



ANNUAL REPORT 2021



Songea's Kids is an all-volunteer, 501(c3) non-profit
EIN: 51-0649064

From the President

To our Songea's Kids Community,

With the pandemic continuing throughout 2021, the year challenged us all to think creatively on different ways to achieve our goals. Thankfully, with the support of our volunteers, pro-bono experts, and donor community, we continued to make an impact on the lives of the orphans, vulnerable children and their communities in southern Tanzania.

In this report, we will share with you some of the moving stories that touched our hearts this past year. Special highlights for 2021 include the grand opening of the Hope Village Rotary Health Care Dispensary in April to provide quality and life saving preventive, diagnostic and treatment services to local village families. Also at Hope Village, the Masonry Vocational Training Classroom received certification from the Government of Tanzania, hired staff, and began enrollment in anticipation of opening in January 2022.

2021 also saw an expansion of our child sponsorship program to add five new children in Songea and the launch of a similar sponsorship program in Lutukira, outside Hope Village. Our focus on transforming lives through education demonstrated that if you provide children with the support they need to learn, they will do their best to achieve their potential in life. In 2021, we celebrated the joyful graduation of two young students with Bachelor degrees in Transport Management, and four students who obtained their certifications in electricity, welding, mechanics and carpentry from vocational training programs. We also gave a joyful send-off to four students who began their college/university careers studying biotechnology, IT, multi-media and horticulture. They are working towards a future where they will have knowledge and skills to become self-supporting adults.

All of this, and so much more, is made possible by you--our donors, child sponsors, pro-bono technical experts and our volunteers. Thank you!

Best,

Sherie Valderrama

Sherie Valderrama
President

Mission

We partner with Tanzanian NGOs to help orphans, vulnerable children and their communities break the cycle of poverty and live productive lives. By providing nurturing homes, nutritious food, quality healthcare, clean water and education, children can thrive and achieve their potential.

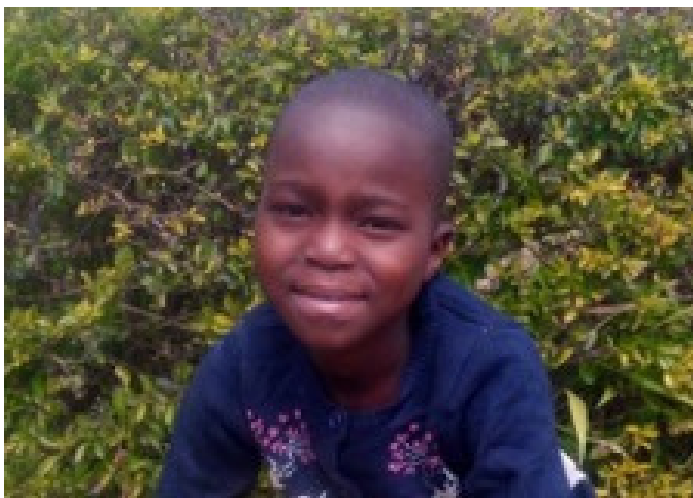


Thank you for building hope and transforming lives!

Our Impact in 2021

Child Sponsorship Highlights

In 2021, child sponsorship continued to transform lives and strengthen communities. In total, we provided 62 children with safe places to live, nutritious food to eat, clean clothes to wear at home and at school, quality health care and education. Seven new children in urgent need joined our programs in 2021: five in Songea and two in our newly launched child sponsorship program in Lutukira with Hope Village.



Five Kids joined the Songea Child Sponsorship Program in Songea. Clockwise from top left: Clara, Selena, Braithon, Debora and Vaileth

Our Impact in 2021

Child Sponsorship

In December 2021, Songea's Kids launched a new child sponsorship program to help address the widespread and devastating poverty of orphans and vulnerable children in the communities surrounding Hope Village. The first two children to enter the program are Grace and Fatina, pictured below in front of their homes on the day they joined the child sponsorship program.



