

Zawadi[★]

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CONNECTION UBUNTU

JANUARY 2025 – VOLUME 63

Zawadi is the Swahili word for “The Gift”

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

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Connection Ubuntu is excited to get to work this year. We have already filled up our year with computer lab applications for new computer labs and we can't wait to see the newly approved computer labs get their computers. We have some computer labs setting up to teach computer and mobile phone repairs, coding, robotics, and web and graphic design. This year we should have more than 20,000 total students learn technology. We have so many wonderful things coming for this year.

Many of you have asked what we have on our “Wishlist” so here are a few things: We need more donated computers... so if you happen to have a good working computer that you've replaced, we'd love to have it! We need some more shipping materials, such as packing peanuts and small bubble wrap. If you would like to help us out, you can go to our [Wishlist on Amazon](#) or email us at ConnectionUbuntu@gmail.com We also do especially well when we have monthly donors, guaranteeing incoming funds. If you would like to sign up to donate monthly, [click here](#).

We wish you a very healthy, happy and prosperous new year 2025. We can't do this without you.



WE WELCOME FIVE NEW COMPUTER LABS

Connection Ubuntu approved five new computer lab partners in November and we are happy to share that their computers are all boxed up and ready to ship. Homeland 254 Logistics will be picking up the boxes early this month. Please celebrate with us and welcome the following new computer lab partners (click on their logo for more information):



KIFAFA CARE AND SUPPORT CHILD PROJECT

Located in Kendu Bay, Kenya, they have been established since 2008. "Their mission is to provide comprehensive support to vulnerable children, particularly those orphaned and living with epilepsy, while empowering communities through education, psychosocial and economic opportunities all while ensuring food security and a better environment ." They plan to teach internet usage, Microsoft office, research and revision for schoolwork as well as graphic design to develop the sense of self employment.

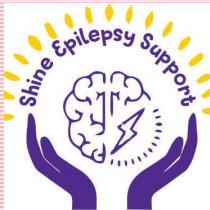
ROSEMARY OMUONY FOUNDATION

Founded in 2020, in Mombasa, Kenya, their goals are to promote a safe friendly environment that encourages participation, survival, development and growth of vulnerable boys, girls, children with special needs and women through interventions that are community and family focused. "Being computer-literate will help open several doors and contribute significantly to our students' success. We will offer digital skills to help students with the skills and confidence they need to navigate the digital world. Empowering girls and women with digital technology will allow them to access online learning, so that they can feel self-empowered."



SHINE EPILEPSY SUPPORT

"Shine Epilepsy Support was founded in 2020 and are dedicated to enhancing the lives of people with epilepsy through awareness, advocacy, education and support services throughout Kenya." They are located in Mlolongo, Kenya. "Providing access to technology will empower single mothers and children, including those with epilepsy, to improve their economic prospects and reduce stigma through increased knowledge and awareness."



UBUNTU COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATION (CBO)

"The roots of Ubuntu CBO run deep in the shared experiences of a group of women who, despite facing domestic violence, found strength and solidarity in each other. This led to the birth of Ubuntu CBO—a safe haven where women could uplift each other, share their struggles, and work collectively towards a brighter future. By providing access to digital skills, education, and entrepreneurship training, they will equip their beneficiaries with the tools needed to engage in the global community and achieve local self-sufficiency." They are located in Ruiru, Kenya.



WOUNDED HEALERS FOUNDATION

"The Wounded Healers Foundation, registered in August 2019, is a survivor-led, community-based organization based in Ruiru, Kenya. The charity foundation prioritizes the voices of survivors, offering support for healing and dignity restoration while working to transform community attitudes towards sexual violence. By providing training in computer skills and internet use, the lab will enhance employability and entrepreneurial opportunities for community members. This will contribute to economic development and allow residents to pursue self-sufficiency and break cycles of poverty."



TOGETHER WE CHANGE LIVES!

WE CELEBRATE GRADUATES



Rays of Hope in Mombasa, Kenya, celebrates the success of their second graduation for the Repair and Maintenance course and are immensely proud of the 5 girls who successfully completed the course. Among these graduates, 3 have secured internships in a local supermarket, assisting in technical areas for the next 12 months while earning a small stipend. With determination and hard work, this could lead to full employment. The

remaining 2 graduates continue to report at Rays of Hope, contributing by mentoring others and assisting in ongoing training programs. Rays of Hope are also pleased to report that 23 of their Grade 6 learners have successfully completed their KEPSEA examinations and are set to join Junior Secondary School next year. This cohort has been one of their most active users of the computer lab, given the tech-heavy nature of their curriculum. This progress has been made possible through our partnership with Cotech and the invaluable facilitation by Connection Ubuntu. Pictured above: Bottom two rows are Grade 6 graduates and the third row are the five Repair and Maintenance course graduates, along with their school Director, Dorcus Andati. This quarter, Rays of Hope served 208 female and 102 male students. We are so very proud of their hard work!

October 2024 graduates of RIEKO, located in Kisumu, Kenya. They had 154 students in their classes during this quarter. The second photo shows the children in their computer session.



SARDI had 9 students graduate in November, 3 are below along with their Director, Francis Wairegi. These students learned Introduction to computers, Microsoft Word, Publisher, Excel, Power Point, Access, Email and how to navigate the internet.



This is the first group of EHPO graduates from their Introduction to Computers and ICT class, Mwanza, Tanzania, in December 2024.



L-R: Ms. Wamuthoni, Julius Ndungu, Jeff Mwangi

A CONTEST and a STUDENT TESTIMONIAL

In the quarter ending in November, Irene School held a computer lab challenge. "The competition called " ICT, the Future" aimed at showcasing how computer literacy and knowledge can move students future career goals. It showed the different courses at higher levels that students can partake in as future careers and the use of ICT to enhance service delivery in today's society. The winning group not only showed the different courses but showed how ICT could be put in place to enhance girlchild and women empowerment, for instance online courses for women at home, online jobs for part-time students as a way of funding their own studies and use of ICT in networking. They also showed how practical this can be achieved in the pastoral areas through sharing of scarce computers and in a community based setting otherwise called Manyattas (group of family households in the same compound sharing resources). This brought their reality and ICT as a change agent. It was very exciting for each girl to show off their different skills. The girls will have the opportunity to showcase their presentations on Academic Day next term to the attending parents. What a joy to learn of their success using technology. They are so eager to learn."



Top photo: student presenters

Bottom photo: A student presenting to her peers



SARDI KENYA

From Jeff Maina, SARDI COMPUTER LAB: "As a student I have been at my best comfort in learning computer studies in SARDI computer training. The first thing I can talk about is being able to access the unlimited WIFI where I can browse and explore more. There are many computers and laptops that each student can use. I can encourage people to come learn in SARDI because since I stepped into the training school, I have never been the same. I have learned multiple things like PowerPoint, Word, Excel and even opening emails. I have not

only acquired a skill in computer studies but also found new friends who I can confidently talk to and share ideas with. I am very eager to pass my exams at the end of the course and get my certificate so I can go out in the community and offer my skills. Yours sincerely, Jeff Maina"

DONATE YOUR USED TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT!

Your used working equipment is priceless to our partners in Africa. Donate your Laptop/Chromebook/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!**



GET YOUR GIFTS ALL YEAR LONG!



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.

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!

WE WOULD LOVE YOU TO FOLLOW US AND SHARE OUR SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS



MAP OF OUR COMPUTER LABS

(CLICK ON MAP FOR MORE DETAILS)



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www.ConnectionUbuntu.org