



MBEGU ZA URAFIKI

SEEDS OF FRIENDSHIP

Newsletter of the Friends of Tanzania / Marafiki wa Tanzania

FOUNDED 1991

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2022

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THE SUN SHINES BRIGHTLY on the Lutenganoh School Scholarship

Allen Tamura, Newsletter Co-Editor

When Anita Johnson was a PCV teaching at Lutenganoh Middle School, she never dreamed her actions many decades later would make such a difference. Lutenganoh, now a secondary, co-ed school and long-owned by the Moravian Church in Tanzania, was founded in 1950 as a girls' middle school. In 1972, the school changed to a primary school and accepted students with disabilities. In 1982, the school became a co-educational secondary school and remains as such today. Lutenganoh is in the village of Makeje, about 10 miles south of Tukuyu, 20 miles south of Rungwe, and 50+ miles south of Mbeya in the southern highlands.

Anita, a Tanzania III PCV, 1963-65, re-visited Lutenganoh in 2008 with her husband. They were invited to stay at the school and during the course of their visit, became familiar with the many activities at the facility. They visited classrooms and

met the Headmistress, Joan Mahembe. A Peace Corps volunteer stationed at the school at the time related to Anita that Ms. Mahembe was greatly admired by everyone for her leadership and her tireless, around-the-clock efforts to supervise and support teachers in the classroom.

After returning home, Anita established the Lutenganoh Scholarship Fund, which to date, has funded 150 scholarships supporting secondary school education for eligible girls. Each year of a student's education constituted a separate scholarship funding cycle, so a given student could be the recipient of more than one award. Each annual scholarship provides funds for tuition and room and board. For the girls who have received the scholarship, it is affectionately called the "Anita" scholarship.

Ms. Mahembe has, over the years, dedicated her efforts to finding and selecting girls for the scholarships. Beside the responsibilities of being the Headmistress, it is not uncommon for her to make inquiries in the area about girls who have academic potential and/or are good students but whose families cannot afford the expense of secondary school. When she finds a good candidate for the scholarship, she makes a home visit, and works on persuading the often-reluctant parents to agree to send their daughter to school, emphasizing the benefits of education. In Nyakyusa society, this is not always an easy task.

Recently, Ms. Mahembe informed Anita that one of the girls who received a scholarship, Neema Ephraim, had been



Figure 1. The Lutenganoh Secondary School campus.



Figure 2. Anita Johnson, a T III RPCV, established the Lutenganoh Scholarship Fund in 2008.

Continued on pg. 2



SPRING 2022

Mbegu za Urafiki / Seeds of Friendship
The Newsletter of Friends of Tanzania/Marafiki wa Tanzania

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(voting):

(Board Members may have multiple roles but only one is listed)

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appointed to a judgeship on the High Court of Tanzania. The appointment was made in September 2021, by Tanzania's new President, Madam Samia Hassan. Ms. Mahembe shared the following with Anita about her very first encounter, years ago, with Neema:

“Sometimes I use the village leaders to direct me to the homes of the girls from poor families who need education. One day, one of the village leaders told me about Neema Ephraim, so I was directed to her home, and when I reached her home, I first talked to her. I was so touched by her story. She told me that she had lost hope of going to school, that her parents could not afford sending her to school. As young as she was, her parents told her openly, they just wanted her to get married. After talking to Neema, I also had a short meeting with her parents, and I tried my best to convince them that their daughter should go to school under the Anita scholarship. So, after a long discussion, they accepted. So that's how Neema came to Lutenganoh. When Neema was awarded an Anita scholarship, that enabled her to start and complete her education at Lutenganoh. She completed her secondary schooling in 2010. After that she went to study the Law. She now holds a master's degree in Constitutional Law. You can just see how your funds have helped to change lives of the girls like Neema. She is now able to support her parents, brothers, and sisters.”

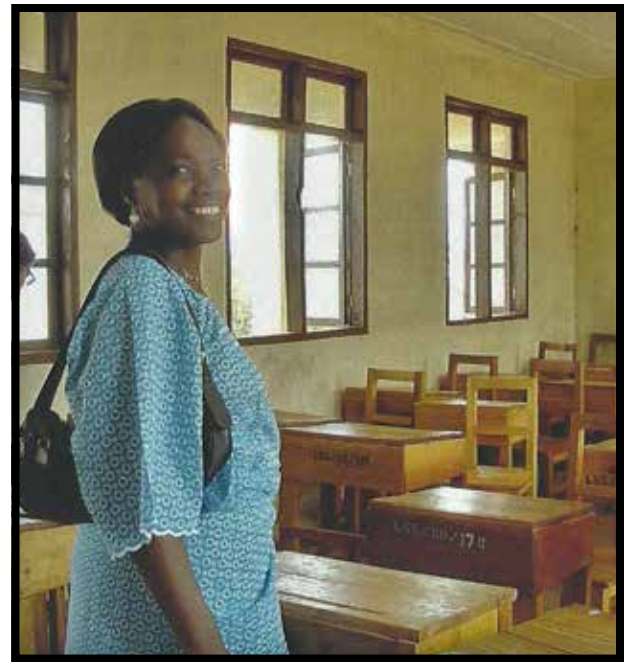


Figure 3. Ms. Joan Mahembe, Headmistress, Lutenganoh Secondary School.



