

 ANNUAL REPORT

 2013

Dear Kulea Friend and Partner,

Our mission, stated simply is *“To care for Tanzania orphans and Kenya orphans so that they grow into leaders who can provide new vision and integrity in their communities.”*

The word ‘care’ is loaded. A lot of people ‘care’ for things like pumpkin pie and their cat. What we mean by the word ‘care’ is far beyond what most Americans understand as ‘care.’ To us ‘care’ means *“sustained emotional, physical and financial attention given to a particular problem until that problem is solved.”*

For Kulea, it’s only about the kids. We know the kids in Tanzania and Kenya desperately need ‘care.’ At Kulea we are committed to caring for them and all that is meant in this word.

*We will not stop caring until each child has opportunity to be all that God intends him/her to be.*

*We will not stop caring until every child has food and shelter, loving adults speaking into their lives, healthcare, a living environment saturated with God’s Spirit and everything else it takes to raise a child well.*

The year 2013 in the life of Kulea’s kids and partners was busy with providing the necessary sustained attention to make real differences.

2013 saw the continuation and growth in the following areas:

**Total Care Program**

Eleven children receive three healthy meals each day, their own bed, a loving Christian home, healthcare and excellent education. This home alone fed 10,920 meals to the children living there in 2013. Volunteers brought 150 pounds of clothing for these children and local children.

**Child Assistance Program**

Eleven children in Kenya and seven children in Tanzania continue to attend school through Kulea sponsorship. These children would otherwise not be in school. During 2013, we added one child to our program who was on her way to being married at age 10. We learned that if she was still in school she would not be married, but she had no one to pay school fees. Answer? A Kulea sponsor stepped in to help and a child was rescued from early child marriage.

**Feeding & Preschool Programs**

Kulea operates three feeding programs in local churches in Kenya & Tanzania. During 2013, we provided 101,920 meals for orphans, vulnerable children and widows. This represents an average of 40 children/widows eating two meals, five days per week at our Tanzania site and 130 children/widows eating two meals, six days per week at our two Kenya sites. We also educated these children with quality preschool education. In addition, volunteers provided over 100 pounds of preschool teaching supplies.

**Community Support**

In 2013, Kulea delivered 200 pounds of medical supplies to Chalinze Healthcare Center in Tanzania. In addition, Kulea volunteers visited two local schools and provided 70 pounds of school supplies and 250 Bibles.

**Ubazi Village**

Ubazi is a word for mercy in the Kwele language. Our Kulea children named our 75 acres ‘Ubazi Village’ because they see its future as a place of mercy and grace for children who are rescued and brought to live there. Ubazi is Kulea’s first village and soon will provide family, housing, school and medical care for almost 400 orphans.

Today, we have a caretaker’s home, crops planted by our caretaker, and a fresh water well on the property. In 2013 we were able to purchase a water pump and begin enjoying the well’s water. Just after we installed the pump, Kulea identified 16 needy widows within walking distance of our land and began providing water to them. Their lives have been changed by the availability of clean water at a fraction of the distance of their previous water source and free.

**Construction of Chalinze Baptist Church**

During 2013 we continued raising funds to complete a large worship center for Chalinze Baptist Church. In addition to providing a place for the congregation to meet weekly and grow, the church will allow Kulea to hold special community events and trainings in this facility as well as other Christian groups. During 2013 we completed the top 5 courses of bricks above all the windows and added a ring beam which will support the roof. The building is now ready for the roof, windows and doors.

**USA Fundraising**

Our website was redesigned in 2013 when a new volunteer began helping us with marketing. Our new website offers the chance for people to read the stories of our Kulea children and sign up to sponsor a child. This has resulted in growing our pool of child sponsors which has allowed us to meet increased costs due to inflation, to add a Social Worker and to help more children. In addition, a new push to use social media started in 2013 and resulted in many new connections both in the USA and in East Africa. In March, we held our annual Auction Fundraiser which was successful and FUN!

**Kulea governing boards**

In early 2013, the USA Board Chairman and the Executive Director traveled to Tanzania and held 3 days of training for our Kenya Board of Directors and our Tanzania Board of Directors. During those meetings a new CEO was named for Kulea Kenya.

**Pray for**

As we reflect on all that God has done in 2013, we are grateful and amazed. We ask for His strength to continue and we invite you to pray for us about these needs:

* Safety for our East African pastors, staff and volunteers
* Our continued care for orphans and vulnerable children
* For open ears and hearts as Kulea grows
* Increased impact through social media and networking
* Funding of our current and future projects

“Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.” James 1:27.

Thank you for your partnership with Kulea as we seek to love and care for the children entrusted to us. We hope that our efforts are regarded by the Father as pure and faultless. We know that to raise these children really does take a village. YOU are that village.

With gratefulness,

Deborah Brown

Executive Director and Founder

Kulea Childcare Villages, Inc.