Grace and Fatina live in Lutukira, one of the most impoverished villages in the region. In their short lives, they have experienced such tragic loss and deprivation. Grace's father abandoned the family when she was five years old, and she is being raised by her mother, who has HIV/AIDS. Fatina's mother abandoned her family and she and her four siblings are being raised by their father, a poor, subsistence farmer. Yet, despite the tragedy in their young lives, both are avid learners in school and hold dreams for a better future. With child sponsorship that provides basic needs, education and encouragement, they now have the support they need to turn dreams into reality.

Our Impact in 2021

Children with Special Needs are Never Left Behind

When it comes to caring for children, there is no "one size fits all" approach at Songea's Kids. We recognize that some children have special needs and we ensure that they receive support that is tailored to them so that they can live their best lives. We have long supported children with needs ranging from the hearing impaired, physical mobility, learning disabilities and more.

In 2021, we brought a new child into our program. Debora is a young girl filled with the love of life. An eager student, she quickly thrived with the support of her basic and educational needs. Sadly, soon after joining our program, Debora was also diagnosed with cancer, a heartbreaking situation for her and her grandfather, who is her caretaker.

Thanks to her generous sponsor and to those who donate to our Greatest Needs Fund, we were able to find specialized treatment for Debora at a hospital in Dar es Salaam and arrange for flexible schooling arrangements so she would not fall behind. With specialized medical care, enhanced nutrition, and the support of tutors, Debora is able to continue her studies.



Above left: Songea's Kids Board Member, Crispin Silvanus, visits with Debora in Dar es Salaam to ensure her treatment is going well and that she has the tutorial support she needs. Above right: Debora with her new bed and mosquito netting. The netting protects her from risk of malaria.

Our Impact in 2021

Education Transforms Lives

At Songea's Kids, we know that it is not enough to meet a child's basic needs. To break the cycle of poverty, education is the key. Having the knowledge, skills and ability to support themselves and their future families is the gift that will transform their lives and strengthen their communities.

All the children in our program are enrolled in school and each child is encouraged to achieve his or her potential. If a child is struggling, we identify a tutor to provide the extra help they need. We support all of their education costs, from school fees, to uniforms, and supplies from primary school through secondary school or vocational training. Many are now obtaining college and university educations.

Education by the Numbers

- 33 in primary school
- 11 in secondary school
- 4 in "A" level
- 8 in vocational training
- 6 at college/university



Our Impact in 2021

Congratulations to the New University Graduates!

When Kandidus and Kenedy joined our program as young kids, neither could have imagined that one day they would be standing in cap and gown, celebrating their graduation from university and embarking on an exciting career. Through years of hard work and study, their basic needs and education provided by Songea's Kids child sponsors, and special university scholarships provided by a Songea's Kids board member committed to higher education, Kandidus and Kenedy received their Bachelor degrees in Transport Management from the Dar es Salaam Institute of Transportation in November 2021!



Our Impact in 2021

Four Students Begin College/University Studies!

Fall 2021 was a time of great joy for Fatuma, Lucas, Raphael and Didakus as they began their studies at college and university. Many thanks to generous donors from Songea's Kids who are funding their tuition, fees, room, board and supplies. We wish the students well as they begin this new chapter in their lives!

- Fatuma is studying biotechnology at the Dar Salaam Institute of Technology
- Lucas is studying multi-media technology at Dodoma University
- Raphael is studying information technology at Kampala University
- Didakus is studying horticulture at Soikoine University of Agriculture



Following an afternoon of shopping for school supplies and clothing, Songea's Kids' Board Member, Crispin Silvanus, and Yona Mkula, COO of the Tanzanian NGO Jirani Mwema, hosted lunch at a local restaurant in Songea as a special send off for the four students.