Figure 4. Judge Neema Ephraim, a former recipient of the "Anita" scholarship, Lutenganoh Secondary School.

happy with the news. Madam Joan used to inform us that Anita is a lawyer by profession when I was just in Form 1. From that day, I really worked hard, and I was always telling the Headmistress that Anita is my role model, I want to become a Lawyer like Anita and fight for the rights of women. I completely depended on Anita scholarship funds until I completed my secondary education and now, I hold a master's degree in Constitutional Law. I am glad to inform you that a few days ago, it pleased the State President to appoint me as a High Court Judge. Just imagine, in our country there are only ten High Court female judges, and I am among

In an e-mail exchange with Anita, Judge Neema Ephraim related:

“I am very happy and proud to introduce myself to you. I took your e-mail address from Mama Joan Mahembe. My name is Neema Ephraim. I am an ex-Lutenganoh student. Let me tell you my background. When I completed my primary school, I spent two years at home. My parents could not afford money to send me to secondary school. When Madam Joan Mahembe heard about my situation, she visited my parents and convinced them that I should start secondary education at Lutenganoh under Anita scholarship funds. I was very

them. I can testify to you that I am the product of Anita scholarship funds. I really thank you for your generosity. May God bless you. These days I even support my parents.”

In a subsequent email to Anita, Neema shared this:

“I really enjoyed my [recent] visit at Lutenganoh. Ms. Mahembe was so happy to meet with me after so long time. She gave me an opportunity to talk to the girls under Anita scholarship. I gave them my testimony on how the scholarship funds made me to be whom I am. I encouraged them to work hard. The girls were so thankful for the calculators and blankets I gave them. I used Kiswahili language talking to them. The same day I had an opportunity to visit my parents at our home village not very far from Lutenganoh. At my home village people use so much Nyakyusa language. I am financing the construction of a new house for my parents. I hope the construction will be over by December. I have attached first the photo of the house of my parents. I was born and grew up in that house. Second is the photo of the new house. Soon they will be shifting to the new house which is just very close to the old house.”

Ms. Mahembe sends frequent e-mails to Anita (who has shared some of them with FOT) about “her” scholarship girls at Lutenganoh who continued their education through their own perseverance, intelligence, and determination. The Tanzanian educational system operates on a 7-4-2-3 system: seven years of primary school, followed by four years of secondary school, with the possibility of progressing to an additional two years of Advanced Level education, Forms V and VI. Following the 13th year of schooling, students may then take the Advanced Certificate exam and attend college for 3 to 4 years. Many, if not most, of the scholarship girls advance to Forms V and VI, and many go on to complete university degrees. All can find employment in the monetary economy, freeing them from the life of a village woman, which typically involves raising and caring for children, fetching water for the home, collecting firewood for the cooking fire, cooking the meals, doing the laundry, raising and feeding livestock, harvesting the crops, and taking produce to market.

Two Anita scholarship recipients who completed Form IV in November 2021 passed their final national examinations and advanced into Form V. Three others are continuing with their



Figure 5. The house where Judge Ephraim was born and raised.

education in professional fields in college. The girls are:

1. *Raila Mwasamajenda*, continuing in Form V education.
2. *Fide Charles*, continuing in Form V education.
3. *Adventina Amon*, enrolled in college to study Nursing.
4. *Yuster Fred*, enrolled in college to study Business Administration; and
5. *Sifa Donal*, enrolled in a primary Teachers' College.



Figure 6. The home currently under construction for Judge Ephraim's parents.

Anita was at Lutenganoh when it was a girls' middle school. As Anita remembers:

“I loved it there: it is so unbelievably beautiful, and the school was very well run and the girls so diligent.” She continued, “Based on my acquaintance with Ms. Mahembe, I started my scholarship donations, sponsoring the tuition and room and board for ten girls a year.”

Anita retired recently as an Assistant United States Attorney in Boston. She was previously an attorney in Washington D.C. with Ralph Nader's Health Research Group, the Environmental Defense Fund, and the Department of Justice Office of Consumer Litigation. She is a longtime member of Friends of Tanzania (FOT) and greatly admires its founders and officers. AT

POST-SCRIPT:

The Lutenganoh Scholarship Fund is a program funded through the Friends of Tanzania (FOT) portal, and for years has been an integral part of the FOT Member-Designated Projects' option.

