

# Zawadi\*

**THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CONNECTION UBUNTU**

**AUGUST 2026 – VOLUME 80**

**Zawadi is the Swahili word for “The Gift”**

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

## TRIBUTE TO CHRISTEN CHEW

**-Sunrise-**

**July 16, 1954**



**-Sunset-**

**August 2, 2026**

It is with great sadness that we share that our dear friend, Christen Chew, left this earthly life to join our heavenly host on August 2, 2026. Christen was a Board Member of CU and generously gave her time, knowledge and support to the Connection Ubuntu team and we are so thankful. Her thoughtfulness for both our work and for our African partners was immense and she helped shape us into the organization we are today.

Christen was a big-hearted, compassionate person with a great sense of humor. She quietly and unassumingly offered her love and support to those who needed it. How lucky we were to call her friend. She was a blessing to many and will be missed by so many.

She leaves behind her wife of 30 years, Deb Becker, who is also a Connection Ubuntu Board member. Deb will need all of our prayers in the coming months and we would ask that you join us in lifting her up in strength and love. We know Christen is in a wonderful place but for those of us left behind, we share Deb's pain. Together we can support one another, especially Deb.

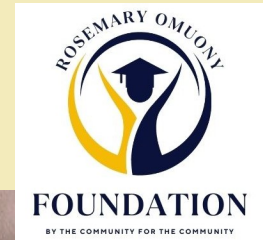
In celebration of Christen's life, if you would like to share your condolences with Deb, you may do so using her email address, [beckerchew@verizon.net](mailto:beckerchew@verizon.net). We know she will appreciate your loving kindness.

# BOXES OF EQUIPMENT ARRIVE IN KENYA!

Our largest shipment of 23 boxes from May has arrived in Kenya and we are happy to share that most of the equipment has been picked up by our African partners! We also want to thank Computer Ministry, our partner here in the US, for donating all of the projectors and computer equipment to us for our work... we couldn't do this without them. We share some of our African partners' joy here in these photos and comments below!



From Director, Caroline: "On behalf of Women in STEAM Initiative, Kenya, I want to sincerely appreciate you, Vicki and Jack, for the great support you have given us through the digital tools we've acquired. Really appreciate to partner on providing digital skills training to the girls and young women in our community. We received the laptops, the chargers and router all in good condition and also love the sweets. Thank you so much for the love and may The Lord expand your territories and bless you more as you continue to bless others."



Clove, Facilitator—"On behalf of Rosemary Omuony Foundation, we extend our sincere gratitude to Connection Ubuntu for your generous support in strengthening our digital learning initiatives. The donation of this Epson projector, alongside the laptops you previously provided, is a remarkable investment in the future of our community. These digital tools will play a vital role in enhancing digital literacy, improving training sessions, and creating more engaging learning opportunities for students, women, and youth. Your unwavering commitment to empowering communities through education and technology is making a lasting impact. Together, we are bridging the digital divide and equipping individuals with the skills they need to thrive in today's digital world. Thank you for believing in our mission and standing with us as partners in transforming lives."



"On behalf of Roy Ndung'u Foundation, we would like to sincerely thank you for the generous donation of the projector. We truly appreciate your support and kindness. This projector will be a valuable addition to our activities, helping us improve our training sessions, workshops, presentations, and community engagement activities. Thank you once again for your generosity and for supporting the work we do. We are truly grateful for your partnership and continued support." Allen, Director, Roy Ndung'u Foundation

# BOXES OF EQUIPMENT ARRIVE IN KENYA!



From Director, Rehema: "On behalf of everyone at NivalishePad Initiative, we extend our gratitude for your generous donation of laptops. We have received 11 laptops, chargers and router. They will serve as a significant investment in the future of women, girls, children and youth in Mukuru Kwa Njenga. Thank you for believing in our vision and for partnering with us to create brighter futures. We deeply appreciate your generosity and look forward to the continued impact we can achieve together."

"Dear Connection Ubuntu Team, on behalf of Global Innovation Valley, thank you so much for your generous donation of 10 desktop computers. We truly appreciate your support and commitment to empowering our community through digital access. We will share photos and a full report with you once everything has been completed and the computers are fully set up. Thank you once again for making this possible and believing in our mission." Blaise, Director



**GLOBAL  
INNOVATION  
VALLEY**

From Josphine, Wounded Healers, "We collected our projector. My sincere thanks to Vicki and the entire Connection Ubuntu team for making this possible. It will enhance our training and learning sessions, enabling us to create more engaging and impactful experiences for the women, girls, young mothers, and communities we serve. A special thanks to Jack for handing over the projector and making the process seamless."



# BOXES OF EQUIPMENT ARRIVE IN KENYA!



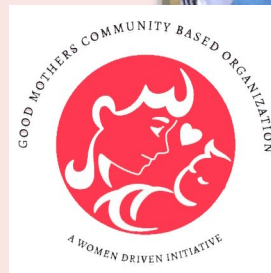
From Director, Jacinta: "On behalf of Bariki Computer Lab, I sincerely thank you for the generous donation of the projector. We truly appreciate your support and kindness. This projector will be a valuable addition to our computer lab especially during community activities such as workshops, presentations, and other engagement activities. With a lot of gratitude, thank you once again for generously supporting our organization."



"On behalf of Connection Ubuntu we appreciate your generosity. Thank you for the Projector." William, Good Mothers, Director



"On behalf of Unifamily organization, thank you, Connection Ubuntu, we have received our box of computers." Abea Vincent, Director



"Thank you very much, Connection Ubuntu. EHPO has received the projector and we are thankful."

Naphtaly Johnson, EHPO

# NEW MONTHLY DONOR GIVEAWAY

Love our work? By supporting us monthly with your donation, no matter how small or large, we can count on these continuous funds to cover shipping expenses and parts for the rehabbed computers.

Here are some examples of what a monthly donation helps cover:

1. \$10 covers the cost of one hard drive
2. \$15 covers the cost of a power cord
3. \$20 covers the cost of a new laptop battery
4. \$25 covers the cost of RAM memory for a laptop
5. \$50 covers the cost of a purchased rehabbed laptop
6. \$135 covers the cost of shipping an entire computer lab of
7. equipment (10 laptops, power cords, router, and other necessities)

Our goal is to rehab about ten computers per week so you can see how these costs add up quickly. This is where your monthly donation really helps our work. If you sign up as a monthly donor for \$25 or under, we will send you a Connection Ubuntu mug and bag clip and monthly donations over \$25 will also include our tote. If you would like to join our monthly supporters, click [here](#). We are so thankful for our donors... you mean the world to us and our African partners! Bless you!



## SAVE THE DATE!

**Gifts that Give Hope Alternative Gift Fair**

Skip big-box stores and shop for a cause with local nonprofits, an ethical marketplace, and a fair trade tour!

Saturday October 10, 2026  
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM  
Farm & Home Center  
1383 Arcadia Rd, Lancaster, PA

Just 4 months to go! The 19th Annual Gifts That Give Hope Lancaster Alternative Gift Fair is returning on Saturday, October 10, 2026. Join our community for a day of purposeful shopping and giving back!

What to Expect:

**Nonprofit Participants:** Discover dozens of local, national, and global charities where your direct donations serve as meaningful gifts.

**Ethical Marketplace:** Browse a curated selection of fair-trade items, eco-friendly goods, and social enterprise products.

It is the perfect opportunity to skip the standard material gifts and put your money where your heart is.

For more details on participating nonprofits or to shop online, check out the Gifts That Give Hope Lancaster homepage.  
[www.giftsthatgivehopelancaster.org](http://www.giftsthatgivehopelancaster.org)

## 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