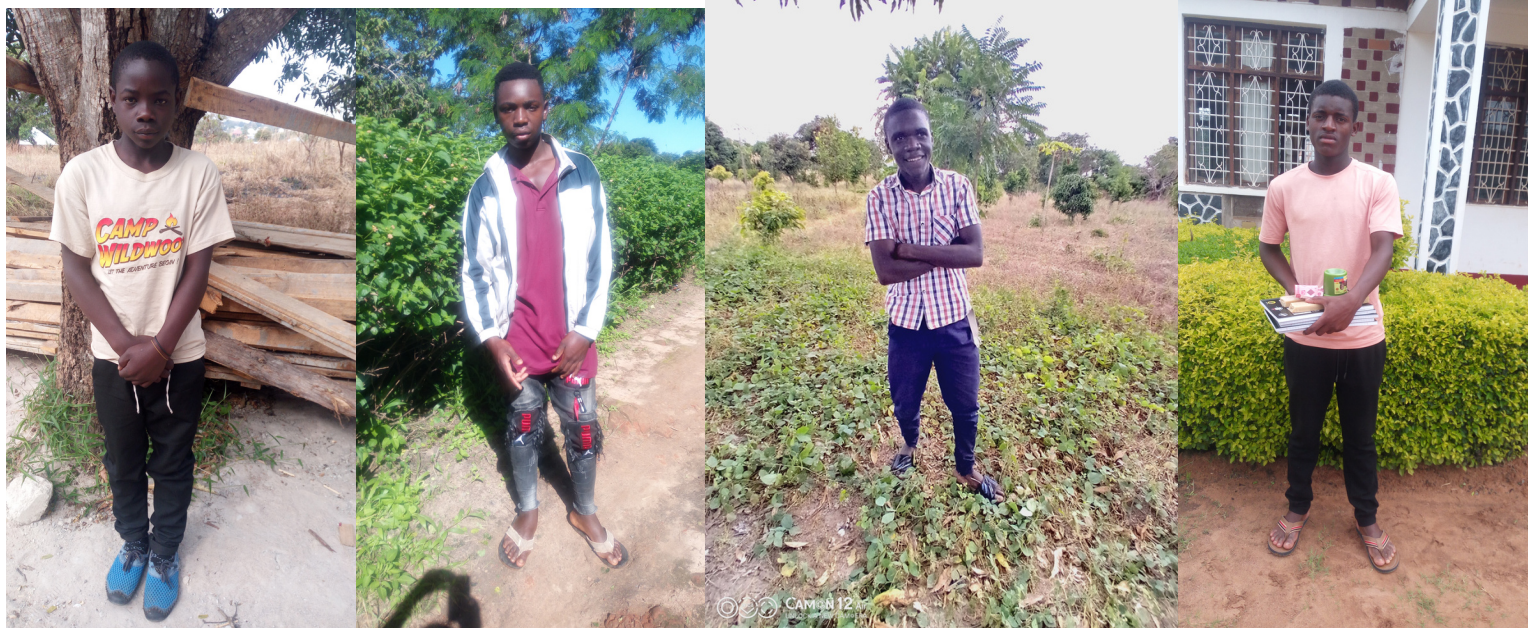
Above (left to right): Lucas, Fatuma, Didakus, Raphael, Crispin Silvanus and Yona Mkula.

Our Impact in 2021

Congratulations to Four New Vocational Training Graduates!

Many of our students enroll in vocational training programs to obtain the skills and certifications to build their careers in such areas as carpentry, plumbing, masonry, mechanics, tailoring and so much more. These skills enable them to build bright futures.

In December 2021, Filbert and Dickson obtained certifications in mechanics and welding, Jackson obtained certification in carpentry and Ivan obtained certification as an electrician. Many thanks to their long time child sponsors who provided them with basic needs and education, and to the generosity of a special donor who provided each with the tools they needed to open their own businesses. Their careers have launched!