Acknowledgements: The Editors wish to thank Ms. Anita Johnson, Ms. Joan Mahembe, and Judge Neema Ephraim for their contributions to this article.

PROJECTS' REPORT

Allen Tamura, Newsletter Co-Editor

with input from Clay Batko, Projects' Committee Chair

Two recently completed projects are featured in this edition. AT



Nisitiri reusable sanitary pads are shown to girls from a secondary school in rural Mchinga Constituency, Lindi Region.



Nagaru Secondary School students with their boxes of Nisitiri reusable pads.

1. NISITIRI REUSABLE SANITARY PADS FOR ADOLESCENT GIRLS, LINDI REGION

The project request to FOT was for \$5,200 to partner with the Lorna Dadi Foundation with the goal of ensuring that no girl child from a financially-challenged family, in school or out, would miss classes or be wanting because of an absence of appropriate menstrual care products. The funds were used to purchase materials for the manufacture of 600 boxes of locally-made Nisitiri brand Reusable Menstrual Pads, promoting both environmental and economic sustainability. The Dadi Foundation visited schools, met with school leaders and teachers, and instructed school staff about the personal health and developmental challenges faced by adolescent girls going through the menstrual cycle. A timeline of July 2021 through February 2022 was established and met. Six hundred four girls were seen to benefit.



Instruction is provided in the use of the audiometry equipment.

2) THE AUDIOMETRY ROOM AT BUHANGIJA CENTER, SHINYANGA REGION

FOT provided funds (\$5,283) to the NGO, *Living Water Children's Fund* (LWCF) in 2020, to build an audiometry room at Buhangija Center, a regional government educational and residential center for children with visual and auditory impairments and albinism outside the city of Shinyanga. Photographs at right are provided courtesy of LWCF.



Preparing to test a student.

President's Report

Allison Eriksen, President

Habari zenu! It is my pleasure to continue to serve as the president of *Friends of Tanzania* in 2022! As you'll see in these pages, *Friends of Tanzania* continues to grow and work to serve our members and Tanzanian communities. I hope you'll see our new board members introduced here and I want to thank our board members whose terms expired last year. **Allen Tamura, Laurie Walcott, Prof. Lawrence Mbogoni, Harry England, Oliva Kavishe, Susan Proctor**, and last but not least, **Candy Warner** - your many varied contributions and dedication to *Friends of Tanzania* are greatly appreciated and we hope to see you back again soon!

We hope you'll stay tuned on our website, as we are working closely with our friends at the *Britain Tanzania Society* and the *Tanzania Development Trust* to put on some very interesting virtual events this year. We also plan to bring back our popular "Scholars' Series" from last fall, so if you are or know someone working in Tanzania with research or anything interesting to share, let us know and we can get it on the schedule!

On another note, we will be sharing with you some unfortunate news in this issue regarding the tragic death of Ms. Rabia Issa in Tanzania. I hope you will read our letter to Peace Corps Director Carol Spaghn in response and share our concerns for the handling of this incident that led to a woman's death. As this situation develops, we will continue to keep you, our members, informed of actions being taken.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' DEPARTURES

Susan Proctor, Newsletter Co-Editor

Seven members of FOT's Board of Directors relinquished their Board service in 2021. Three sought early withdrawal from their BOD role, and in keeping with FOT's by-laws, four others were "termed out." "Responsibilities of life" led **Harry England, Oliva Kavishe, and Candy Warner** to request early release from Board service. "Term limits" befell **Lawrence Mbogoni, Laurie Walcott, Allen Tamura, and Susan Proctor** (Allen and Susan will continue for a time as newsletter co-editors.) FOT is most grateful to these volunteers for their extraordinary dedication and commitment to our organization during their respective tenures. FOT continues to attract talented and passionate leadership to its ranks and the departing Board members have been replaced by a group of equally competent colleagues, spotlighted below. SP

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS!



Jessica Byassee

Jessica served with the Peace Corps in Tanzania from 2010-13 as an environment volunteer in the Mbeya region and extended her service with a USAID malaria project in Mwanza. She is employed as grant manager for a housing nonprofit in Columbus, Ohio. Jessica brings with her extensive fundraising experience.



Andrew Hicks

Andrew was an Agriculture PCV in the Kilimanjaro region from 2014-2016. He subsequently worked as an agriculture finance NGO in the Iringa region, 2016-2019. He has served on the Projects' Committee since August 2020 and is currently Senior Program Manager for a global development organization that empowers smallholder farmers.



Jackline Kamazima

Jackie is a proud native of Tanzania, a creative-entrepreneur owner of *JKanule Boutique*, and a non-profit professional currently working at NAMI. Formerly, she was Executive Secretary and a Board Member of the *New York Tanzanian Community, Inc.* She is engaged with other organizations that champion Tanzania and embraces Ubuntu.



