

I CARE Post



Fall 2016

2016 Trip to Igoma

This past August, Justin Kerswill, Chair of the Stouffville Igoma Partnership, along with three other travelers, visited Igoma Tanzania. While there, they kept busy with a full itinerary including visits with many I CARE children, painting and

maintenance work at the Urafiki Health Clinic, meetings with local ICARE staff and government officials, and the distribution of mosquito nets to families throughout the village. There was also a gathering of I CARE families for an afternoon at which the photo on the right was taken.



problem with her feet at a hospital in the near-by city of Mwanza (post-surgery photo above).

Several special projects were also completed during the trip including the installation of a wheel chair ramp at the Urafiki Clinic and the provision of funds to cover a surgical procedure for a young girl in order to rectify a



Planning is underway for a trip tentatively scheduled for Fall 2017. If you would like to participate as part of a future work team to Igoma, please let us know and we will contact you when trip meetings are scheduled in the New Year.

Please enjoy photos from the recent trip on the following pages of the I CARE Post. Additional photos can also be found on our website: www.sipartnership.org (click on I CARE link).



13th Annual Stouffville Igoma Partnership Dinner and Silent Auction

On Friday, October 21, the Stouffville Igoma Partnership hosted the 13th annual Dinner and Silent Auction at the Sleepy Hollow Golf Club in Stouffville. Over 140 attendees were treated to an authentic Tanzanian meal, live music by Derek Christie and Laurelle Augustyn and speeches highlighting program progress and results from the past year. I CARE was also prominently featured with a table display set up as well as a speech from the Program Director.

The guest speaker for the evening was the Honorable Jane Philpott, Member of Parliament for Markham-Stouffville. MP Philpott shared with attendees some of her many experiences living and working in both East and West Africa. She also emphasized the importance of individual involvement in active community work and why she believes the work of organizations like SIP is so important.



Above: MP Philpott and I CARE Director Marcus Gordon.

The dinner and auction is held annually on the third Friday of October. For more information about future dinners or other fundraising events held throughout the year, please visit www.sipartnership.org.

Education Milestone for Manase

Sponsors may recall an article from the Spring 2014 edition of the I CARE Post which detailed the story of Manase, an I CARE child whose sponsor has helped him attend a private high school.

Over the past 2 years, Manase has continued to work hard at his studies and has now been accepted into university, the first I CARE child to achieve this wonderful distinction. With the continued support of his sponsor, Manase will begin his university studies in early November at Kampala University in Dar Es Salaam as part of the Pharmacy Program.



Above: Manase receiving his high school diploma.

While much credit goes to Manase for his dedication and hard work, none of this would be possible without the tremendous and unwavering support offered by his sponsor. Manase has an opportunity very few children in Igoma have, allowing him to not only change the trajectory of his own life but to positively impact many around him as well. We wish him all the best as he embarks on this exciting new chapter in his life.



Letter from the Director's Desk

As Program Director, I am always assessing our program and looking for additional opportunities to support the children in Igoma. I therefore lean heavily on our local staff to identify ways they feel our program can be strengthened. During the recent visit, local staff identified two ideas for enhancing our program which support the educational needs of both the sponsored children and their guardians.

Starting in January, I CARE will begin a tutoring program for the children to assist them in achieving academic success. As outlined in previous newsletters, the public school system in Tanzania faces severe overcrowding and a lack of teachers. Tutors will have the ability to see what needs individual children have and then develop a plan of action. The program will be run by our Family Services Director Marcelina, herself a school teacher, and will be split between primary and secondary students.



Secondly, I CARE will pilot training workshops for guardians so that they may start a small business. Workshops will focus on a skill such as soap making, sewing or farming basics and will be run by Moses, I CARE's Program Director in Igoma.

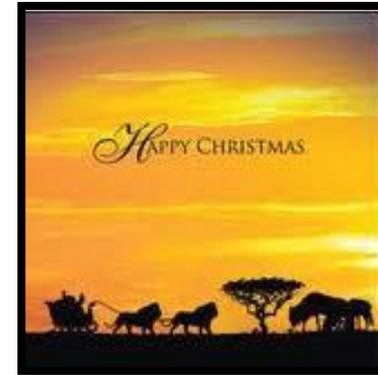
None of these ideas would be possible without the support of our sponsors. Thank you for joining with us to assist a child in need. On behalf of

all the children in Igoma, I would like to wish you the best for 2017.

