Zawadi *

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CONNECTION UBUNTU

MAY 2023 – VOLUME 43

* Zawadi is the Swahili word for "The Gift"

HUGE DONATION FROM SCROUNGE!

<u>S.C.R.O.U.N.G.E.</u> which stands for "Students for Computer Recycling to Outfit Underrepresented Nonprofit Groups in Education," is a 100 percent volunteer student-run micro-business that exists to redistribute functional computers to nonprofit groups, receive donations of computer and electronic equipment, and to help the community by safely disposing of electronics. Members of SCROUNGE experience a cross-discipline opportunity in a real-world entrepreneurial environment where technologists, business people, marketers, communicators, and eco-minded individuals can come together to support a common goal.

In April, these students chose to gift Connection Ubuntu with a large quantity of laptops, monitors, keyboards and other peripheral equipment and we couldn't be more thankful. It's so heart-warming to witness young adults working for the community. We can't wait to share these donations with our partners in Africa!

A BEAUTIFUL PARTNERSHIP WITH COMPUTER MINISTRY

Computer Ministry of Mechanicsburg, Pa collects computer equipment items and then local volunteers refurbish them. After the computers are refurbished Computer Ministry donates the equipment to non-profit ministries and organizations that need computers, for a small fee. Connection Ubuntu began a partnership with Computer Ministry in 2021, receiving computers from them for our partners in Africa. We have received more than 200 computers since 2021 and continue to be beneficiaries of their work. Computer Ministry also provides Connection Ubuntu with numerous peripherals and parts and we are happy to share that every new computer lab now receives a projector.

Just recently, we submitted a proposal to Computer Ministry for funds to purchase tools to benefit one of our partners so that they can repair both computers and smartphones. They approved that proposal and we are so excited for our partner to get started with their project. Computer Ministry, thank you so much for everything you do to promote Connection Ubuntu and our African partners in fulfilling dreams. We truly could not do our work without your gifts.

In February of 2023, Vicki, Founder of Connection Ubuntu, decided she wanted to give back by volunteering at Computer Ministry. She is gaining so much knowledge of both laptops and computers, but mostly making wonderful connections with the other volunteers. If you would like to volunteer, you can get further information here. Computer experience is welcomed but not necessary. Below are some of the volunteers… blessings to us!
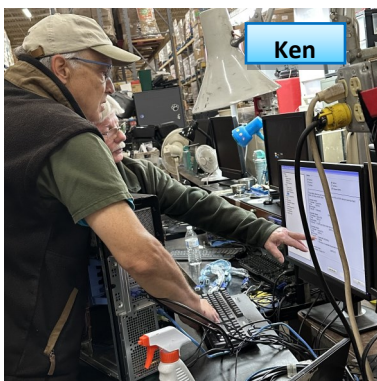

Bob, our Executive Director
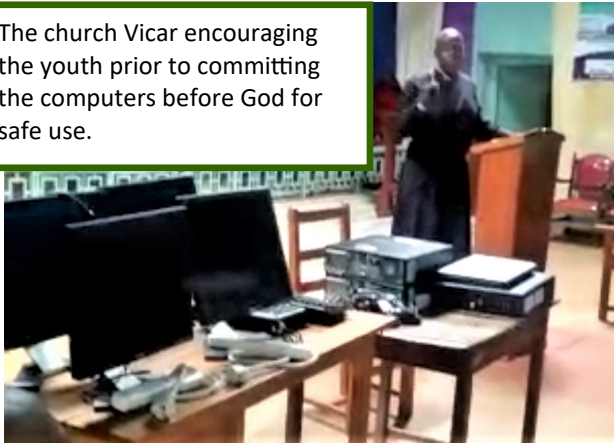

Tom

Rob

Kevin

Roger

George

Ken

Eric

Ed

GRAND OPENINGS!

The Emuhaya Group of Disabled (EGD) have officially opened their second computer lab… The Poole Lab! This lab has the potential to teach technology skills to their entire community of students from both the primary and secondary schools due to location. It is located in Luanda, Kenya, and is hosted by the Anglican Church. Their hope is that the students will have more access to the computer lab within the church, offering more hours for students to learn and do school work. We are thrilled for them and look forward to seeing students excelling!

The church Vicar encouraging the youth prior to committing the computers before God for safe use.

The Cotech, in Kitale, Kenya, has received their computers and they are already underway with their ICT classes. Their Director, Josphat, shares these words, "We are so happy to have partnered with CU in supporting the vulnerable members of the community. The computers will be used for the best interest of the youths especially girl child, young mothers, single mothers, the abled differently amongst many groups. They will be equipped with technological skills necessary for jobs acquisition, destructing problems associated with digital divides etc. We are determined to bring computer illiteracy rates beyond zero. Join hands with us if you believe it's possible."

CU believes anything is possible!

Josphat, with the boxes for The Cotech

The **Fred Kiserem Epileptic Foundation** lab, in Kampala, Uganda, is up and running! Fred, their Founder, tells us more about them, "Our organization deals with creating awareness and empowering people with epilepsy with skills for sustainability. Members of the general public also learn at our center. Our computer classes focus on teaching basic computers. This year we will be training computer skills to 20 women who have been through gender based violence."

We're proud of them.

HAPPENINGS

The Connection Ubuntu Team has been busy shipping computers. We packed up four boxes last week and they will ship out soon to Human Shine Dream, Tunapanda, Unifamily, and Rays of Hope. We also shipped computers to Advanced College Thabazimbi via container, thanks to Evapco.

We expect to receive a few wonderful donations from local companies… and these computers will be headed out once we get them, to Kalobeyei and Irene School.

We just had 17 boxes arrive in Nairobi, thanks to our wonderful shipper, Homeland 254 Logistics. We are excited for these labs to get started… they will be spotlighted in our June newsletter.

If you are part of a company that is upgrading computers, please remember us… we love our local donors. Please spread the word to your friends, family and businesses. Let us know if you want to donate!

WE'VE GOT SOME SEATS TO FILL

Do you love our work? Would you like to be more involved? Do you have skills to share? Have you ever worked in Africa? Connection Ubuntu is looking for a few more Board members. We are all volunteers, dedicating our time and efforts to support the work, which means that every monetary donation is used fully to provide computers to Africans. If you think you would be interested in helping, have some perspective you'd like to share or if you would like to learn more about becoming a Board member or work on one of our committees, please contact us and put BOARD MEMBER/Committee member in the subject line! We'd love to talk with you.

MADARAKA DAY FESTIVAL

KENYAN COMMUNITY IN PENNSYLVANIA

JUNE 3RD 2023

- music
- food
- vendors
- moon bounce
- facepainting

FESTIVAL
12PM-7PM
@LINGLE PARK
1130 PLEASANT RD.
HARRISBURG, PA 17111

AFTER-PARTY
9PM
@TBD

CONTACT:267-664-5245
VENDORS & SPONSORS NEEDED

SAVE THE DATE

Come enjoy a wonderful day filled with all things Kenya… the people, the food, and the community. Madaraka day is the day Kenya declared their independence from the United Kingdom, June 1, 1963. You can find more information here! This event is hosted by the Kenyan Community in Pennsylvania and anyone is welcome. To learn more or to just connect with this group, you can find more information here.

News Flash!

WE ARE NOW TAKING USED OR NEW GOOGLE CHROMEBOOKS!

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

STOP NEW ITEMS ADDED

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

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

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.

Providing computers to Africans

CONNECTION UBUNTU

www.ConnectionUbuntu.org   ConnectionUbuntu@gmail.com