

The background of the entire page is a faded, light blue-tinted photograph. It depicts a person's hands, one of which wears a metal-link wristwatch, holding a small, dark-colored card or document. The hands are positioned over a desk cluttered with various papers, some of which have text and checkboxes visible. The overall scene suggests an administrative or organizational setting.

ILULA ORPHAN PROGRAM

FEBRUARY 2023 NEWS LETTER

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BELINA MHANGA'S SUCCESS STORY



My name is Belina Charles Mhanga, I was born on August 12, 1998, in Image Village. The most important long-term goal I've ever had was to graduate from college. My mother died when I was a baby, so I never had the opportunity to meet her. Every day, life got harder. I'm grateful to the Ilula Orphan Program for taking in my twin sister and me in 2006, when I was in standard two, at the Ilula Orphan Center. At that point, my desire to earn a university degree began to develop. The new life at the orphanage was wonderful; there, I made friends and sisters and got to know a lot of other young and older children. I also finished my primary education there at Ilula Primary School, which I eventually graduated in 2011. The primary examination results were released, and I was selected to attend Ilula Secondary School; however, because IOP has a school [The Lord's Hill Secondary School], which is a great school with a beautiful environment, I was among the fortunate students who were among the first to study at The Lord's Hill Secondary School for four years from 2011 to 2015.

BELINA MHANGA'S SUCCESS STORY

I am grateful to my sponsors, who worked tirelessly to ensure that I could attend this school. After performing well in my final ordinary level secondary examination, I was selected to attend Lufilyo High School in Mbeya from 2016 to 2018. I graduated from high school with good results, but I did not immediately enroll in university. In 2019, I applied to the IOP Communication For Change(CFC) program, which included five countries: Norway, Tanzania, Madagascar, Bangladesh, and South Africa. We completed the program in Tanzania, Kenya, and Norway for four and a half months. The most important thing we did there was learn about leadership, the environment, women's empowerment, make new friends, communicate, and mostly enjoy being in another country, primarily Europe. IOP gave me the opportunity to experience life in another part of the world. Following the program in November of the same year, I applied for university education and joined Tengeru Institute of Community Development, where I studied bachelor's degree in project planning in Community Development for three years, from November of 2019 to July of 2022. I am now a project planner. I am grateful to IOP, my sponsors, for assisting me in achieving my goals. I'm now volunteering at IOP in Innovation for Small Holders Improvement project. I want to thank everyone who helped make my dreams come true. May God bless you all.

NEW CHILDREN AT IOP

The IOP center has received 6 children of different genders, 3 females and 3 males, which brings the total number of children to 48, with 38 girls and 10 boys coming from various locations within the Kilolo district.



Daniel Swai

Daniel Swai is 12 years old and from Ngelango hamlet in the Ward of Ilula. He has two parents, but they divorced some years ago. He has been living with his grandfather because his mother could not afford to care for him because of poverty. It has also been difficult for the grandfather to care for him because he is too old and poor. As a result, IOP is a safe place for him.



Ester Mposewa

Ester Mposewa, a 9-year-old girl from Itungi village in Mlafu ward. She attends Sunflower Pre and Primary School. Ester was raised by a single parent (mother), her father abandoned them, Ester has a brother with a disability, because of this and the difficult life they have, the mother of Ester decided to go back to the father's house and stay there, but life was still not good because even her father is living in extreme poverty, that is why the IOP center decided to support the mentioned family, as for now she is living at the center and she is one of the vulnerable children.



Glory Kipangule

Glory Kipangule is 5 years old, from Masukanzi hamlet in Ilula Ward, she arrived at the center on February 6th, 2023. She attends Sunflower Primary School. Her father abandoned her, so she is raised by a single parent (mother) who was a young mother at the IOP Single Young Mothers program. Unfortunately, her mother died, leaving her without support, so she is here because she is a vulnerable child with no one to support her at such a young age.



Hamis Kiteve & Emmanuel Kiteve

Hamis Kiteve is 9 years old, Emmanuel Kiteve is 6 years old, and these are siblings. They are from Lugalo village, at Ilole Ward; their family is living in extreme poverty. The family is unable to get basic needs. Hamis and Emanuel have been raised by their grandmother because they don't have a father and their mother is suffering from mental illness. Due to their mother's sickness, it is difficult for her to take care of the children. Hamis and his brother at this age they were not at school, because there was no one to support them. IOP through sponsors in collaboration with the government officials took initiatives of taking them to the IOP Center for close supervision and care in order for them to achieve their dreams.



