

# 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.”

## WE HAVE MORE GRADUATES!

In February, 20 students graduated from Gizzim lab’s Creative Arts and Computer Studies classes, including short term photography training, intensive photography training programs, online courses and webinars, mentorship opportunities, photography practical tailored as competitive trials, and opportunities to engage in photography exhibitions, festivals and conferences. So far, 5 graduates have already secured the following jobs: front office staff, cyber attendants and project developers.



Gizzim is an organization committed to empowering young refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan, and Kenyan Youth via film, business skills and photography. Its interactive and immersive training equips the youth with vital skills that foster creativity and self-expression, providing a diversion from potential routes like crime and substance abuse.



# CELEBRATORY CERTIFICATES

The following organizations have completed Connection Ubuntu's two year requirements, consisting of regular reports three times per year, and including at least fifty percent women students in their classrooms. We are proud of their achievements and wish them all well for their organizations futures. We hope they continue to celebrate women and also to educate as many students as possible for digital literacy. Please celebrate with us and them for a job well done.



**Kiza Mauridi, Founder**



**Victor Odhiambo, Founder**



**Dorcus Andati, Founder**



**Francis Wairegi, Founder**

# JOB SUCCESS PERCENTAGES



- Civicom Aid graduated 10 students this semester and 6 of them (60%) have secured jobs in the following markets: Coding, web design, and data entry.
- G-BiACK had 30 students complete their training and 27 (90%) have gained jobs in the following markets: Front desk office, garden managers, sole proprietors and field officers in different nonprofits.
- Eight out of thirty (14%) of Transformers Mathare students have received jobs. Here is what Jack, their Founder, has to share, “We have also retained several of our most promising graduates to serve as mentors for the next cohort at Transformers, which provides them with paid, immediate professional experience while enriching our current training program. This dual-pronged strategy ensures that our graduates are not just trained, but are actively contributing to and gaining experience within the local tech ecosystem, setting the stage for our planned expansion next year into broader community venues like schools and churches.”
- Out of Upendo Women Initiative Organization’s 20 students, 4 students (20%) have gotten the following jobs: Sales attendant and data entry jobs.

These are just a few Connection Ubuntu partners who are beginning to see their digital literacy students succeed by gaining secure jobs. We are thrilled for them and hope that all students will have this opportunity in the near future.

## CO-TECH DIGITAL LITERACY PROJECTS

Josphat, Founder of The CoTech, shared this information, “Two of our young mothers and a gentleman decided to volunteer their time and expertise from the skills they learned from Cotech to assist their community. Thanks to them now Rays of Hope in Mombasa, has a well optimized, modern and fast loading website. See [www.raysofhopecommunity.com](http://www.raysofhopecommunity.com), head to the footer on the web page and you’ll see that the website is powered by Cotech. These three students are so appreciative to have accomplished this and they boast of having acquired useful skills. They were able to team up in a partnership and now run their small business offering IT services, and have since successfully created more than 15 commercial websites for different organizations and businesses among other services they offer. Congratulations to them for their hard work and dedication.”



“The next team of 6 students chose to build a news website covering several categories of news including, technology, politics, education, etc., see [www.cmn.cotech.co.ke](http://www.cmn.cotech.co.ke). The news platform has an administration side for adding, managing and publishing the articles and stories as they occur. Cotech will use this website to educate, inform and market its products to the public. The CoTech has adopted it and created a subdomain for the same. They have such great motivation!”

The CoTech teaches more than 1000 students every four months. They teach the following classes: Computer Repair and Maintenance, Coding, Gaming (Scratch and Blockily), Management Information System and Web Design. It is so encouraging seeing how excited their students are, thanks to the computers they have. Connection Ubuntu would love to see every person have the same opportunity to learn digital literacy. Students now have the chance to become self-sufficient in Africa, because others want to give their support for much needed education. Thank you Josphat, for caring so much!

## 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!

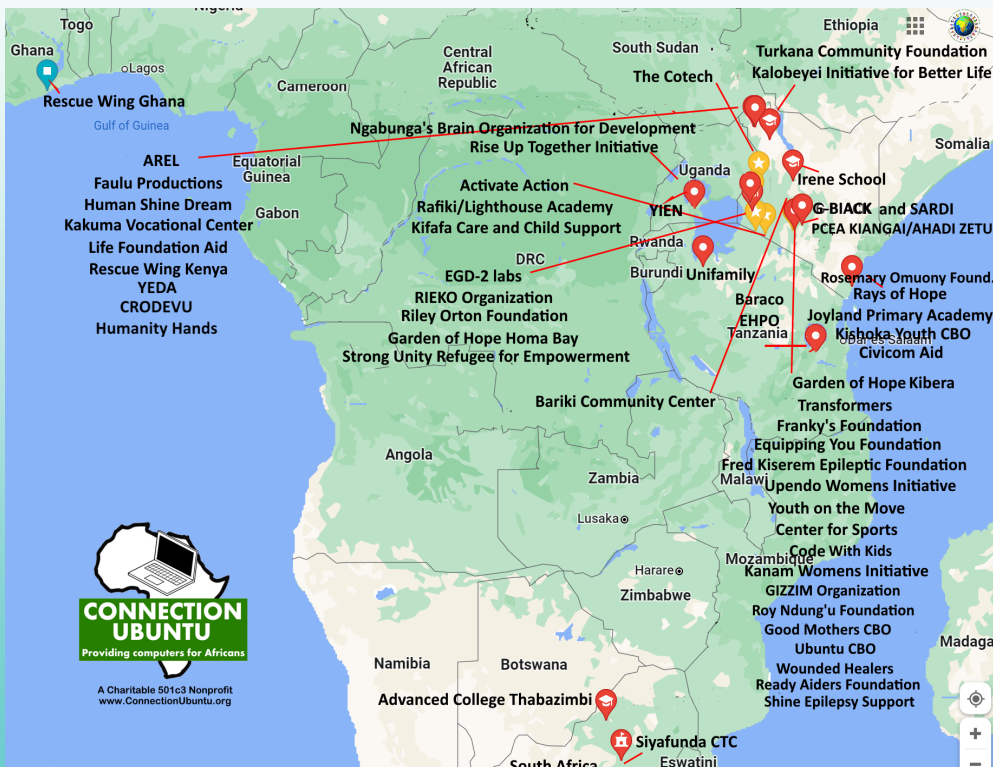
## GET YOUR GIFTS ALL YEAR



Gifts That Give Hope (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

