

# Zawadi<sup>★</sup>

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CONNECTION UBUNTU

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Zawadi is the Swahili word for “The Gift”

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

## HUGE SHIPMENT TO AFRICA!

We’ve sent our largest shipment to Kenya via Homeland 254 Logistics! We packed up 23 boxes and our Shipper, Kevin, picked them up on May 2nd. We are so excited to share that 120 computers and 18 projectors are on their way to their new computer labs in Africa. All of the equipment came from Computer Ministry and we would like to thank them for their dedicated help to the work we do. All we had to do was refurbish the computers. CU and our partners in Africa are so grateful and blessed to have the partnership with Computer Ministry. We are also grateful for you, our donors, for your help in paying for parts and shipping. We are excited to see the positive impact these computers will have for the students awaiting the shipment.

If you would like to see more info like this, follow us our FaceBook and Instagram pages to check out our other stories! Together we change lives!

Dennis and Kevin, Homeland 254 Logistics



Our 23 boxes ready to go!

# CONGRATS TO OUR NEW PARTNERS!

Connection Ubuntu just approved five new computer lab partners! These new computer labs will really focus on the women and girls, which is our main focus as well. We can't wait to see how many of the students from these fine organizations successfully learn digital literacy along with skills for jobs in their communities. To see their Facebook page, click on their logo. Please help us welcome them to the Connection Ubuntu family!



**GLOBAL  
INNOVATION  
VALLEY**

Blaise Amani, Founder of Global Innovation Valley (GIV), shares this, "We focus on empowering marginalized youth and refugees, helping them harness their potential to become social and tech entrepreneurs. Connection Ubuntu's initiative to provide computer hubs complements our work by equipping these young individuals with the digital and ICT skills necessary for creating innovative tech solutions. By leveraging the computer labs provided by Connection Ubuntu, we can further support our beneficiaries in refugee camps and host communities, enabling them to achieve self-sufficiency and drive positive change within their communities. This project will bridge the gap in access to ICT and digital education, empowering marginalized youth with the tools and skills necessary to succeed in today's digital economy."



**Nivalishe Pad  
Initiative**

Located in Nairobi, Kenya, Nivalishe Pad Initiative is founded by Rehema Yahaya. She is so excited about their lab and says this, "What makes this lab unique is its integration with our on-going reproductive health, gender justice, and economic empowerment programs. Beyond basic digital literacy, the lab will host tailored sessions for online safety, digital advocacy, menstrual health innovation, and AI for entrepreneurship especially for young women navigating social and economic barriers. This lab is not just about access to computers; it's about unlocking confidence, skills, and opportunities that have long been out of reach for our community."



Rescue Wing Ghana, located in Accra, Ghana, is under the direction of Mr. Evans Dorm. This lab will be located in a school and will support youth during school hours and adults on weekends. The preliminary foundation of this initiative is to introduce young minds to different self-development programs because they believe that, to make a difference, this starts with personal experience. The young enthusiastic minds of this generation are the foundation for a better future. They have since been developing the skills and qualities of lives of girls, women and boys by encouraging them to speak up for what's right because their ultimate mission is about creating a world where everyone can enjoy their rights equally with safety and dignity.

**WOMEN IN STEAM INITIATIVE**



Giving Girls A Voice in STEAM

Women in STEAM Initiative, in Kiambu, Kenya, is Founded by Caroline Nyaga. She shares this about her organization, "Women in STEAM Initiative is passionate about equipping girls and young women with digital literacy skills. We believe that educating girls and young women with digital skills

will position them for better lives, will make them marketable in the 21st century and will position them for excellence in entrepreneurship, job search and education." Along with teaching MS Office and Scratch coding, they also hope to offer advanced digital skills including Python programming, web design, robotics and Arduino, 3D modeling and printing, virtual reality creation, data analysis, and basic cybersecurity.

**Youth Changers  
Kenya**

This organization is in Kakamega, Kenya. Their Founder, Venoranda, says this, "As part of our work with survivors of sexual violence, we have seen how access to technology creates opportunities for education, employability, and empowerment. Unfortunately, many survivors of sexual violence we work with lack access to digital devices, which limits their ability to fully participate in our training programs and scale their businesses. This collaboration will bridge the digital divide, equip survivors with digital literacy skills and contribute to restoring dignity and opportunities for survivors of sexual violence and teenage mothers." See her story [here](#).