Marcus

Christmas Letters to Igoma

With the holidays quickly approaching, many of us begin the task of writing our annual Christmas cards to friends and family. As sponsors, many of you may also wish to write a message of good wishes to your sponsor child and their families in Igoma.



Due to the increased cost of postage, we will not be sending a package of letters to Igoma this year. However, for approximate postage of \$2.50, I would encourage you to send a letter or Christmas card directly to Tanzania. The address is as follows:

I CARE

c/o Marcelina Magwamu

P.O Box 8071, Mwanza-Igoma

Tanzania, East Africa

As it takes a couple weeks to arrive in Igoma, I would recommend having any letters posted by late November so that it makes it to East Africa before December 25th.

Do you need a Christmas gift for the person who has everything?

If so, please consider a donation on behalf of that individual to the Stouffville Igoma Partnership.

The Urafiki Health Clinic in Igoma recently completed the building of a minor surgical theatre. Although the structure is complete, the facility requires various supplies before it can become operational such as drip stands, trays, a stretcher trolley and a hydraulic operating table.

Giving someone the chance to participate in a charitable donation is a gift you can both feel good about, a gift that will never go to waste.

Donate today!



Sponsor Question - I just received my new child information card. Why did my sponsor child change from last year?

The I CARE program only provides aid to children living in the village of Igoma in northern Tanzania. Our local staff live and work within Igoma and are therefore only able to support children who live within the village borders. As a result, a child is immediately removed from the program if they no longer reside in the village.

There are also a number of reasons why a child may be removed from the program even though they continue to live in Igoma. The I CARE program guidelines stipulate that a child will remain sponsored to the age of 19 as long as they remain a full-time student. Over the past several years, several children have dropped out of school and have therefore lost their sponsorship. Regardless of the reason, once a child is removed from the program, sponsors are automatically matched with the next child on our waiting list.

If you have any questions about the new child you have been matched with, please let us know.





Have you ever considered volunteering with the Stouffville Igoma Partnership? Do you know of a high school student needing to complete volunteer hours? If so, there are presently a number of exciting opportunities available with ICARE including:

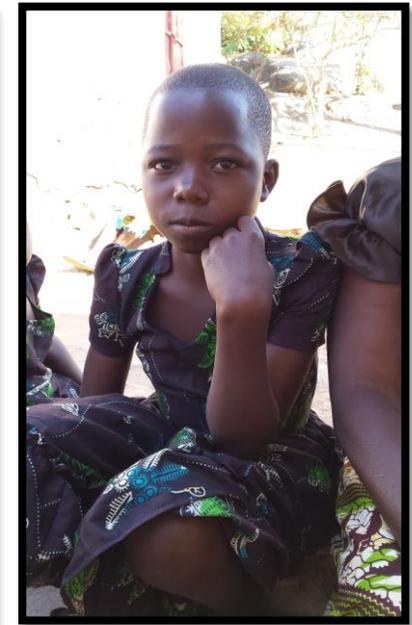
- Assisting at upcoming fundraising events
- Media relations lead
- Website and Social Media Coordinator
- Assist with the operation of the I CARE Program

If you are interested in learning more, we encourage you to join us at a monthly board meeting. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Upcoming Fundraising Events:

SIP will be holding a Christmas for Igoma Concert on Thursday, December 8th at the Lion of Stouffville Pub. The concert runs from 7:30-11pm and will feature numerous local musicians singing their favourite Christmas tunes. The evening will include door prizes, a 50/50 draw and much more. SIP will graciously accept a \$20 suggested donation at the door.

If you have any questions, please let us know.



I CARE Contact Information:

Mailing address:

I CARE

c/o Stouffville Igoma Partnership

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Web address: Please visit the I CARE website by going to www.sipartnership.org and clicking on the I CARE link in the top right hand corner.