Maureen Ndoto

A Kenya native, Ndoku Maureen Ndoto is also a former FOT Board member. She works with an organization supporting colleges in their goal to guide students toward academic success. She hopes that by serving on the FOT board, she can also facilitate bringing the same kinds of resources to Tanzanian students.



Lindsay Saber

A PCV teaching secondary math and science before evacuation in 2020, Lindsay served until recently, as Projects' Committee Chair. She continues as a member. She is currently in a Master of Public Health program in Global Health at Emory University where she is also a research assistant and research coordinator.



Brandon Sepulveda

Brandon was a PCV math and computer teacher from 2018 until March 2020 at Kijota Secondary School in the Singida region. He is excited to work with FOT on new projects and help move the organization forward. Brandon is FOT's new treasurer succeeding immediate past treasurer, Candy Warner.



David Wallas

David, a Tz PCV 1991-1993, later directed, fundraised for, and supported community development and education projects in Tanzania through the Peace Corps (Malihai Clubs), United Nations Development Programs (Biodiversity Education Project), and The Cullman & Hurt Community Wildlife Project. David owns a safari business which operates in four African countries.

THE ANNUAL WINTER PARTY

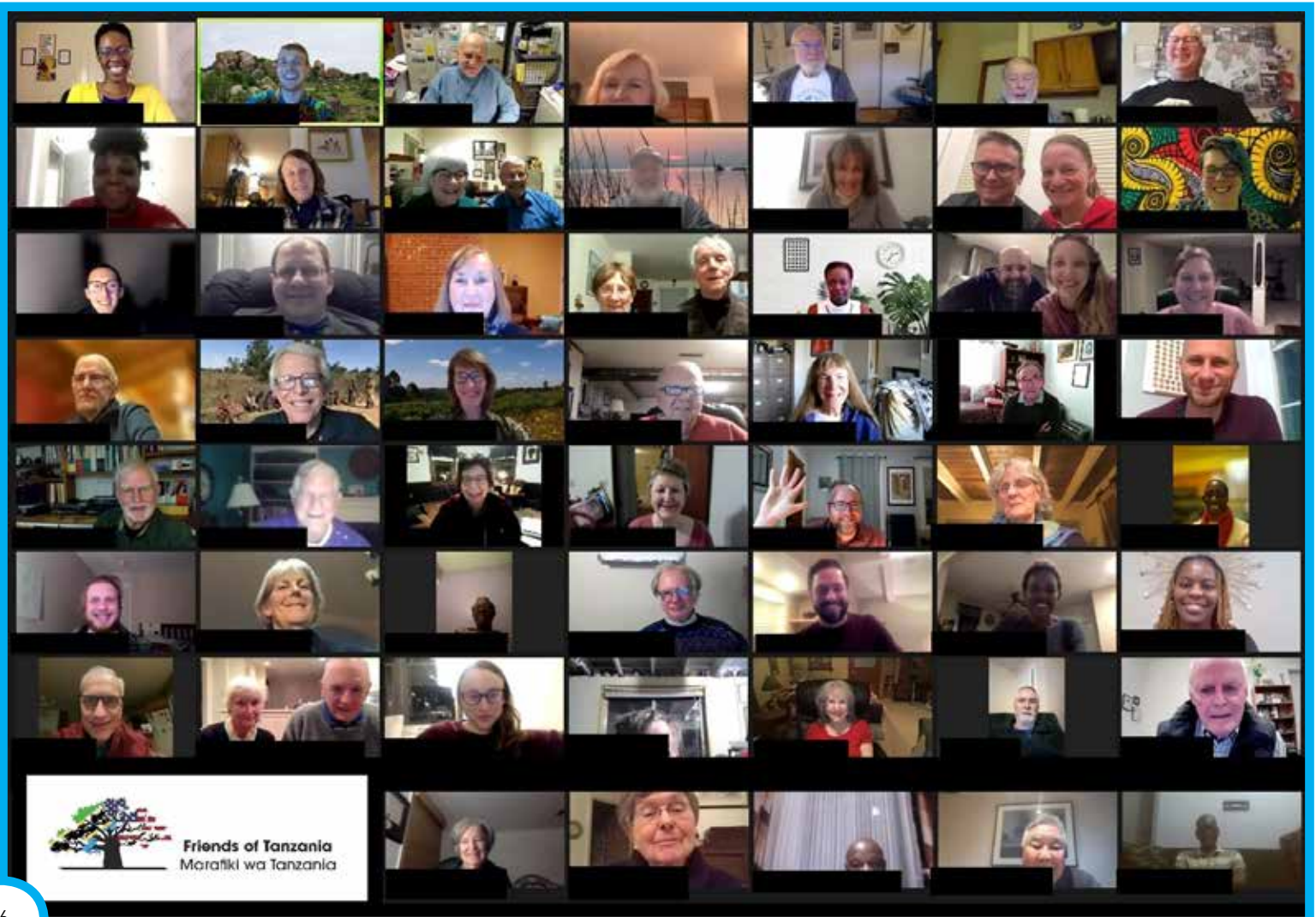
A Great Success Even Without Food!!

