

Zawadi*

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CONNECTION UBUNTU

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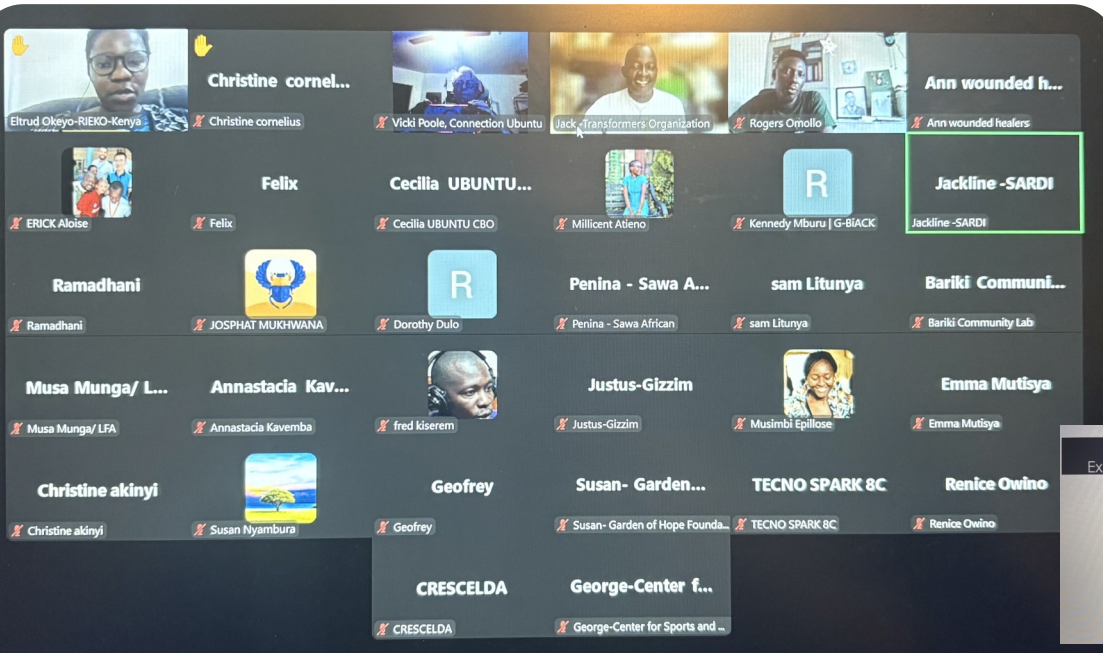
Zawadi is the Swahili word for “The Gift”

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

OUR COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE MEETINGS

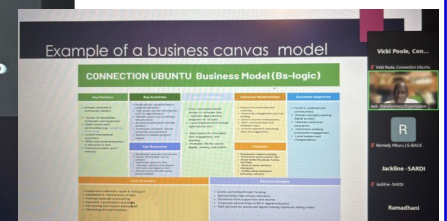
Every month the Connection Ubuntu Community of Practice (CoP) takes place on the first Friday of the month. The CoP is made up of all our computer labs in Africa and each lab appoints an attendee for the meetings. It's a requirement for our computer labs that a representative from each lab attend 9 meetings out of 12 for the year.

Topics are generally related to assisting the other labs with issues they experience, problem solving, or how they can make their labs more appealing to their communities, especially the women and girls. Attendance is generally around 30-35 representatives. Last month, and the previous two months, Jack Owuor from Transformers Mathare, was our speaker, sharing his knowledge on several topics, including lab stability and coding. For August, Eltrud from Rieko, spoke about bridging the digital divide through intergenerational dialogue. The group has learned so much from our presenters and looks forward to each monthly meeting!



Left: This screenshot was from our July meeting.

Below: One page of Jack's presentation in July. We are so grateful to those who are willing to share their knowledge and in-cite.



THANK YOU DEB!



Deb Hempfing has been a devoted Connection Ubuntu Board member for the past six years. She traveled to Kenya numerous times prior to our 2018 trip for both tourism and as part of a medical mission team. In 2018, she was part of our Connection Ubuntu team and got to meet a few of our partners. Upon returning home, she wanted to learn more about our work and joined our Board.

Deb was great at brainstorming. She also served on our Lab Application Committee, the team that assessed the newly submitted applications, for the past three years, and communicated with the applicants. She loved getting to know them and really enjoyed that task.

After six years she has decided it's time to enjoy more time with family and friends, along with her dear pets. Deb, thank you so much for your service to our great work... we are so thankful you joined us! We wish you all the best... you were and are a blessing to both Connection Ubuntu and our African partners.