Above (Left to right): Filbert, Dickson, Jackson and Ivan

Our Impact in 2021

COVID-19 Prevention

COVID-19 continued to spread throughout the world in 2021. With limited availability of vaccines and vaccine hesitancy in many areas, we continued to focus on reinforcing training for the kids and their communities, and provided extra hygiene supplies, home-based water systems, and masks. Thankfully, the children and their caretakers remained healthy.



Braithon wears his mask and maintains social distance

Our Impact in 2021

Grand Opening of the Hope Village Rotary Health Care Dispensary

In April 2021, Hope Village Organization opened the Rotary Health Care Dispensary, the first facility to provide local villagers with access to high quality preventive, diagnostic, and treatment services. Opening day was filled with joy as villagers gathered to celebrate.



On opening day, Hope Village Organization offered free medical services to all who came to the celebration! Below, villagers lined up outside the facility, patiently awaiting their examinations.



Our Impact in 2021

Rotary Health Care Dispensary Highlights

The Hope Village Rotary Dispensary has 12 fully equipped rooms, including a birthing center, laboratory, pharmacy, reception and patient treatment rooms.



Top l-r: Dispensary staff pose in front of the facility and doctor examines patient. Bottom l-r: Patient is weighed, patient describes health concerns to doctor, and lab technician utilizes diagnostic equipment.

Our Impact in 2021

Patient Diagnostics and Treatment

For the first time, local villagers have access to a modern health care facility, with highly trained medical staff, diagnostic technology and a fully stocked pharmacy.

Health Care Services

By the numbers:

- 1258 patients served
 - 60% female, 40% male
 - 16% aged 0-5
- Number of births: 7
- Top illnesses treated
 - Urinary Tract Infection
 - Typhoid fever
 - Malaria
 - Upper Respiratory tract Infections
 - Hook worms
 - Hypertension
 - Peptic ulcers diseases
 - Skin infections



Our Impact in 2021

The James Vedder Birthing Center for Delivery, Infant and Maternal Care

One special feature of the Rotary Health Care Dispensary is the Birthing Center, the first of its kind in the region. Local women were amazed to learn that the center was developed especially for them, providing prenatal, delivery and post-natal care to promote maternal/baby health.

**DONATED IN LOVING MEMORY
OF JAMES FORREST VEDDER
WITH THANKS TO LESLYS VEDDER**



Our Impact in 2021

From the Patients:



“I am so thankful to the Hope Village doctor and staff. I gave birth to my son in a clean, safe birthing center and the care we received was excellent.”

Mama Nasma



“I tell all the women to come to Hope Village. They will receive excellent care here, just like I did!”

Mama Ester

Our Impact in 2021

Hope Village Masonry Vocational Training Program

Hope Village is committed to providing a range of vocational training programs that will provide impoverished rural village youth with valuable skills to support themselves and break the cycle of poverty. The first vocational training program scheduled to open will be the Masonry Vocation Training Classroom. In late 2021, Hope Village Organization hired staff and began enrolling students for its first vocational training program, with a planned January 2022 opening.



The building was designed by pro-bono architectural expertise from a leading Seattle-based firm. It was constructed using locally available materials, and utilizes solar powered electricity and water. The deep water well and solar pump provide clean water to the building, thanks to the pro-bono expertise provided by Seattle-area water engineers. Local villagers provided labor for construction, learning valuable skills such as brick-making, truss assembly and more. Special donors provided funding for construction, building furnishings and equipment.

Future vocational training offerings planned by Hope Village include tailoring, carpentry, electricity, plumbing, computer science and more.

Our Impact in 2021

First Students To Enroll are Looking forward to the Masonry Classroom Opening in January 2022!

It was exciting to see the first two students enrolled are local female students. Magreth and Noerina are breaking gender barriers in a traditionally male-oriented profession.



Both received scholarship funding to attend. Upon completion of the two year program, each will have a certification that designates their expertise, opening doors to future employment opportunities. There are many who would like to obtain this training, but lack the funds to enroll. Songea's Kids will continue to expand access to scholarships through donations to our Education Fund.

