembly is important to review the general progress of IOP, get everybody up to date and on the same page. That is why all the progress of all the projects is being displayed in the annual report of IOP. It is an annual forum where IOP recognizes the role of different shareholders in sustaining the communities.

The feedback was very rewarding. Minor issues were requested for clarification but all the attending members were very happy to see that a lot of suggestions from last year's meeting were realized and the progress of the organization in general, was in the right direction.

The whole event was held in a calm, concentrated atmosphere to allow everyone to share their ideas and contribution to the assembly.

IOP is very happy about the feedback and is proud to be able to continue its work and helping people. It also puts the 20th anniversary of IOP in a very good light and something to look forward to!



BIRTHDAY PARTY

The April's birthday party was held on the 21th of April. The event was held in the main hall of the center. Decorated with balloons, the room had a nice look to it. The people whose birthday was in April were Center girls who are Latifa Mlasu, Restuta Newton, Radhia Kayuyuva and Witness Sanga. There were IOP staff too who were Maria Mgalilwa, Steven Mtoulwange, Devotha Mbinda and Thomas Ugulumo.

Everybody had the birthday song sung to them and then the cake was cut. After the cake ceremony, music was played and all the attending people got up to dance and play games together. Everybody had dinner at the center where the food prepared was delicious. Then the parties continued outside where the girls were playing, dancing and having a great time. Around 09:00 pm, the party was closed by prayer and the girls, volunteers and staff went to sleep. We thank different people who joined them in the birthday event.



Radhia Kayuyuva receiving a birthday gift from Mr. Osmund Ueland and birthday IOP center girls and staff

YWCA SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS MEETING

On the 28th of April, there was the commemoration of YWCA day where by meeting of the branches in the Southern Highlands (Mbozi YWCA, Ilula YWCA, Mbeya City YWCA and Tukuyu YWCA met and celebrate together. The Ilula YWCA branch including a group of young mothers, two representatives of the Scouts and Girl Guides and the volunteers travelled to Mbozi, Mbeya Region to participate in the event. The bus ride took about thirteen hours to go .The group started their journey on Friday, 27th April and returned on Sunday, 29th April.

It was so great that when the group arrived at Mbozi, found that a nice dinner had been prepared to welcome them. At the dinner, the program of the next day was discussed and agreed on. On Saturday, the day started at half past seven with a collective morning workout and a little game to wake up and get to know each other. After that, breakfast was taken together. Once breakfast was finished, everybody got ready for the march from the YWCA office in Mbozi to the center where the event took place. The music during the marching was self-made since it was the songs that the members were singing while walking behind a wide banner, carried by the Scouts and Girl Guides of Ilula.

The theme of the event was *“paza sauti, shirikisha hadithi yako”*.... *“Raise your voice, share your story”* . The event was a nice forum for youth from every branch to share their activities and different views. But also there was a session of displaying entrepreneurship products or hand made things so that people can get to know the products and the place where they can find. The District Commissioner of Mbozi was the guest of honor during the event and got a chance to see the products, to meet some of members of YWCA of Tanzania and he participated in each program of the day. During his speech, he encouraged YWCA to produce things which are market oriented or should look for the market’s demand. He appreciated the work which is done by YWCA branches and encouraged the YWCA branches to look for internal opportunities among branches within YWCA network. He saw YWCA as a strong network and if recognized as an opportunity, YWCA branches will benefit from each other. He finally promised to involve YWCA Mbozi in any development opportunity that will cross on his hand and deal with the YWCA Mbozi conflict where by other people claim to occupy the land. More than 85 people participated in the event.

Thanks to all participants for making the event an opportunity for people to get experience, learn and exchange ideas related to the development and sustainability of YWCA.



KITCHEN AND REST ROOM CONSTRUCTION

Apart from having the almost finished multipurpose hall at the Lords Hill High school the hall will not be 100% used without having the rest room and the kitchen. To solve the challenge, IOP started to construct a kitchen and the rest rooms that will be spent by the students and other hall users. The construction is expected to be completed by the end of June to enable the students use them after the holiday, meaning the beginning of July 2018.

Finishing of the kitchen and rest rooms construction will allow the students not walk about 1km for going to have either breakfast, lunch or dinner. This will reduce time consumed as they will use few minutes to walk to get their meal.

IOP thanks very much Kragero High School and Engebraaten High School of Norway supporting the construction of the rest room and kitchen. Through supporting IOP and especially the Lords Hill High School, they enable IOP meet the government requirements and improve the living condition for the students.



KEY CONTACT INFORMATION/EVENTS

IOP is inviting different friends to participate to get involved with Global Ministries' contribution page for IOP. You are very much welcome to donate via: <https://www.umcmission.org/Give-to-Mission/Search-for-Projects/Projects/15159N>

Thank you for your continued support. God bless you.

If you would like to get more information about projects and/or sponsoring opportunities, please contact:

IOP Tanzania	Edson: edson.msigwa@ioptanzania.org
IOP Norway	Ingunn: iop.norge@gmail.com
IOP Luxembourg	Helen: helen.clarke@sunflower.lu
IOP USA	Stepanie: stephaniegraber07@hotmail.com Or Ron: porterronaldj@gmail.com
IOP Italy	Deborah&Massino: iopitalia@gmail.com
IOP Denmark	Lenne: iop.denmark@gmail.com
IOP Sweden	Annica: annicarenberg@hotmail.com
Germany	IrmaandJos: iopgermany@gmail.com
IOP Netherlands	Annelies: info@iopnederlands.nl

The April 2018 edition of the IOP newsletter was written by Lalle mang Francois.