

# Building Schools in Tanzania and Kenya



A Project of New York Quarterly Meeting

## The Schools in Kisangura (Tanzania) and Davanga Village (Kenya)

**Kisangura** Near the town of Mugumu, in the Serengeti District of Mara Region, are two schools sponsored by Tanzania Yearly Meeting, Kisangura Friends Primary School and Kisangura Friends Secondary School. For the past eight years, these schools have been supported by the Great Lakes Region (Africa) Education Committee, a committee in the care of New York Quarterly Meeting. The committee promotes education at the schools in Kisangura by raising funds for:

- school fees, books, supplies, and uniforms for students orphaned by AIDS;
- physical improvements, such as staff housing, classrooms, and cisterns for drinking water;
- developing relationships regionally in Tanzania and the US that support these activities.

The committee has achieved some success in these ongoing efforts: supplies for 90 to 120 orphans have been provided each year; six teachers' houses and three cisterns have been built; and rehabilitation of a building now destined to become a library has begun. Approximately \$200,000 has been raised

from individuals and institutions within and without the Quarter since the committee's creation.

The committee has strong relationships with Project Zawadi, a US-based, non-profit group that works in this area of Tanzania, and Project Okoa, a non-profit group in Mugumu formed specifically to nurture the local schools. The committee monitors its support through these two organizations and through periodic visits to the schools.



Kisangura Primary Sponsored Students (2009)



Kisangura Secondary Sponsored Students (2009)



**Davanga Village** More recently, the committee has taken under its care Manhattan Monthly Meeting's construction of a new school in Kenya. In 2004, Manhattan Monthly Meeting was able to add six classrooms, a library, and latrines for Endeli Primary School and Elwunza Primary School in western Kenya. School uniforms and books have been provided yearly to children orphaned by AIDS at both these schools.

Manhattan Monthly Meeting has now come to the committee to raise money for the construction of a new four-classroom school in Kenya. Through a program under the care of the East African Yearly Meeting, the school will be located in Davanga Village, in Vihiga District, and share the property on which Davanga Friends Church currently sits. The new school will improve the literacy level in the community and provide other educational benefits. The committee will administer the use of donated funds through site visits.



Kisangura Secondary – old cistern rebuilt (2009)



Kisangura Secondary – new cistern finished (2009)



Kisangura Primary Sponsored Students (2009)

## The Challenge: Expansion and Renovation of Facilities

**The Kisangura Primary and Secondary Schools.** The list of needs was created by the Kisangura schools and verified by a site visit this year. The costs for these items have been researched by Project Okoa, reviewed by Project Zawadi, and are consistent with the costs of earlier achievements. Costs are expressed in US dollars with a conversion rate of \$1.00 US to 1,205.00 TZS (Tanzania Shillings).

**Two teachers' houses for Kisangura Secondary School. \$15,122**  
Such housing allows the school to attract and retain better teachers, who must travel great distances to reach this rural area.

**A small cistern for each of six teachers' houses built previously and new wood shutters for all windows. \$9,365**  
Because the region has long dry spells each year, the cisterns are a much-needed public health measure. The window openings are currently unglazed, and so the shutters are needed both for security and for protection against the weather.

**Latrines for both schools. \$11,656**  
The current number of latrines at both schools is inadequate, and the existing ones are dilapidated. Sixteen latrines at each school (thirty-two total) will be built to improve health conditions. Latrines are another major public health measure, especially when their use is supported by training in hand-washing and transmission of water-borne diseases. Separate and

private latrines are also an important way to improve school attendance for girls at puberty, who otherwise remain home during their monthly menses.

**Two computers with wireless modems for each school. \$6,776**  
These will allow easier communication from this remote area and be used by the administration. The school offices have electrical power, and there are competing regional wireless services in the area.

**Administration fee. \$2,000**  
This fee goes to Project Zawadi and Project Okoa for their disbursement, monitoring, and accounting of the donated funds. It is less than 5% of the total request.

**Total Request for Tanzania Schools \$44,919**



Kisangura Secondary – Girls' Dorm, unused due to lack of latrines (2009)

**The Davanga Village Primary School** Davanga Friends Monthly Meeting located in Maragoli, western Kenya, is undertaking the construction of a primary school for children in the community who have no access to a school in their neighborhood. The primary school nearest to this area is about 3 miles from the meeting house, and the new school will reduce the overcrowded conditions at this school by taking in pupils who now make the trek. It will also serve children who cannot be accepted into that school because it is already so overcrowded, with more than 100 children per class. The school will support a local population with low levels of literacy and suffering from food deprivation, a lack of security, and, generally, high levels of poverty (67%) and a high prevalence of HIV and AIDS. There are more than 85 children, at present under the care of Davanga Friends Meeting, who are using the meeting house for instruction with a single teacher. The meeting and the community are engaged in a continuing process of raising funds for building classrooms for these students.



Davanga Village school – building the foundation

Originally, eight classrooms were envisioned; however, the approach is to build as funds become available. In 2008, Manhattan Monthly Meeting raised \$7,500 through New York Yearly Meeting World Ministries Committee, money which was spent on buying materials and beginning the building foundation. More work is needed on the foundation before putting up the classrooms. NYQM

contributions towards this effort will go towards completing the foundation and building the superstructure for four classrooms.

**Total Request for Construction at Davanga Village in Kenya \$22,000**

## The Total Funds Requested Are \$66,919.

The committee commits to providing the Quarter with periodic reports as milestones are met and to provide documentation of funds dispensed for the two projects.

## Raising the Money

Many individuals, Quaker and non-Quaker, have been supporting the orphans at the schools in Tanzania on an annual basis, and **it is important that they continue to do this** in the future. However, we are also seeking **additional contributions** for capital building expenses in Kenya and Tanzania in 2009-2010. Through the Matching Fund Campaign, we also hope to educate more people—both within and outside the Quarter—about the work of New York Quarterly Meeting in the Great Lakes Region of Africa.



Kisangura Secondary Sponsored Students (2009)

## Campaign Goal = \$67,000

**\$33,500 raised by NYQM will be matched by an anonymous donor.**  
**The pyramid shows how we can raise \$33,500.**



We are actively seeking leadership gifts. If we should succeed in raising more than \$67,000, the monies will be spent on additional improvements and building projects at the two sites.

## How You Can Contribute

Complete the enclosed form with your name and address and the amount that you are donating. Write the check to "NYQM African Education Committee," and indicate on the memo line that it is for the "Matching Fund." Mail the check in the enclosed envelope to Nancy Black, Clerk of New York Quarterly Meeting, 178 Lincoln Road, Brooklyn, NY 11225.

All contributions to the NYQM African Education Committee are tax-deductible.



Kisangura Primary Sponsored Students (2009)

*Produced by the New York Quarterly Meeting African Education Committee*

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