Our Impact in 2021

Naming Rooms in Hope Village

To purchase the furnishings and equipment for the dispensary and the vocational training classroom, we launched a fundraiser to members of the Songea's Kids community to name a room. As a result, each of the rooms in the Rotary Health Care Dispensary and in the Masonry Vocational Training Classroom have their own special and unique names.

In the Rotary Health Care Dispensary:

- Laboratory: In Memory of James Forrest Vedder, with thanks to Leslys Vedder
- Birthing Room: In Memory of James Forrest Vedder, with thanks to Leslys Vedder
- Pharmacy: Special Thanks to Ramiro Valderrama-Aramayo
- Dressing Room: Gift from Linda Hines in Loving Memory of Donald Hines
- Observation Room #1: Gift from Nancy Killian in Loving Memory of Van Killian
- Observation Room #2: Gift from Emerald City Rotary Club USA
- Reception Room: Gift from Lisa Parkinson in Loving Memory of Dave Parkinson
- Doctor Room: Gift in Honor of Gini and Gene Pfeifer
- Isolation Room: Gifted with Love from the Christensen Family
- Multi-purpose/Emergency Room: In Memory of Ken Trough, a Creative Innovator and Kind Friend
- Injection Room: Everytime you Smile at Someone, it is an Action of Love, a Gift to that Person, a Beautiful Thing (Mother Teresa)
- Storage Room: In honor of Hope Village Organization, Lutukira Village Leaders, and Workers who Built the Dispensary

In the Masonry Vocational Training Classroom:

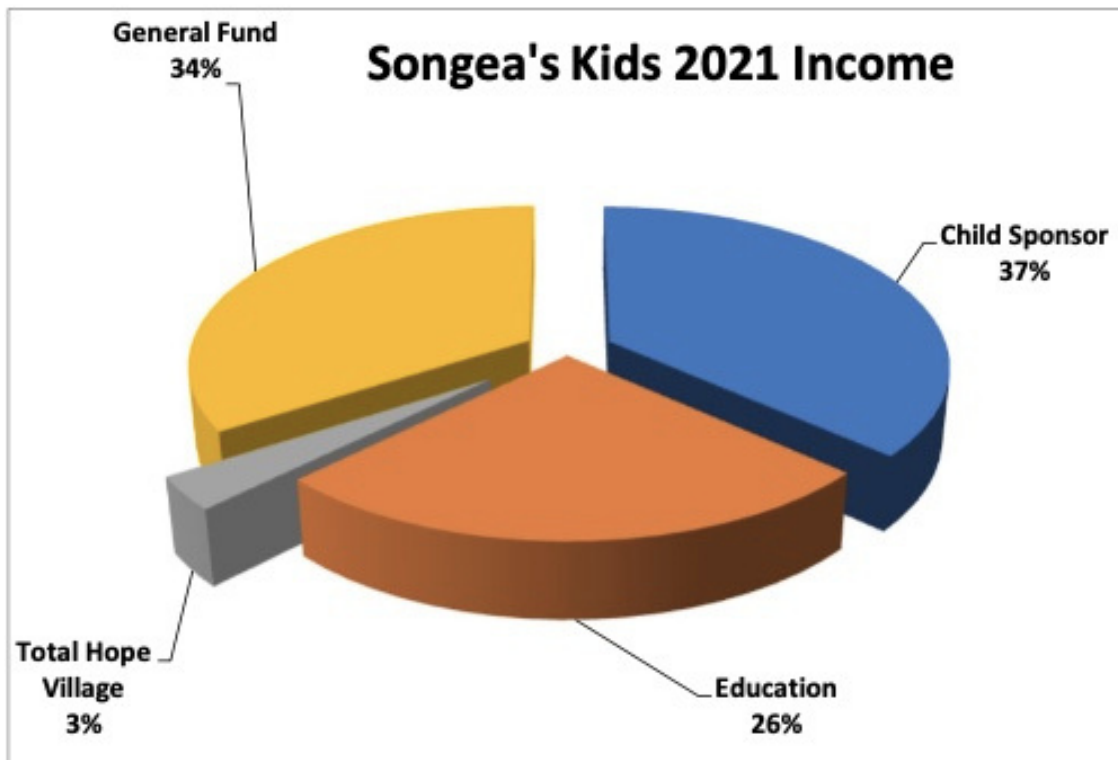
- Entrance to the Masonry Classroom: In Loving Memory of Roy Raudebaugh Senior and Kurt Heinrich with Thanks to our Heavenly Father
- Interior Entrance #1: Special Thanks to Sewing Seeds of Hope USA
- Interior Entrance #2: Special Thanks to Trinity Lutheran Church USA