Latifa Mwangala

Latifa Mwangala is 12 years old, she is from Igingilanyi village, in Ilula Ward. She has a brother who is studying at Ilula Secondary School, both of them used to sleep in the same room which is very risk for them. To prevent the risk that could happen to these children IOP decided to take her to the orphanage. Latifa and her brother have parents, but their parents abandoned and left them alone without any support and supervision. They have been living themselves with support from the good Samaritans. She is very happy living at the the IOP Center, her life is not in danger anymore.

TEACHERS' TRAINING

Teachers from all IOP schools (IOP Kids Corner, Sunflower Pre and Primary, and The Lords Hill Secondary School) received training at Sunflower Pre and Primary School from February 17th to 18th. The training was based on competence based curriculum , evaluation and tools which is a curriculum introduced by the Ministry of Education in recent years. The training facilitators are National facilitators in the competency based teaching curriculum. The training is one of the IOP's initiatives to improve teacher's competency so as to provide quality and competitive education in a changing environment 47teachers (21M) attended the training.



PHOTOS TAKEN DURING THE TRAINING

SPONSOR PROGRAM FAMILY VISIT

In helping vulnerable and needy students as one of its activities, sponsor program office normally does school and home/ family visits. Sponsor program office does the visit to see the progress of sponsored pupils when they are at home and school. This helps the office to understand different challenges facing them not only at school but also at home. Through the visits it has been found that, there are some sponsored students who don't have even a place to sleep, they don't afford two meals per day, and others don't have care takers at home regardless of their little age!

Among of the families that sponsor program office visited is Kiteve's family. This family is found at Kitumbuka village. The family has three children, and the mother of these children is suffering from mental illness. With her disease it has been difficult for her to take care of the children. The grandmother has been helping them but she is too old to take care of them because of her age. Due to this situation, the sponsor program office decided to take an initiative to help these children by first finding them school sponsorship through IOP Italy. The little boy (Emmanuel Kiteve) was happy to join the school as soon as possible but the older one (Hamis Kiteve) denied going to school. Emmanuel, the little brother started school on September 2022. During his annual holiday, no one from his family went to pick him at school, sponsor program office took him to his family for holiday. Everyone at home was amazed of how Emmanuel has changed, of how he has dressed and even they wondered to hear Emmanuel speaks Swahili language and little English (because at first, he was not able to speak neither Swahili nor English rather than Hehe language his mother tongue). This was shocking to the whole family seeing these changes in such a short time! Hamisi who is Emmanuel's brother, started to ask if he could also go to school. The sponsor program office promised to help Emmanuel and Hamisi not only to go to school but also to find them a safe place to live. In February 2023, Hamisi joined Sunflower Pre and Primary School for his primary school studies. He was amazed with everything he saw. It was also his first time to travel by bus! That was a new experience to him, and he was happy for that. He stayed at school hostel for one week in which, sponsor program office was finding a place at IOP Center for them to live. Finally, after one week, Emmanuel and Hamisi started to live at Ilula Orphan Center. They are now happy with other children at the center, and they are continuing with their studies at Sunflower Pre and Primary school. This all has been successful through IOP Italy who is their school and life sponsors of Emmanuel and Hamisi Kiteve.

SPONSOR PROGRAM FAMILY VISIT



Kiteve's family posing for a photo during family visit.

IOP Sponsor program office is grateful for the great work and loving hearts from all IOP committees that are always ready to help the needy children. This is touching the lives of many needy students in Ilula community and outside Ilula. This family is one among many of the vulnerable families that need help in school and home. Most of the families in villages live hard lives and some lack even a meal per day which affects their academic development and sometimes they drop from schools. The escalating food prices has made the situation even worse.

THINKING DAY

Thinking Day Is a commemoration of the birthday of the founder of Boy Scouts and Girl Guide on every 22nd February every year. This year's theme was Our world, Our Peaceful Future. In this year's commemoration, Scouts and Guides did the thinking day at three places and in all the places they first started the commemoration with Camps: The first place was Ilula Peace Makers Vocational Training Centre (IPVTC), Dabaga Secondary School, and Kilolo Secondary School. A total of 885 people 455 girls and 430 boys from all three places participated in the Thinking Day. Scouts and Guides were from 13 primary schools, and 18 secondary schools. During the thinking day event scouts and guides look after different activities such as; they had a facilitator who is a police specialized in firefighting and safety, who taught them about firefighting and road safety, scouts and guides went to visit the sick people at the hospital, they learned about gender issues from a facilitator who is a social worker, they learned about scoutism, they had a kims games, map reading, environmental cleanness at IPVTC, health issues, road safety and other scouting issues.



SCOUTS AT ITUNDA HOSPITAL AFTER VISITING THE SICK



SCOUTS CLEANING ENVIRONMENT AT IPVTC

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you would like more information about projects and/or sponsoring opportunities; reach your nearby IOP personnel from the list below.

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