# SUCCESS STORIES!

**Center for Sports and Growth Organization** has entered into a partnership with an organization known as **Shofco**, working to empower youth by connecting them with mentors who equip them with practical, income-generating skills. Through this collaboration, their organization has been selected as one of the mentee institutions to deliver training in photography and videography. As part of this program, they have been assigned three students who they will train over a three-month period in photography and video editing. Upon completion and evaluation of this initial cohort, they anticipate receiving additional students, thereby expanding the reach and impact of the program.

Their Founder, George, says this, “We want to emphasize how deeply grateful we are for Connection Ubuntu’s support from the very beginning. What you helped us establish has grown into something far greater than we initially envisioned, creating meaningful opportunities for young people, particularly through our expanding photography and videography training programs.



These recent developments would not have been possible without your contribution.”

The training is being led by Ms. Susan Kangai, a 26-year-old professional photographer and a single mother of one. Susan earns her living through photography and serves as a strong female role model within our organization. Her journey is a powerful example of how technical skills can create economic independence and stability.

If you can help, they would love to have any used photo equipment for this project so if you have a camera you would like to donate, please contact us [here](#).

**Riley Orton Foundation** proudly announces the completion of its first 2026 cohort of digital literacy students. Over the course of a three-month training program, participants acquired critical technology skills designed to bridge the gap between secondary education, university, and the digital economy. The curriculum went beyond traditional tools like Microsoft to include emerging and high-demand fields such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), graphic design, 3D printing, and freelancing. These competencies position participants not only for academic success but also for entrepreneurial opportunities in the digital space. We celebrate their achievement and look forward to seeing them thrive in a fast-evolving digital world. We’re so very proud to call them partners!



# SUCCESS STORIES (CONTINUED)

At Ngabunga's Brain for Development the first promotion of brave women learning computer skills in Nakivale Refugee Settlement marks a powerful step toward digital empowerment. Through the support of Connection Ubuntu, women are gaining essential knowledge that strengthens confidence, creates new opportunities, and builds a brighter future for their families and community.

Another partner making wonderful progress with their computers and digital literacy.. we are beaming with pride!



Girls in ICT Day officially kicked off on April 23rd in South Africa and Siyafunda Community Technology Center students are ready... Pens are out, notebooks are open and the future is being written one idea at a time!  
#SiyafundaCTC #GirlsInICT #FutureTech #WomenInTech



We love that their focus is women and girls! They also have a technology repair class they are teaching. Such a blessing to their community!

# SUCCESS STORIES (CONTINUED)

**STEM QUEENS IN ACTION—LEARNING, BUILDING N LEADING! Future innovators in the making!**

Jack from Transformers Mathare, expresses his excitement with the girls in their class, “In our STEM space, girls are not just learning — they are building, experimenting, and solving real problems. From simple circuits to creative thinking, every session is growing confidence, curiosity, and courage. These are our STEM Queens — bold, brilliant, and ready to shape the future. At Transformers Org, we believe when girls are given the tools and



opportunity, they don't just participate... they lead!”

We are so proud of the work Transformers is doing with these young minds and are so excited to follow them as their future unfolds.

Together we change lives!

#STEMQueens #GirlsInSTEM #FutureInnovators #STEMEducation #empowergirls

## CAN YOU HELP?

In February, a heavy storm with strong winds and intense rainfall completely destroyed the Rescue Wing Kenya learning center in the Kakuma Refugee Camp in Kenya. Their walls and roofing were torn apart, solar panels were damaged, and the structure became unsafe for use. Inside the center, books, learning materials, their brand new printer, WIFI equipment, furniture, and other essential program supplies were either damaged or destroyed as well. Thankfully their computers were spared.

They have rebuilt everything using their very small stipends they receive but these items are their last hurdles and they need your help if you can assist. This center, generally the classroom for more than 200 students, has been a place of hope, learning, and empowerment for their community.