2021 Financials

Songea's Kids Income/Donations: 2021

	Total Income*	% of Total Income
Child Sponsor	31,669.33	37%
Education	22,346.28	26%
Total Hope Village	2,840.32	3%
General Fund	29,478.51	34%
	86,334.44	

*Total Income excludes \$12,600 of donated professional services



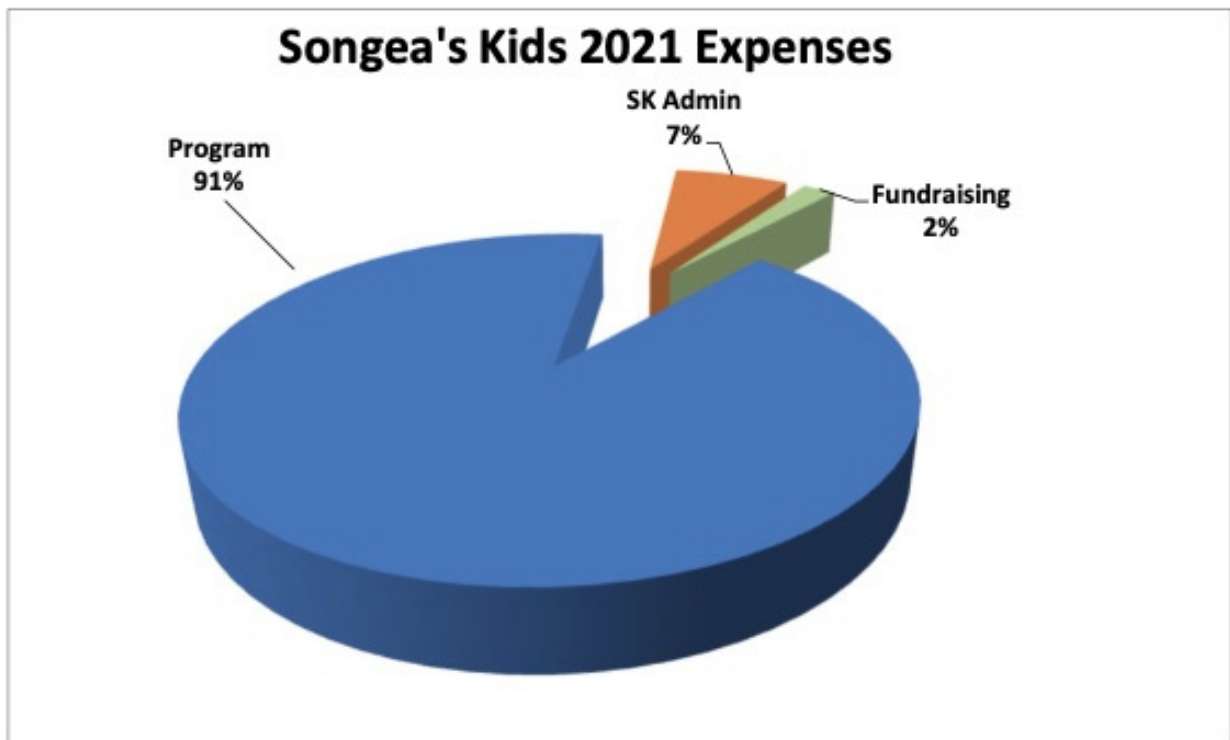
As an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization, 91% of donations go directly to support our the kids!