Susan Proctor, Newsletter Co-Editor

Usually, the "Winter Party," - as the East-coasters term it, - is an in-person event, held at a venue in the greater DC area and when possible, at no cost to FOT. Members of DICOTA, the *Diaspora Council of Tanzanians in America*, regularly turn out regally attired, the women in kitenge, kanga, or other fabrics' dresses or gowns, many with a matching *kilemba* (headscarf or wrap) jewelry, and shoes, the men in striking shirts made from various fabrics. People sit at round tables feasting on Tanzanian food or member-prepared potluck contributions. The chatter is lively amidst a background of the latest Tanzanian pop music, interspersed with brief remarks from FOT's executive officers. Food is always the center of this occasion and when a virtual party was first proposed, necessitated by the mischief of COVID, I was skeptical as to its potential success without food. I was wrong. The first virtual event, the 2021 Winer Party, saw 75 persons from all around the globe "tune in" via Zoom. The occasion also served to celebrate the 30th anniversary of FOT and "e-blasts" sent by FOT's secretary and all-things-useful-person, **Bob Goodsell**, proved instrumental to the surprising size of the "audience" and to the colossal achievement of unprecedented donations to FOT. In Fall 2021, Zoomed programs were once again employed to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Peace Corps as well as feature an Educational Scholars' Series which drew exceptional numbers.

On February 5 of this year, we did it again. The nearly two-hour session, ably MC'd by Board Members **Jackline Kamazima** and **Clay Batko**, (first two, top row left in screenshot below), had some 65 attendees at one count. • **President Eriksen** did a welcoming and acknowledged new Board members; • FOT's media specialist, **Chris Biles**, compiled a superb video highlighting FOT's four 2021 completed, and five ongoing and/or near completion projects; • *Unsung Hero* awards were bestowed upon **John Ratigan**, FOT's long-serving volunteer bank depositor and mailbox monitor, as well as **Clay Batko**, recent RPCV and outstanding new Board member; • and leaders of two of FOT's partner NGO's, Minnesota-based Project *Zawadi's* **Brian Singer**, and Colorado-based *African School Assistance Program's* (ASAP), **Zach Swett**, spoke about their organizations and emphasized the advantages of intra and inter-organizational cooperation in meeting human and project needs. Of unique delight was a 4 min. 46 sec. *YouTube* intermission video titled "Super Woman" featuring Tanzanian woman of all ages, singing in Kiswahili and dancing to some can't-sit-still musical accompaniment. • The last part of the program consisted of three "you chose" breakout rooms, one each on travel, food, and music. I chose music. With FOT's VP, **Rita Kamazima**, guiding the exchange, our group of eleven shared in-country experiences and talked about performers, styles, and the history of popular music in Tanzania over the past 60 years. I'd do the whole thing again.

SP



A TANZANIAN CITIZEN DIES: AN AMERICAN PEACE CORPS STAFFER IS REPORTEDLY RESPONSIBLE

EDITORS' NOTE: SUSAN PROCTOR AND ALLEN TAMURA

On December 21, 2021, the American newspaper, *USA Today*, published an investigative journalism entry titled, "A Peace Corps Worker Kills a Woman in Africa: The US Helped Him Escape Prosecution" (<https://www.usatoday.com/in-depth/news/2021/12/21/peace-corps-worker-killed-woman-abroad-aftermath/6452833001/>). The news article alleged that in 2019, a Dar-es-Salaam-based American Peace Corps staff member hit and killed a street vendor with his car in the pre-dawn hours while driving under the influence. The vendor, Ms. Rabia Issa, was setting up for daybreak business. Two other bystanders were injured. The story claimed that within 24 hours of the incident, the individual involved was medevac'd out of the country (reportedly minor injuries) by the US government before the Tanzanian authorities could complete their evidence collection. FOT, deeming the *USA Today* report to be representative of principled and ethical journalism, directed a written response to Peace Corps CEO, Carol Spaghn, who has been in her post since January, 2021. FOT's missive was scribed by Board Secretary, Bob Goodsell, and signed by President Eriksen. Director Spaghn issued a generalized reply to inquiries from FOT and others in which she described the incident as a "horrible tragedy," expressed her considerable remorse for the victim's family, and promised to advocate for better policies and greater transparency in the handling of future incidents. She concluded by saying, "We will continue to push to fully realize a Peace Corps that reflects the best of who we are." Her full statement may be found at <https://peacecorpsworldwide.org/peace-corps-issues-update-on-2019-crash-that-resulted-in-death-of-ms-rabia-issa/>. *The National Peace Corps Association* also vigorously addressed the issue with the Peace Corps (<https://www.peacecorpsconnect.org/articles/the-tragedy-that-happened-in-tanzania-must-not-be-the-end-of-the-story>)

