

# Zawadi\*



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CONNECTION UBUNTU

MARCH 2021 – VOLUME 18



## SPRING IS ALMOST HERE!



### Time to clean out your unused technology!

We'll take your older laptop/desktop/smartphone/keyboard/mouse, etc. as long it is working, and wipe all data, if needed. We'll add an Operating System (OS), make sure the equipment functions properly again and clean it. Next, your donated equipment is sent to our partners in Africa. Used working equipment is priceless to them and donating it keeps our landfills happy. So if you have a computer or other technological equipment and you're not sure what to do with it, send us an email at [ConnectionUbuntu@gmail.com](mailto:ConnectionUbuntu@gmail.com)... we'll let you know if we can use it! Thanks so much.



## We love when our lab directors and prospective lab directors network!

**Top Photo:** Abedi, Assistant Director of [CRODEVU](#) (prospective lab) in Kakuma, meets with Erick, Director of [Rescue Wing](#) in Kakuma!

**Bottom Photo:** Albert Nashon, Director of [Slumcode Innovations](#) in Nairobi, Kenya, meets Samuel Litunya, Director of [Turkana Community Foundation](#), Lodwar, Kenya!

Kakuma is located in North Western Kenya. It is a large refugee camp and has many subdivisions. Lodwar is approximately 12 hours from Nairobi. We are so thankful that these directors have taken their time to share beneficial information for the labs. We are hoping to hold the first Connection Ubuntu Global Meeting this year in Kenya. Dearest Directors you are all bright shining stars!



# **KARIBU MAABARA YA KOMPYOTA NCHINI KENYA!**

(click on the line above for pronunciation)

## **Swahili for “Welcome Computer Lab in Kenya!”**

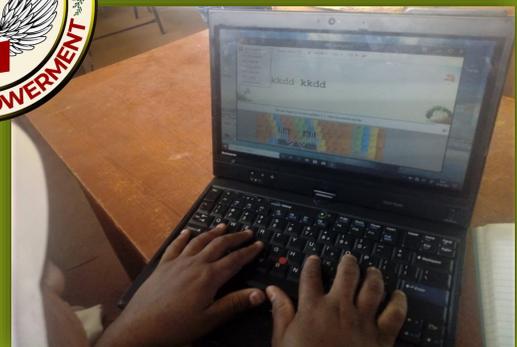
**We have four new labs in Kenya. Our spotlight this month is on Rescue Wing, located in the Kakuma Refugee Camp, Kakuma 3 Zone 1, in Kakuma, Kenya.**

Some history about the refugee camp: The Kakuma refugee camp, located in the North-Western region of Kenya, was established in 1992 for Ethiopian and Somalian refugees. Kakuma in Swahili means nowhere but for so many displaced Africans it is their home. With an influx of many new refugees in 2014, land for a new settlement, Kalobeyei, was established approximately 12 miles from the original camp. Both camps combined had a population of almost 200,000 in July of 2020. The camp is supported by the UNHCR, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Kenyan government.

The camp is a small city of thatched roof huts, tents and adobe homes. The foundation of the original camp was based on the assumption that the refugee situation was temporary but as the average person had spent around 17 years in the camp, a new approach was established to better support self-reliance and livelihood opportunities, giving hope to the young people for a better future. Although small, Connection Ubuntu’s contributions to the camp, along with other outside support collectively, are making a difference.