2021 Financials

Songea's Kids Expenses: 2021

	Total Expense*	% of Total Expense
Program	77,245.68	91%
SK Admin	6,049.99	7%
Fundraising	1,750.00	2%
	85,045.67	

* Total Expense excludes \$12,600 of donated professional services



As an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization, 91% of donations go directly to support our the kids!

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Songea's Kids is an all-volunteer, non-profit based in Sammamish, Washington, USA. Our work would be impossible without the many talented people devoting hundreds of hours each year to help accomplish our mission and keep our overhead costs low. If we unintentionally misspelled or omitted your name, please accept our apologies and let us know. ASANTE SANA!

Songea's Kids Board of Directors

- Max Goldensohn
- David Tardif-Douglin
- Erica Myrick-Thompson
- Susan Follmer
- Jane Gleason
- Hon. Joseph Mhagama
- Steven Shepelwich
- Crispin Silvanus

Songea's Kids President

- Sherie Valderrama

Songea's Kids Co-Founders

- Linda Hines, Chair, Advisory Committee
- Sally Farrell. Member, Advisory Committee

Hope Village Architects

- Rick Sundberg
- Gladys Le-Au Young
- Myra Lara

Hope Village Engineers

- Charles Ellingson
- Russ Prior
- Mark Reeves

Child Sponsorship Coordinator

- Lisa Parkinson

Communications Manager

- Chitra Brihadeeshwar

Finance/Accounting

- Mena Ayoub
- Naushina Esmail
- Yun Gao

Multi-Media/Website/IT

- Kathy Vance
- Michael Vance
- Marie Zeglen

1st Annual 5k Walk-a-Thon Team

- Sally Farrell
- Reggie Glaspie
- Lisa Parkinson
- David Tardif-Douglin
- Sherie Valderrama

Songea Holiday Bazaar Team

- Lisa Parkinson
- David-Tardif-Douglin
- Sherie Valderrama

Advisor

- Marite Butners

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS & SPONSORS

Through your generosity, Songea's Kids is able to make a difference in the lives of the orphans, vulnerable children and their communities. You are making a difference in the lives of so many!
ASANTE SANA!

- Megan Anderson
- Jim & Mary Ardissono
- Nickie & Warren Askov
- James Athanas
- Carol Bailey
- Charles & Janet Bird
- Linda & Mike Bloom
- Chitra & Venkataraman Brihadeeshwar
- Jenna Marie Burke
- Marite Butners
- Erin & Teage Christensen
- Joan Dalton
- Chris Davis
- Laura Davis
- Karen Bushnell & Jerome Dawson
- Loreen Lee Ehlers
- Charles Ellingson
- RW & AE Esser
- Janette Evans
- Sally Farrell
- Karen Feldt & Jerome Lambert
- Karalea Follmer
- Mark & Susan Follmer
- Terry Ann Foster
- Elizabeth Jean Fuchs
- Nathan Galer
- Ted & Paula Gates
- Sharon Gavin
- Reggie Glaspie
- Marlice Gilmore
- Jane Gleason
- Max & Andrea Goldensohn
- Gregory Goode
- William Grant
- Mary Lou Griffin
- Phillip Haas
- Brenda Higley
- Becky & Warren Hines
- Eric & Pam Hines
- Linda Hines
- Don Humpal
- William & Jean Hurt