They are urgently seeking support to fund the following:

- 1) Four solar panels, approx. \$400 USD
- 2) Funds for a new printer, approx. \$350 USD

Your support no matter the amount will help them restore learning and hope for those who depend on the learning center. If you would like to help, please contact us [here](#).



## DONATE YOUR USED TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT!

Donate your Laptop/Chromebook/tablet/smartphone, etc., and you'll be changing many lives. Once received, we'll wipe all data, add an Operating System (OS), test the equipment and clean it. If you'd like to donate your used equipment, send us a message [here](#)... your donation is tax deductible... and keeps equipment out of our landfills! Your used equipment is priceless to our partners in Africa.

## 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 Donate Now button on the top right... there are several donation options to choose from... and Goodworld makes it easy to navigate our page. Thank you!

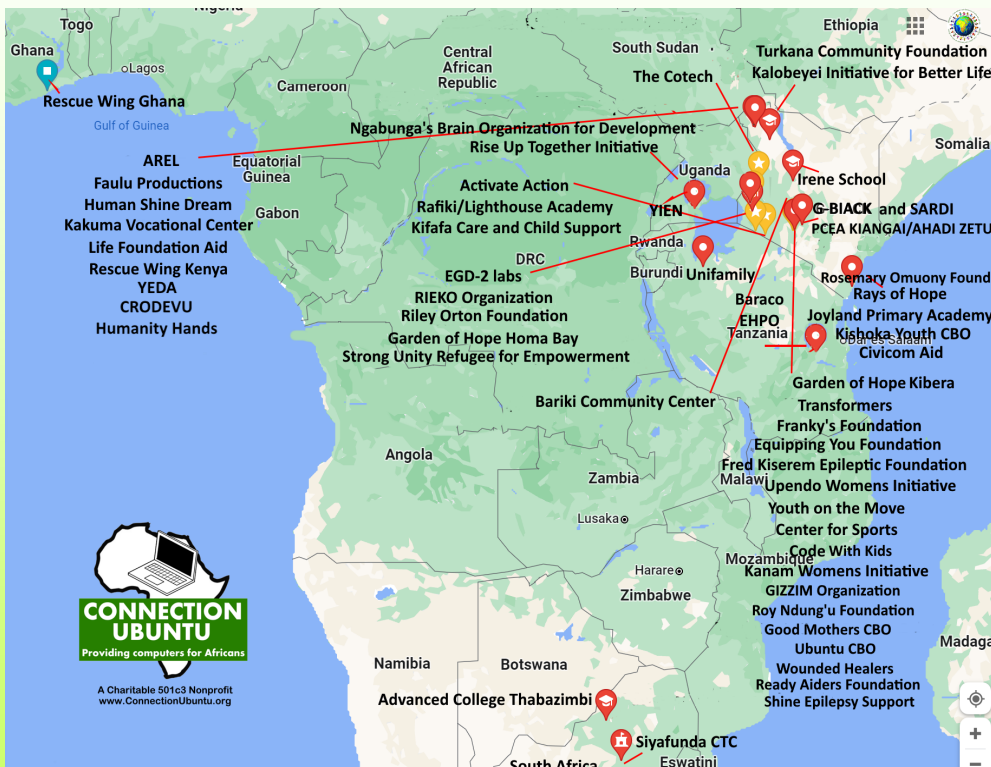
## GET YOUR GIFTS ALL YEAR

GIFTS THAT  
**GIVE HOPE**

Gifts That Give Hope (GTGH) has an online store all year long now! Grab those birthday and anniversary gifts right [here](#). This is a great way to shop for those folks who have what they need, supporting those in other countries that need the help. Connection Ubuntu and our partners would love your support... Together we change lives!



Computer Ministry of Mechanicsburg, PA collects computer equipment items and then refurbishes them. They use the donations received to help people in the USA and around the world. Connection Ubuntu receives most of our donations via Computer Ministry. We are so grateful for them and their volunteers. If you have some spare time and would like to volunteer, click [here](#) for more information.



## MAP OF OUR COMPUTER LABS

(click on map for more details)

WE WOULD LOVE YOU TO FOLLOW US