COMPUTERS HAVE ARRIVED FOR NEW LABS

Computers have arrived in Kenya for our five newest computer labs and we're so excited for them to get set up and get students behind all of the computers. We know they will be shining stars just like our other labs!

Here are the labs that are just starting out (click on their logo for more information about their organization):



Good Mothers CBO (Nairobi, Kenya)—Their computer lab will help caregivers of people living with disabilities and also the youth in their community, especially young girls and women, to get affordable technological knowledge and skills, enhancing opportunities for their future careers.



Kakuma Vocational Center (Kakuma Refugee Camp, Kenya) -Their lab plans to empower women through comprehensive training programs in entrepreneurship, vocational skills, and financial literacy, which are often inaccessible to refugee women. This equips them with practical skills to generate income and contribute to their households and communities.



Ready Aiders Foundation (Mathare, Kenya)—This lab plans to help create a unique opportunity for girls and women from Mathare to learn essential digital skills, breaking barriers in stem fields, therefore hopefully increasing their chances for self-employment and career growth.



Riley Orton Foundation (Kisumu, Kenya)—A core aspect of their mission is to equip young people, particularly girls, with 21st-century skills, including STEM education and digital literacy, to bridge the gender and skills gap and open pathways to economic opportunities.



Rise Up Together Initiative (Namatumba, Uganda)—Their plan is to empower women, young girls, youth and people with disabilities by providing them with essential skills including digital literacy and education, fostering self-reliance, confidence and leadership. They are dedicated to creating equitable opportunities that enable them to thrive in their personal, educational and professional lives.

WE HAVE NEW GRADUATES!

We always love graduations. **YIEN** had their 2024-2025 graduation on July 12th and they had an amazing celebration for the students! There was a parade through their community with a band of drums and horns. They had motivational speakers and dancing and presents and cake. There were a total of 35 students graduating from the various programs they offer, including their Information Communication Technology (ICT) course. Please enjoy the photos and join us in celebrating their huge achievements! Congratulations, YIEN students and staff, for a job well done!



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!

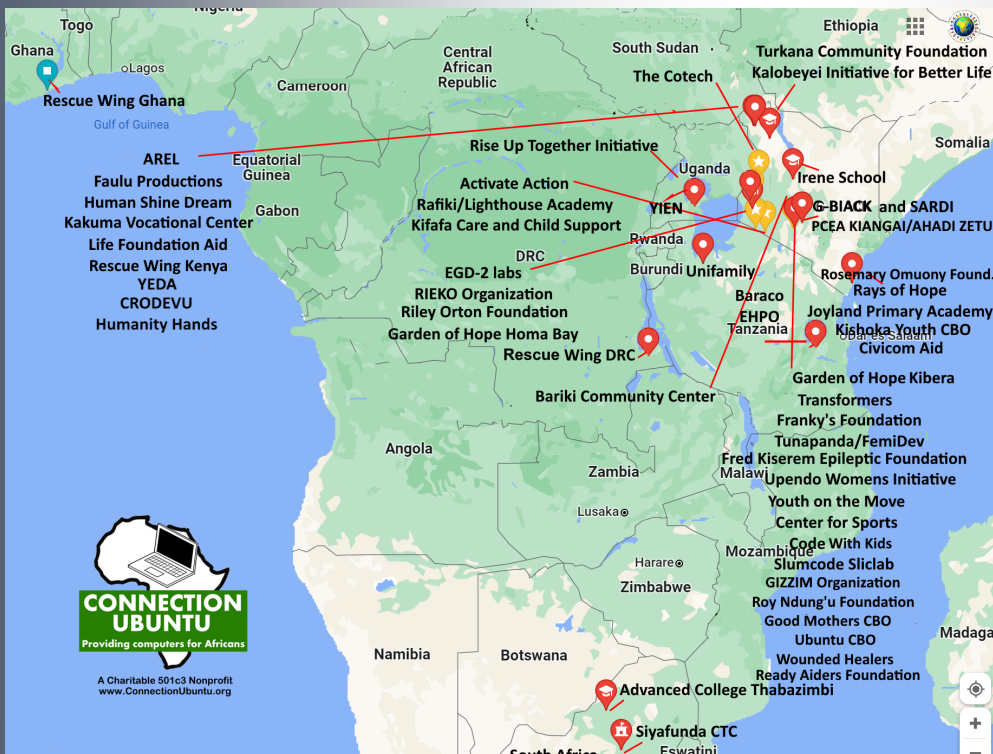
GET YOUR GIFTS ALL YEAR

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

