



Re: Report on collaboration of the Northern Great Lakes Synod (NGLS), and the Eastern and Coastal Diocese of Tanzania (ECD) with USAID/AMERICAN SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS ABROAD (ASHA).

Project: Kisarawe Lutheran Secondary School infrastructure development

Fm: Rev. Bob Langseth, Designated Agent for NGLS/ASHA accountability

ONE VISION FILLED --- FUTURE IS OPEN

Thank you Jesus for health and strength to return during the 30 days June 2011 for my 10th experience with the Kisarawe Lutheran Secondary school.

1992 Beginnings

Deloris and I first set our eyes on Kisarawe Lutheran Jr. Seminary 19 years ago. In 1992 we come to the diocese on a six week sabbatical to study evangelism. During that time Rev. Sam Wolff, an ELCA missionary in Dar, brought us to this site which Bishop Sendoro was initiating as a new secondary school for pupils in grades 6 – 12. Sendoro had recruited Rev. Wolff to be the English instructor for the initial 40 students.

The grounds were originally a "Hill of Hope" for freed slaves. Now the campus was to become a "hill of hope" for the development of leaders for the 21st Century.

The school certainly was built upon hope. In 1992 the only buildings were the 100 year old mission house plus a structure which served as a kitchen, a storage room, and a library. The "library" contained two "egg crate size shelves with dictionaries and a few text books.



As we were flying back to America I said to Deloris, "This place sure needs a missionary." Somewhere over the ocean God spoke: "Yes, and you are it."

Library as 1st Priority

In 1995 Bishop Sendoro of the ECD met with Bishop Skogman of the NGLS. Sendoro inquired if our synod could help construct a library at Kisarawe. Skogman replied, "Yes." and requested Deloris and myself to be the leaders of a work crew.

In 1996 the diocese architect, Mr. Njau, wrote the description of the project in which we would participate: "*We shall build the finest library for secondary schools in all of East Africa. It shall have 700 students plus 72 faculty and staff members.*" That was the vision.

Here in the U.S. recruitment of work crew members and financial support to assist the diocese took place. By May of 1997 the diocese had secured donations adequate for digging the foundation and laying a concrete

slab 33 ft. x 100 ft. So when the 13 member NGLS work crew arrived in June we worked shoulder to shoulder (Baga Kwa Baga) with our Tanzanian companions for one month. We erected 33 pillars, concrete block walls up to window level and 33 feet of ceiling on the ground floor. That 33 ft. area now serves as the office of the Headmaster.

As dawn broke on our final day of work in 1997 I climbed to the roof above headmaster's office to look over the grounds. In my mind there appeared the vision of many new buildings placed on the campus, 700 students walking among them and all 72 staff members all at work. My eyes filled with tears. I cried as the vision receded.



During the years 1997 – 2004 Deloris and I led five different efforts to encourage NGLS funds and recruit NGLS work crews to bring the library to completion.



After our 3rd visit I mentioned our work to local office of our U.S. Senator, the Honorable Carl Levin. In turn that office alerted me to USAID/ASHA and the possibility of collaboration. I applied for infrastructure assistance. A grant of \$240,000 from ASHA provided interior painting, a computer lab and internet disk, 44 new computers, a diesel generator to supplement the sporadic electricity, air-conditioning for the lab, lights, tables, chairs and doors for the top two floor, plus a steel roof, gutters, and cisterns for rain harvesting in this arid region.

Here is a summary of the partnership finances for the library.



Sweat Equity: 5 NGLS work crews	\$ 165,266
Gifts from NGLS donors	\$ 69,898
Diocese Sweat Equity	\$ 34,000
Tanzanian government tax reduction	\$ 18,000
Rotary International: Books	\$ 20,000
World Book Encyclopedia	\$ 3,300
USAID/ASHA	\$ 240,000
Total:	\$ 550,464



Kitchen-Dining Hall 2004-2008: Priority # 2

By 1993 over 200 students were enrolled. Because the kitchen consisted of three truck rims with charcoal under them and because students had to eat under the trees or in their classrooms proper food was the next priority.



A second grant of \$200,000 was applied for and received from ASHA. Finlandia University's, *Student Servant Leadership Program* became involved in the work crew efforts as seen here. The Kitchen-Dining Hall development occurred during 2004 – 2008 and can serve 400 persons at each setting.

The financial totals are as follows.

Finlandia University: Sweat Equity	\$ 32,158
Special Gifts: NGLS Donors	\$ 27,100
Diocese Participation	\$ 101,232
Tanzanian govt. Tax reduction	\$ 33,261
USAID/ASHA	\$ 200,000
Total:	\$ 393,751



Girl's Dormitory 2008-2010: Priority # 3

The diocese, in its constitution for development, committed itself to an unusual goal for a patriarchal society like Africa. Namely, that half of the students enrolled must be female and classes are open to all ethnics and denominations.

The dormitory facilities were basic "bunkhouses." Each room contained four bunk beds for 8 girls and 8 nails for hanging an extra set of clothes. Amenities consisted of outdoor latrines and gathering water from the cisterns or stream. Thus, an application for a \$500,000 grant from ASHA was made.



a source. In 2010-2011 the gift of water came about under the joint efforts of the Kisarawe Urban Water Authority and the School.

There is a new sense of pride in our campus but there is also a new level of academics. Committed administrators and teachers made certain that in 2010 and 2011 all 12th grade graduates qualified for university level studies! That's a terrific accomplishment.

The U.S. Embassy has recognized the quality of the school and selected Kisarawe as a pilot project for a new program of accelerating English on the secondary level. Out of the 3,200 secondary schools in Tanzania Kisarawe was selected to be the pilot school! Twenty of the top students were invited into a two year project. It will be intensive where the students supplement their regular studies with weekend classes on Advanced English. I attended one session, was extremely impressed with the quality of the two instructors, and rejoiced as the Assistant U.S. Ambassador handed out certificates to students completing their initial two weeks of orientation.



With the current enrollment of 800 students, with the infrastructure continuing to improve and with the magnificent reception of a water pouring forth on the 24th of June 2011 the words of ancient Simeon came to mind: "Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation which thou has prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and the glory of thy people Israel." Luke. 2:29-32 The school shall be a beacon light of hope for the nation of Tanzania and for the glory of God's people in the Eastern and Coastal Diocese.

One vision of a improved infrastructure is being fulfilled. Many more infrastructure and human needs await us. Like St. Paul, let us press forward seeking to hear what more God has in store for our continuing partnership. . May our future continue to glow with God's activity as we nurture and strengthen one another for life and mission in developing the youth of Tanzania for leadership in the nation and world.

It is a privilege to be Companions with such a lively collaboration and an outstanding education center.

Thanks Be To God!

Rev. R. V. Langseth, Calumet, Michigan
December 2011

Your Investment's Impact

"With a minimal investment in basic education, billions of poor people can 'leapfrog' into the world of instant communications and become part of the 21st century's global economy."

- Kofi Annan
U.N. Secretary General