SP & AT

FOT LETTER TO PEACE CORPS ABOUT THE DEATH OF MS. RABIA ISSA

January 7, 2022

Carol Spaghn, Chief Executive Officer
United States Peace Corps, Washington D.C.

Dear Ms. Spaghn:

As you are aware, on December 21, 2021 *USA Today* published an investigative story chronicling the killing of Ms. Rabia Issa, a mother of three in Tanzania, who was struck by a car driven by a U.S. citizen, a Peace Corps staff member in August 2019. At least two other Tanzanian citizens were injured by the actions of this same person. The *USA Today* article is more detailed, but appears to be corroborated by a report from the U.S. Office of the Inspector General.

On behalf of *Friends of Tanzania/Marafiki wa Tanzania*, I am writing to you as the Peace Corps Chief Executive Officer to express *Friends of Tanzania's* outrage at this appalling incident and our extreme disappointment as to how the aftermath of this incident appears to have been handled by the Peace Corps and the United States Government. We at FOT fully recognize that neither you, nor the current Country Director, Stephanie Joseph de Goes, were serving in your current positions at the time of the vehicle accident and the then-administrative responses. The driver's actions, as described in the *USA Today* article and in the OIG's report, display a total disregard for the values that representatives of the Peace Corps strive to embody and that *Friends of Tanzania* embraces. As you are aware, many of the members and supporters of *Friends of Tanzania* are Returned Peace Corps Volunteers who served in Tanzania, and, as such, are particularly disgusted by the reported actions of this individual.

We at FOT are also deeply disturbed by how the Peace Corps and United States Government appear to have handled the aftermath of this tragic incident. We do understand that, to some extent, the Peace Corps and the U.S. Embassy may have been following existing procedures in moving the perpetrator out of Tanzania, and that the continuation of his salary for another 18 months may have been dictated by existing protocol. However, those procedures and protocols produced results that added to the tragedy and injustice suffered by Mama Issa's family and the other victims. In addition, the lack of transparency may very well have put the safety and well-being of the PCVs serving in Tanzania at the time in jeopardy. According to the *USA Today* article, the PCVs were not made aware of what had happened. If that is the case, this failure to have advised the PCVs may have left them unprepared had they encountered hostility from Tanzania citizens who had learned of the tragic events and circumstances under which the Peace Corps staff member was removed.

Moreover, a result of this tragedy and its handling by the Peace Corps and the USG has been to severely impact the reputation of the Peace Corps in the US, and may well have done the same in Tanzania. Indeed, it is certainly possible that this tragedy, and the perception of how it was handled, could very well jeopardize the re-introduction of Peace Corps Volunteers into Tanzania.

We at FOT are aware of various efforts that are being undertaken by others to respond to this tragedy. Some of these are directed at the needs of the family of Ms. Rabia Issa and the other victims, which include possibly holding the driver of the vehicle criminally responsible, and providing compensation to the family. We understand from reported sources that the Peace Corps' insurer paid approximately \$8,700 that was to go to Rabia Issa's family, and that some individuals are now seeking to raise additional funds to assist the family. We ask that the Peace Corps re-examine whether and how it can cooperate with others to ensure that the family receives just compensation. Further, we request that the Peace Corps consider whether, under all of the circumstances here, the Peace Corps should make a further payment to the victims of the vehicle accident, in a culturally appropriate manner.

Continued on pg. 8

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Based on the *USA Today* article, the family is, understandably, also seeking justice in the form of prosecution of some sort to hold the individual responsible for his actions. The OIG report observed: "The host country was unable to pursue prosecution before the medevac took place, and the U.S. Department of Justice declined prosecution, citing a lack of jurisdiction." We request that the Peace Corps confer further with the Justice Department to determine whether prosecution might be possible in the United States. We also urge the Peace Corps to share with the Tanzanian authorities the information collected by OIG and the Department of State's Diplomatic Security Service, Office of Special Investigations. These tragic circumstances require such transparency.

