



MWANZO

HOPE HAS A HOME HERE



**2020 Annual Impact Report:
Circle of Hope**

New Beginnings

The term *mwanzo* means 'new beginnings' in Swahili. Through our community-driven model of rural development, Mwanzo accelerates hope in Rabuor Village, Kenya, and surrounding subsistence-farming communities.

Our **mission** is to cultivate opportunities through education and community-driven development in Rabuor Village, Kenya, and neighboring communities.

Our **vision** is a vibrant, restored Rabuor and her neighboring communities, offering new beginnings for generations to come.



A Message From Our Director:

Dear friends of Mwanzo,

The year 2020, even as difficult as it was, still magnified the power of hope. We at Mwanzo leaned heavily on you for the continuation of our work, and you said yes again and again with love and care. This annual impact report is my way of sharing my deep gratitude for the many hands that reached out to the Mwanzo Board and the community of Rabuor. We collectively struggled to understand the life altering events of the past year and we carried on with hope.

The photos and graphs shown here confirm the circle of hope you helped us sustain in 2020. In so doing, I want to express my appreciation and invite you to continue to journey with us in 2021 and beyond. As I often say, skills are universal; opportunities and/or resources are the limitation. Thank you for helping provide resources so Rabuor can hold onto hope.



Loyce Ong'udi

Our Activities

Nurturing young minds

Like many around the world, Mwanzo Education Center was caught off-guard with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020. On March 13, the Kenyan government closed schools and markets across Kenya. Many of our students' families felt great impact: in these communities where congregating is the way of life.

Immediately, we reached out to you, our friends and supporters, and as a result of your kind contributions, Mwanzo managed to mitigate potential dire consequences brought about by the closure of schools, markets, and various other micro-enterprises. With your support, Mwanzo was able to continue to employ our staff, who distributed food to 200 families. The staff provided educational support to the children and maintained the school buildings.



1,500

community members
received emergency
food assistance



Educating children

In October Mwanzo Education Center welcomed back students in Grade 4 only, per Ministry of Education orders. At the opening and close of each school day, MEC staff perform student, teacher, and staff temperature checks. Masks are mandatory in the school compound. A particular challenge that the staff face daily is to maintain safety while the children board the bus and during playtime. Both MEC staff and the Ministry of Education monitor these ongoing safety practices.

Mwanzo purchased a used school bus to transport children who live farther away from the school in neighboring villages, which has helped us increase the number of students attending MEC during 2020 by 30%.

1,931

educational packets
were distributed to
MEC students



55

new students
enrolled with a bus
available



Promoting health of children and communities

In early 2020, while in Rabuor, our Executive Director established a formal partnership between the Mwanzo Education Center and Chulaimbo, the local hospital and clinic. This partnership now regularly screens the school children for vision and dental problems, malaria, and childhood illnesses.

In 2020, Mwanzo partnered with graduate engineering students from WakeForest University to improve long term storage of the rainwater collection system at the school compound. Currently the cistern tanks at MEC collect rainwater for drinking, cooking, and sanitation and hold 40,000 liters.



3,750

community members
received PPE and
health items



Enhancing jobs and skills while adapting to climate change

In March, in response to the pandemic, the Kenyan government prohibited public gatherings. Local enterprises were then not able to meet to continue their regular work. The Mwanzo Energetic Proud Farmers women's group responded to these conditions by starting a tree planting program. They completed training with a local expert agronomist and have begun to plant seedling trees of many varieties: fast-growing to provide firewood and timber, shade-providing, medicinal and fruit-bearing, and drought-tolerant. The project will help to reforest the area as wood is the primary fuel for cooking. Mwanzo Education Center students are engaged in the learning and care as an extracurricular activity.

Mwanzo also began fundraising for a solar system to be installed for MEC. This will markedly improve the reliability of electricity and water pumping for the school.

1,200

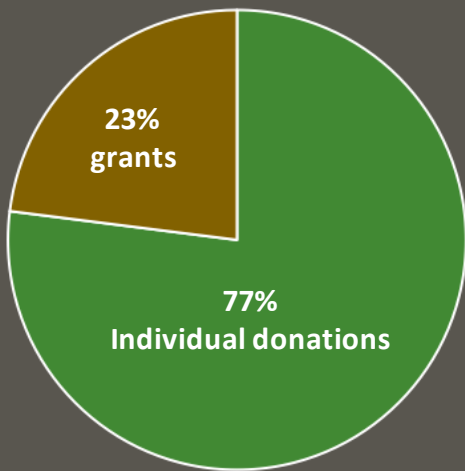
community members
attended agricultural
best practice
trainings



Our Financials

The below data represent April through November 2020 financials, as our fiscal year begins in April.

Revenues

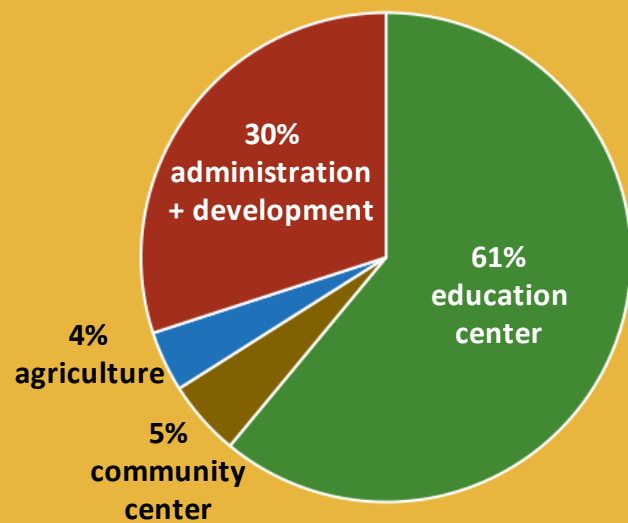


Total revenue: \$195,199

77%
donors retained
from 2019



Expenditures



Total expenditures: \$125,390

21 Kenya-based staff

1 US-based staff



Our Partners

We are proud to partner with others dedicated to cultivating lasting opportunities for all. In addition to the following organizations, we are grateful for the partnership of many individuals who support Mwanzo financially and beyond.

University Congregational Church of Christ



One Day's Wages



Rotary Club of Edmonds



WakeForest University Department of Engineering



Seattle 4 Rotary Club



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