

Zawadi *

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CONNECTION UBUNTU

DECEMBER 2023 – VOLUME 50

* Zawadi is the Swahili word for “The Gift”

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU!



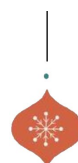
GIFTS THAT GIVE HOPE

16th Annual Gift Fair
December 10, 2023
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Farm & Home Center, Lancaster

This is the best fundraiser of the year for Connection Ubuntu. It's an opportunity for you to come talk to us about what we do and a great shopping experience as well. Learn about the nonprofits here in Pennsylvania while shopping for a gift that gives more than the average present... giving others a chance to have better lives!

Can't join us? We would love for you to consider checking out the GTGH site so you can change the way you purchase gifts. Consider sustainability, helping others who really need help, and to support the organizations leading the charge! Connection Ubuntu is one of these organizations.

HERE'S OUR [ONLINE LINK...](#) WE'D LOVE YOUR SUPPORT!



SHOP ONLINE GTGH!





A BLESSED YEAR TOGETHER

As this year closes, I would like to reflect on how many changes Connection Ubuntu experienced. We were blessed to gain several new computer donors, ARRO Consulting, Garrety Glass, PWW Law Firm, SCROUNGE, St. Onge, and Willow Valley Community Computer Club. Computer Ministry is not new to us... but they donated so much more to our work this year. We received computers, routers, RAM Memory, Hard Drives, along with great assistance with troubleshooting. They also provided funds for one of our lab partners so that they could purchase computer repair tools, giving them another means to remain self-sustaining. Our partnership with them is truly priceless. Because of these numerous donations, Connection Ubuntu was able to approve and provide computers to another 14 computer labs this year, expanding our horizon to Uganda and South Sudan, giving us a total of 34 labs in 7 countries.

Our monthly donors are also heroes to us, giving us security by knowing that the funds will be in our account so that we can ship all of these computers. Our Board Members stepped up to the plate, organizing committees, so that we're even more prepared to get our work completed.

We rejoice that Connection Ubuntu now has two Kenyan Board Members, Bonventure Mwayuli and Wanja Ogongi. They contribute much knowledge about Africa and her people and also share their skills of videography and communication.

We have graduates in Africa who have become self-sufficient, fulfilling their and our goals of the computer labs.

Lastly, we have 17 travelers headed to Kenya in January to visit some of our computer labs and to also meet those lab directors who are able to join us for our first ever Summit Meeting. We are so very excited for this!

It is with great humility and appreciation that we thank all of you for all of your assistance. This year has truly been fruitful and plentiful and we feel so blessed, especially for those whose lives have been changed due to your graciousness.

Connection Ubuntu wishes all of you a wonderful and healthy holiday season filled with joy, hope, love and peace. We would ask for your prayers for those who are experiencing life's hardships, unable to feel peace as many of us do.

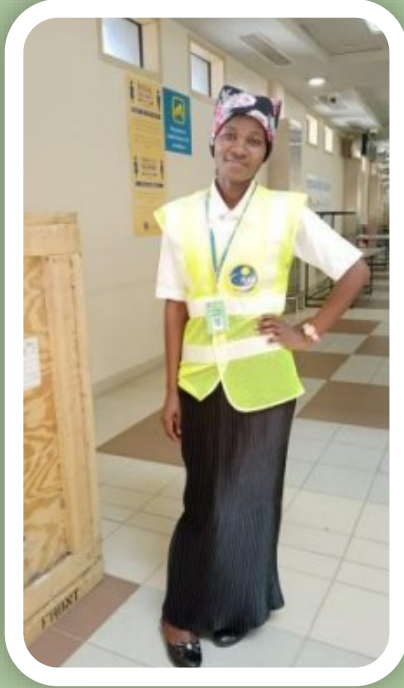
Thankful and grateful,

Vicki Poole



COMPUTER TRAINING LEADS TO ICT JOBS

We love to know when students graduate and then gain jobs in the computer field. These two young ladies, who finished the 18-month Girls Empowerment Program (GEP) at G-BIACK (Grow Biointensive Agriculture Center Kenya), have done exactly that. We are so proud of them. We just couldn't be more excited that women's lives are being changed due to the computers we supply. This is proof that your wonderful support is making a difference!



Joyce Wangui (left) works with the Kenya Airports Authority at the front desk office and customer care service. After acquiring computer skills at G-BIACK she was hired by KAA where she has worked now for two years.

Damaris Wanjiku (right) is G-BIACK's secretary and bookkeeper. Initially she worked as a G-BIACK agricultural field extension officer and later became the secretary.