Beyond the tragedy to these victims is the need for the Peace Corps and the United States government to adopt changes to insure that if any such incident were to occur in the future, it would be handled with full transparency and in a manner that ensures justice to the victims. We see a number of changes that should be considered:

1. Statutory changes should be proposed and supported by the Peace Corps to allow criminal prosecution within the United States of a U.S. citizen Peace Corps staff for criminal conduct in a host country, including vehicular homicide.
2. Statutory changes should be proposed and supported by the Peace Corps to allow compensation that fairly compensates victims of negligent or criminal behavior by U.S. citizen Peace Corps staff. Such a statutory change could allow the Peace Corps to recover reimbursement from the staff in appropriate circumstances, but the Peace Corps should be willing and able to pay just compensation to host country victims.
3. As a matter of policy, the Peace Corps should inform a host country of a proposed medevac or other removal of a U.S. citizen staff member whenever there are circumstances that suggest criminal activity by that individual.
4. As a matter of internal policy and transparency, whenever an incident in which a member of the Peace Corps staff, and, in particular, any U.S. citizen staff member, has caused death or severe injury to a host country national, the Peace Corps should provide sufficient information to serving PCVs to prepare them to respond to any potentially volatile situations within their communities, and to determine whether, under the circumstances, they wish to request termination of their service without any negative consequences that might otherwise accompany early termination.

We recognize that some of these requested changes may be viewed as exposing the Peace Corps to greater liability or expense than a United States agency might usually be expected to have. However, we view the Peace Corps as a different type of agency - one committed to working with those in a host country, and, by encouraging and placing thousands of volunteers world-wide each year, one which has an obligation to those volunteers to ensure that the Peace Corps staff and its volunteers conduct themselves in ways that demonstrate to the citizens of the host country that all those associated with the Peace Corps, in whatever capacity, are respectful, fair, and just members of the community.

We urge the Peace Corps to take steps to ensure justice in this particular case, and to turn this tragedy into a catalyst for needed change. We have copied Country Director Joseph de Goes on this letter to share with her our concerns and our suggested actions we feel should be considered.

If you or members of your staff wish to speak with me or other *Friends of Tanzania* representatives regarding this matter, including any assistance that we can provide in addressing these concerns, do not hesitate to contact me. You can reach me at [contact information provided.]

Allison Eriksen, President, *Friends of Tanzania*

cc: Stephanie Joseph de Goes, Peace Corps Country Director, Tanzania

AE (RG)



FOT Pres. Allison Eriksen with Tz Ambassador, Elsie Kanza, Dec. 9, 2021, celebrating Tz's 60th Independence Day.

Tanzania's New Ambassador to the United States

Allison Eriksen, President

Friends of Tanzania is excited to introduce you to the newest ambassador from Tanzania. Her Excellency, Ambassador Elsie S. Kanza, is an economist by training. She served in the Ministry of Finance and the Central Bank of Tanzania, including as a Personal Assistant and Economic Advisor to former Tanzanian President, His Excellency Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete. She joined the World Economic Forum in 2011 and has been engaged in changing the narrative of the African economy. H.E. Kanza was named as one of Pan-Africa's leading women by *Forbes* magazine in 2020. I was honored to meet her in December of last year at a celebration of the 60th anniversary of Tanganyikan independence held at the Tanzanian Embassy. She is familiar with the work of FOT, having attended our 30th anniversary event, and looks forward to working with us during her tenure here. She is already engaged in a busy travel schedule across the United States, and will surely bring a great deal of energy and dedication to the Embassy.

AE

FOT 2022 MAIL-IN DONATION FORM

• For an electronic donation, scan FOT's new QR code below. • For an on-line transaction, see www.FOTanzania.org

Please PRINT on the lines below and return this form with your check or donor information to: Friends of Tanzania, Box 9123, Arlington, VA 22219-1123

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- STREET ADDRESS OR PO BOX: _____
- CITY, STATE, ZIP, COUNTRY: _____
- TELEPHONE: (primary) _____ (secondary) _____

SERVICE/EXPERIENCE IN TANZANIA:

- GROUP or AFFILIATION: Peace Corps; DICOTA (Diaspora Council of Tanzanians in America);
 TEA (Teachers for East Africa); TEEA (Teacher Education for East Africa); Visitor; Other (describe) _____
- TYPE OF WORK: _____ • PLACE: _____ • WHEN: _____

DONATIONS: (See below for further information)

- DONATION FOR GENERAL FUND PROJECTS (NOT MEMBER-DIRECTED) \$ _____
 - MEMBER-SUGGESTED/DIRECTED DONATION APPROVED BY FOT PROJECT COMMITTEE & BOARD \$ _____
 - DONATION /CONTRIBUTION AS A LEGACY GIFT OR TO HONOR AN INDIVIDUAL \$ _____
- TOTAL ENCLOSED:** \$ _____



FOT is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Donations are tax deductible. FOT's membership year runs from Jan. - Dec. See our privacy policy at www.FOTanzania.org

All About Donations

Donations are the way we fund projects and continue our work.