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS & SPONSORS

- Kelly Jensen
- Jeff & Marilyn Jewell
- Dana Johnson
- Paula Jones, Our Beginning, LLC
- Paul & Patricia Kaald
- Joan Kenney
- Nancy Killian
- SaSa & Kenny Kirkpatrick
- Michele Kleyn
- Marye-Heather Kolbly
- Laura Ann Lambert
- Ann & Robert Landerholm Burke
- Loren Landerholm
- Archana Laxminarayan
- Eli & Dawn Lee
- Christy Martens
- Kris and Stephen McBride
- Daphne M McCloskey
- Nancy McCulley
- Mark and Jane McDowell
- Florence Mndolwa
- Julie Morrill
- Pam Morton
- Brad & Kelly Mudgett
- Erica Myrick-Thompson
- Gloria Myrick
- Divya Nair
- Linda Nasby
- Jan Nestler
- Holly Nordal
- Lark Otha
- Linda Owen
- Owen Family Trust
- Lisa Parkinson
- Peter & Sam Peterson
- Susan Pettersson
- Kristen Pfeifer
- Jennifer Porter
- Roy & Gabriele Raudebaugh
- Kamalesh Raval
- Christiane Reid
- Mark & Lauren Root
- Gary and Margaret Rosenow
- Raymond Rosch
- Alison Ryan
- Luke Ryba
- Kjell and Laurie Rye
- Sammamish Rotary Foundation
- Betty and Scott Schleiffers
- Paula Seeger
- Cindy Sharek

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS & SPONSORS

- Ellen Shay
- Steven Shepelwich
- Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
- Ratna Sheth
- Noreen Shinohara
- Menta Shital
- Julie Shobe
- Eric & Sally Slippert
- Mark Smith
- Sharon Solsvik
- Carol Stamper
- Jeremy Star
- Rosemary & Clayton Stika
- Diana L. Sundal
- Anina Tardif-Douglin
- Catherine & David Tardif-Douglin
- Edmund & Sally Terpilowski
- Cheryl Thompson
- Natalia Valderrama
- Sherie & Ramiro Valderrama
- Dwijavanti Varatharajan
- Maria Villar
- Vishwanath Family Trust
- Janet Morgan Wall
- Bob Walter
- Patricia Waltner
- Dennis & Candy Warner
- Pao-Pei Wei
- Catherine Ann Whitehead
- Winifred Wiatrak
- Chris & Cary Young
- Diane Zehms

ORGANIZATION DONORS

Seattle Area Rotary Clubs

Friends of Tanzania

Living Water

Sewing Seeds of Hope



Our Goals for 2022

Child Sponsorship Program

We know that by providing nurturing homes, nutritious food, clean water, health care and education, we can save and transform the life of an orphan or vulnerable child. In 2022, we hope to reach more children in urgent need in Songea and Lutukira and strengthen the services we provide. We aim to:

- Add 10 new children in urgent need to our program
- Fund university for three students who passed their national entrance exams and are eligible to begin studies in Fall 2022
- Enhance tutoring and mentoring programs
- Launch housing improvement initiatives to repair aging homes of the orphans and vulnerable children we support

Hope Village Development

Hope Village is envisioned to become a residential haven for abandoned orphans and vulnerable children who have nowhere to turn. Our next project will be to construct the residential orphan homes. Hope Village will be a thriving center to support both the orphans and the rural community with clean water, health care, education and vocational training, and entrepreneurial opportunities. With Hope Village, we aim to transform lives, and break the cycle of poverty. In 2022, we plan to:

- Initiate construction of the first residential orphan home for orphaned and abandoned babies and children at Hope Village
- Construct a laundry room to serve Hope Village
- Raise funds to construct a new well to support future growth at Hope Village

Questions? Contact Us!

www.songeaskids.org

info@songeaskids.org

3020 Issaquah Pine Lake Rd SE, #539

Sammamish, WA 98075

Songea's Kids is an all-volunteer 501(c)3 nonprofit organization

EIN: 51-0649064