



**Tloma Giving**  
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Summer 2020 Newsletter

## Tloma Giving achieves Nonprofit status

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President: Winona Perry



Treasurer: Jim Swallow



Secretary: Stephanie Wolkin



Director of Communications and Marketing: Jonna Holland

Good news! Tloma Giving is an official non-profit approved by the State of Utah. The purpose of our organization is “to provide support to foster the health, education, social, and economic development of the residents and families of the low-income and underserved Tloma region of the Karatu District, Arusha, Tanzania.”

This is the purpose you have been supporting all along: providing school uniforms, supplies, tuition for secondary education, and support for the well. Thank you to all our generous donors!

The four founding board members are listed above. The application for tax-exempt status has been filed with the IRS. It is uncertain when it will be approved, but we expect it sometime this

fall. Luckily, once we're approved, all donations made to Tloma Giving since the beginning of this year will be considered tax exempt, even if the paperwork isn't officially approved until Dec. 31, 2020. We realize that our supporters are mostly motivated by a strong desire to help the children and families of Tloma. However, it is an additional benefit for your donations to be tax deductible. We'll keep you updated on our progress. In the mean time, if you have comments or questions for the board, please email us at [tlomagivinginfo@gmail.com](mailto:tlomagivinginfo@gmail.com).

## Schools reopen June 29 after March closure due to COVID-19

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Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, all schools in Tanzania were closed in March. Luckily for the kids, the official reopening date is June 29 (classes run Jan-Dec in Tanzania). Government policy now requires a handwashing station at the entrance to each classroom. Thanks to a grant from the Grand Circle Foundation, Tloma teachers and parents are building a station

for each of the primary school's 14 classrooms. There, as here, controversy exists over how soon is too soon to resume normal daily life. Enabling the children to continue their school year is vital to their education, and handwashing is key to keeping them safe while at school. In general, Corona virus testing is limited and accurate numbers to quantify infections are not available. For the community, unfortunately, water is scarce and expensive, hand-sanitizers are rare. Masks are being provided by the women's entrepreneur group (see next article).

## Who gets to go to Secondary School?

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Do you remember the excitement of those fresh new notebooks, pencils and pens for the start of a new school year? That same joy is reflected in the faces of these young people as they received their school supplies for the start of the 2020 school year this last January. Through your generosity, a total of **18 students** are being supported through Tloma Giving to attend 4-year boarding schools. An additional 30 students have been able to attend day school this year, but need support for the next three years either for day school or for boarding school. There are at least **eight** students who have been identified as high achieving who really need sponsors for boarding school where the education is far superior to that provided at the day school. This year, an additional 80 students will finish primary school and need four year pledges to start secondary school in January. Thank you to all who have shown faith in the future of these young people. If you can help one of these bright young people achieve their potential through education, please email us at [tlomagivinginfo@gmail.com](mailto:tlomagivinginfo@gmail.com)

## Small business has bright future

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Two new projects have been funded by Tloma Giving to support income generation for families so that they can feed their children. A small group of women in the village (mothers and family members of children at Tloma Primary School) were interested in starting a small business to support their families. The initial business opportunity was to make liquid soap and was featured in the last newsletter. The next opportunity the women identified was mask making. Generous Tloma Giving donors provided fabric, supplies and training for the women to get started and meet the need for masks in the community. A new sewing machine will also be donated as soon as a shared space can be found for the women to work together.

## Your donations mean fewer children are hungry

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Children cannot learn if they don't eat. Students are required to supply bags of rice and beans each school term to participate in school lunches. Due to recent crop failures in Tanzania,



many families had no food for the lunch program. Generous Tloma Giving supporters donated \$2000 for food to be cooked and served for school lunches last year. Since schools were closed in March due to COVID-19, some inventory remains in storage for use once school resumes. However, families and

children are still experiencing extreme hunger at home, without the possibility of the one meal provided each day for children at school. A donor for \$300 in emergency food support has stepped forward, but more is needed. Can you help? Please email us at [tlomagivinginfo@gmail.com](mailto:tlomagivinginfo@gmail.com)

## Books for Africa

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In May, Tloma Primary School received 70 boxes of donated books! Many are secondary science books and a good number are primary reading books. The plan is to keep all the elementary books and some of the secondary books in the Tloma school library. We hope to share some secondary books with the schools where our students attend/board so that they will have access to some of the same books at both places. Sorting and organization of this bounty is waiting until it's safe to gather volunteers at the school (COVID-19).

## Project Update: Dining Hall

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The building is complete, but waiting on furniture and equipment (dining tables, kitchen appliances, etc.). The grand opening was planned for June but delayed due to COVID-19. The new date has not yet been set. Once school resumes, the children will have a clean dry place to eat their lunches, adequate restroom facilities, a new kitchen, and a great place

for school assemblies and special events.

## How can you help?

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As most of you know, each dollar donated goes a long way in Tanzania. During these times of strife and great need, the following are areas where you can change a life and make a difference in the world:

**Secondary School fees:** As mentioned above, education is the greatest gift you can give to improve the lives of families in Tanzania. Seventy-five of the 80 students finishing Class 7 have shown their promise by passing the primary school exams, most with a B average. Their potential and their future is in your hands.

**Tutor Salaries:** Each teacher at Tloma Primary School has between 80-140 students! Paul & Joseph are two certified teachers from the village who are ready and willing to teach at Tloma Primary School but there is no state funding to hire them. Joseph has been a “volunteer teacher” at Tloma for the last three years, Paul has helped unofficially for over a year. Both have been doing free English tutoring for the new women's entrepreneur group. They are currently being paid \$50/month from generous Tloma Giving supporters. With additional donations, their duties can be expanded to help teach Tloma students English and other topics.

**School Librarian:** Books have been donated, shelves have been built, but there is no librarian and no system for the children to access the books. One of the student's mother is willing to take on the duties necessary for a functioning library but there is no funding to hire her. Approximately \$25 per month is needed to compensate her and to make this great resource available to the kids.

**Food Support:** Children are going hungry. A fragile economic system has been significantly impacted by crop failures and COVID-19. Every dollar goes a long way in Tanzania. Your support can save lives.


If you have other ideas on how you would like to get involved, please contact us at [Tlomagivinginfo@gmail.com](mailto:Tlomagivinginfo@gmail.com)

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