SWEET LETTER OF THANKSGIVING

When we receive letters like this one we want to share the kind words. Connection Ubuntu received this letter from Rogers Omollo, from Activate Action Computer Lab located in Homa Bay, Kenya. We hope this touches your hearts as much as it did ours:

"Dear Vicki and team,

As we gather together on this special Thanksgiving Day, our hearts are filled with immense gratitude for the incredible support and partnership that you have generously extended to our organization. Your unwavering commitment and dedication have been the driving force behind our success, enabling us to make a positive impact in our community. Together, we have achieved milestones, overcome challenges, and created lasting change that wouldn't have been possible without your collaboration. On this day of gratitude, we want to express our deepest thanks for your belief in our mission and your steadfast support. Your contributions, whether big or small, have played a crucial role in shaping the future of our organization. As we reflect on the blessings of the past year, your partnership stands out as a beacon of strength and unity. We are truly fortunate to have you by our side, and we look forward to continuing this journey together, making a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve.

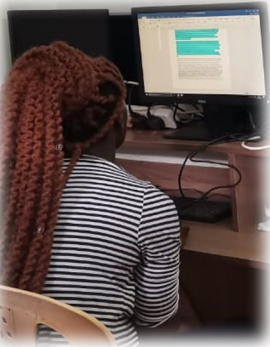
We are wishing you and your loved ones a Thanksgiving filled with joy, warmth, and the company of those who bring you happiness.

With heartfelt thanks,
Rogers

STUDENTS' LIFE CHANGING EXPERIENCES

We can't think of any better way to close out the year than by sharing the success stories of students and graduates from the Connection Ubuntu computer labs throughout Africa. We hope you can feel their excitement and learn how these students' feel their futures have become brighter thanks to computer literacy.

GIRL STUDENTS FROM RESCUE WING GHANA LAB, Accra North, Ghana: From their Director, Evans Dorm, "The ICT laboratory is helping the girls in our Gender Based Club to do extremely well in the inter-schools competitions in Science, Technology and Mathematics. They have won the Ghana Education Service Award organized competition through District to Regional levels. They are now at the National level of the competition. Were very grateful to Connection Ubuntu."



GARDEN OF HOPE LAB, Nairobi, Kenya: Olivent Oyoo, "My experience at Garden of Hope Foundation was amazing. The facilitator was friendly and understanding. He made sure we understood every computer package he taught. This made it easy for me and my fellow students to grasp. I am now very good at MS Office packages and can use a computer with ease. The skills and knowledge I acquired are going to be useful as I pursue my career in accounts and book keeping. I would advise the youth who want to sharpen their skills in computer and entrepreneurship to come to Garden of Hope Foundation because it is the place to be."

TUNAPANDA MOBILE LEAP PROGRAM, Kibera, Nairobi, Kenya: Lorna Murugi: "Learning through mobile phones is an amazing concept. It's a simple way of accessing education content at the palm of your hands."



Kalobeyei 4 Better Life (KI4BLI), Turkana, Kenya: Byumanine Henry, "I never thought that using digital skills could be my main income generating activity. As a refugee, I hold a degree but cannot get a job. I did the basic computer class with KI4BLI with computers donated by Connection Ubuntu and also did creative writing training there too. With this education I am running a branding social enterprise now."

DONATE YOUR USED TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT!

Your used working equipment is priceless to our partners in Africa. Donate your laptop/desktop/tablet/smartphone/keyboard/mouse, etc. (as long it is working and uses Windows 7 OS *OR* Apple 2013 or newer OS) and you'll be changing many lives. Once received, we'll wipe all data, if needed, add an Operating System (OS), test the equipment and clean it. If you would like to help us by donating equipment, send us a message... ***your donation is tax deductible... and keeps equipment out of our landfills!***



THE OFFICIAL CONNECTION UBUNTU MERCH STORE

Visit our [Online Store](#)... we'd love to see you wearing our goods and Bonfire will donate a percentage of your purchase to us! **Check out our new tie dye and earth-friendly wearables!**



SIGN UP FOR MONTHLY GIVING

AND CHANGE A LIFE

DONATE NOW!
CLICK HERE

We would love to have your support on a monthly basis... Click the button on the right... there are several donation options to choose from... and Goodworld makes it easy to navigate our page. Thank you!

CONNECTION UBUNTU'S SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES:

WE WOULD LOVE YOU TO "FOLLOW" US. PLEASE SHARE WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY!



VISION STATEMENT

Connection Ubuntu believes that the world is a global community where all members have the right and freedom to be active and valuable participants when given the technological tools and knowledge needed for successful global community engagement and local community self-sufficiency.

Ubuntu: "I am what I am because of who we all are."