All but a few donated dollars go directly to projects. We are grateful for whatever you can give.

HOW CAN I DONATE?

- 1) by scanning FOT's new QR code (R) with your phone, tablet, scanner, or other device; or on the FOT website: www.fotanzania.org 
- 2) by clicking on the green or any DONATE button on the FOT website 
- 3) by mail-in using the form above
- 4) through specially-directed requests such as IRA-RMDs, legacy gifts, and other special donations. *

WHAT KINDS OF DONATIONS CAN I MAKE?

General Fund Donations are contributions wherein the donor makes a donation but does *not* suggest or specify a specific project for funding. General Fund projects partner with NGOs in Tanzania in project financing, implementation, and management.

Member Sponsored Donations are contributions in which the donor prepares or suggests a specific project for funding that is vetted and agreed to by the Projects Committee and the Board.

Legacy Donations are planned present or future donations to FOT through one's will or other designated mechanism, or as part of one's estate planning.

Memory and Honor Donations are contributions made in the name of an individual, or an event or place.

FOT EARNINGS THROUGH AMAZON SMILE

Though not a donation, you may support *Friends of Tanzania* administratively when you **shop Amazon**. Go to smile.amazon.com. Select *Friends of Tanzania* as your charity of choice and 0.5% of your purchase will be donated to FOT.

* WE INVITE YOU TO CONTACT US AT INFO@FOTANZANIA.ORG WITH QUESTIONS REGARDING DONATIONS WHICH WILL BE DIRECTED TO OUR TREASURER.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Brandon Sepulveda, FOT Treasurer

2021 INCOME:

• Dues	\$ 3,860
• 30 x 30 Campaign	\$ 31,795
• Donations to General Fund Projects	\$ 38,648
• Donations to Member-Sponsored Projects	\$ 5,700

TOTAL INCOME 2021: \$ 80,037

2021 EXPENDITURES:

• Projects Committee	
- General Fund Project Funding	\$ 43,340
- Member-Sponsored Project Funding	\$ 5,700
• Fundraising Expenses	\$ 334
• Outreach Expenses	\$ 589
• Communication Expenses (Newsletter/Website)	\$ 3,937
• Finance-Related Expenses	\$ 2,283

TOTAL EXPENDITURES 2021: \$ 56,183

NET INCOME 2021: \$ 23,854

TOTAL ASSETS 2021:

• Bank Account	\$ 22,641
• Calvert Impact Capital Funds	\$ 36,221

ENDING BALANCE 2021: \$ 56,862



Friends of Tanzania/Marafiki wa Tanzania
 P.O. Box 9123, Arlington, VA 22219-1123, USA
www.FOTanzania.org
info@FOTanzania.org



FOT's Tinga Tinga art sign.

SAVE THE DATE(S): GET OUT YOUR CALENDARS!!

Bob Goodsell, FOT Secretary

ACROSS THE POND COLLABORATION

We have exciting news to bring to you, our readership. FOT has been collaborating with the *British Tanzania Society* (BTS) and its associated charity entity, the *Tanzania Development Trust* (TDT) to co-sponsor some informational programs during 2022. BTS, founded in 1975, is a non-political, non-governmental organization based in the UK dedicated to increasing mutual knowledge, understanding, and respect between the peoples of Britain and Tanzania. Like FOT, TDT raises funds for and undertakes projects in rural Tanzania. FOT has been working with BTS and TDT on a number of fronts, and has agreed to co-promote and co-host this provocative virtual series. The following events are scheduled, or if now past, are available on the BTS *YouTube* site.



- "President Samia's First Year in Office: A New Direction for Tanzania?"
Saturday, **March 19, 2022**, 4-5:30 pm GMT = **11 am, EDT; 8 am PDT**
- "Prosperity in Rural Africa? Changes over time in Tanzanian Villages"
Saturday, **June 25, 2022** 4-5:30 pm BST = **11 am, EDT; 8 am PDT**



More information is available on TDT's website events page, tanzdevtrust.org/tdt-events/ and on FOT's website events page fotanzania.org/cpages/events. Stay tuned for future events as well!

RG

BRINGING BACK A POPULAR PROGRAM

Susan Proctor, Newsletter Co-Editor

THE EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARS SERIES DUE TO RETURN

Readers may recall last Fall, as part of FOT's 30th anniversary celebration, three hour-long educational presentations were virtually broadcast to our membership. Dr. Lawrence Mbogoni spoke to his book on "The History of the Peace Corps in Tanganyika/Tanzania"; Allen Rugambwa, addressed "Maximizing the Effectiveness of External Development Assistance"; and Dr. Frances Vavrus examined "Teacher Education in Tanzania." The series was most favorably received with requests to us to continue such offerings. Plans are in the works to do so. Once again, check-in with the website as proposals unfold.