**RESCUE WING**

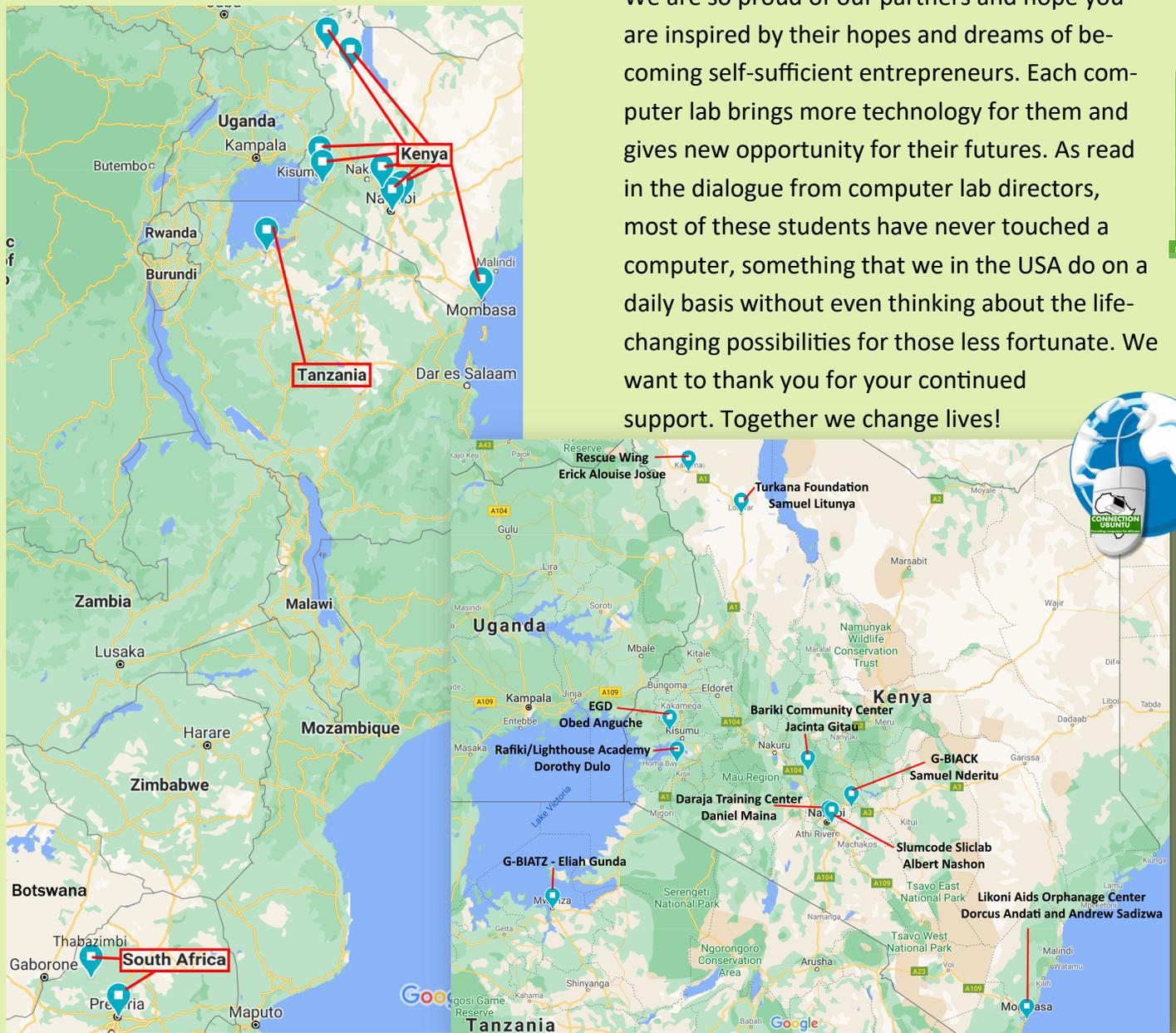
**Kakuma,  
Kenya**



“Everyone wants to join our classes. We have three sessions for students who want computer skills before they attend the government exams. We have an English language class online with a facilitator from the UK, assisting young girls and women to learn better English, both speaking and writing. We also have started an online Marketing class for students. There are many students and we have started using a TV so students can follow using their phones since there are only five computers. I believe these computers will bring a huge transformation in Turkana County.” Erick Alouise Josue, Director (originally from DRC)

# CONNECTION UBUNTU COMPUTER LABS

Click on map below for more detail



We now have 11 labs in Africa. We hope these maps give a better idea of the work we are doing. We are so proud of our partners and hope you are inspired by their hopes and dreams of becoming self-sufficient entrepreneurs. Each computer lab brings more technology for them and gives new opportunity for their futures. As read in the dialogue from computer lab directors, most of these students have never touched a computer, something that we in the USA do on a daily basis without even thinking about the life-changing possibilities for those less fortunate. We want to thank you for your continued support. Together we change lives!



## JOIN US FOR OUR VOYAGE IN KENYA APRIL 2023!

You won't want to miss this trip! More than just viewing the African wildlife, this is your opportunity to meet the people of Kenya and learn about the culture and country. In our travels we'll visit both current and prospective computer labs in Kenya and have a "first time ever" one-day "meet and greet" with our lab partners for a celebration of Connection Ubuntu's work in Africa. Mr. Obadiah Muraya, one of the best Kenyan guides, will lead us for all our travels, along with providing magical and amazing safaris at one or two of the Kenyan game parks. More details to come... Please email [ConnectionUbuntu@gmail.com](mailto:ConnectionUbuntu@gmail.com) to reserve your seat!



## COMING SOON... FUNDRAISERS!

Because of Covid-19, we have not really been able to do any local fundraisers but we are planning to get a few on our calendars... and we're hopeful that you'll join us! Isaacs, Panera Bread, Wood-fire Grill, Handels Ice Cream and Mod Pizza are all holding fundraisers now. If you have favorites from these places, send us an email at [ConnectionUbuntu@gmail.com](mailto:ConnectionUbuntu@gmail.com) with your suggestions. We'll take them into consideration when planning our dates. If you can't join us maybe you would like to donate to our great mission!



Donate

Jambo!

My name is Deb Becker. I have been on the Connection Ubuntu board of directors since it was founded in 2014. I feel very blessed to be a part of the amazing work that Connection Ubuntu is doing in Africa. I can remember as a small child, how fascinated I was by Africa. I dreamed of going there sometime, but it was so far away! Now, that dream has been realized. I have been to Africa 3 times and am planning on a 4th. I feel a deep connection to the people who I have met in Kenya. Many of them are like family to me. My life is so much richer because they are in it. There are so many good people doing great things in Africa. Many of them with very few resources - with nothing but a dream and a hope for a better life. It is an honor and a privilege to partner with them through Connection Ubuntu. Asante sana!

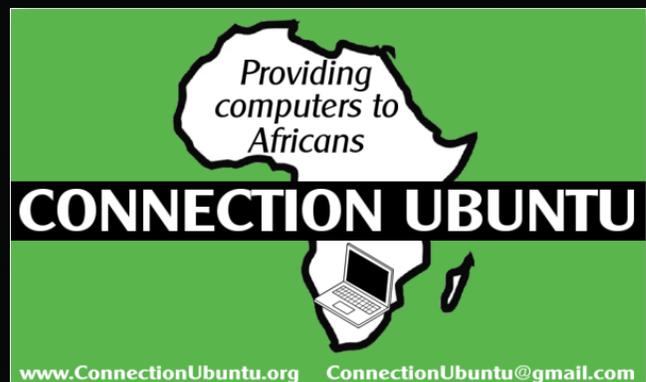
**MEET OUR  
BOARD MEMBER,  
DEB BECKER**



## 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."*



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