

MONTHLY REPORT - PEACE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION PROJECT.

Period Ending Nov 30, 2020

Contact : PISCompletionFund @gmail.com

SUMMARY OF MONTHLY REPORT

REPORT OF MONEY RAISED TO DATE \$ 8950.00 CDN. About mid-January a portion of this money will go to Rwanda for High School Completion to initiate Construction. If \$2,500 USD (target was \$4000) were to go in January and February and funding spread to support the future eighteen months, then there is only enough \$ to provide approximately \$1000 USD per month for future months. Donations committed to date, to be made monthly for 20 months, is a total \$800 USD. We will continue a strong effort to find funding.

REPORT ON TOTAL ACTIVITY AT THE SCHOOL; Not funded by the High School Building Fund.

A family support group for those in need organized by Dativa the Bishop Denis Mugabo's wife. Food support, including live animals increased cultivation and growing of food.

Preparation of the school to meet the National Governments requirements to open the school post Covid, signage, distancing markers, protocol, desks and scheduling classes.

Fencing to separate the school area, and reduce damage due to flooding and maintain Covid isolation.

Support for teacher's income while Covid has eliminated the dollars that were available from the school.

Schooling for Grades 5&6 has opened following a successful Covid-19 government inspection of the premises.

ACTIVITY SPECIFIC TO THE HIGH SCHOOL FUNDING PROJECT

CONSTRUCTION will start Jan 25 and planning for this dollar support and work progress is continuing.

Automatic monthly withdrawal of donations has been setup.

Creation of a handout pamphlet is completed.

Creation of a YouTube video is completed.

Creation of a presentation to larger groups is completed.

The search for potential donors continues.

An example of how one might create a funding donation.

Report ending 31 Jan will include how dollars were spent, physical progress made including photos, and funding progress.

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“SKY IS THE LIMIT - WE SHALL REACH HIGHER” Their moto shall be ours

This report has a lot of information about construction and finances. Please do not lose track of the fundamental reason of the project is to put Peace-Loving deserving children into High School. They are ready - we just need to complete these last few details of their school building.

Dated 01 December 2020 Prepared by Gordon Graham

Target amount \$5,400 CDN per month (\$4000 USD)

FUNDING TO DATE: Raised since August 2020

SINGLE DONATIONS: \$ 4,650

SUPPORTERS for the 20-month duration: \$ 3,300

PROMISED BUT NOT RECEIVED: 1,000

TOTAL: \$ 8,950

First, I want to provide a full school update, all of the activity at the school is included. The reason is a sizable portion of the money going to the greater Rwanda Peace International School has come from the Emmanuel Church congregation and it is important that it be recorded here, such that we can all see the individual support to helping the education of children and the community and the commitment to Education and Peace in Rwanda. This donation is outside the High School Completion Fund.

The Creation of a “Womens Support for Women in Covid-19” by Dativa, Bishop Denis Mugabo’s wife. Please remember in Rwanda there is no outpouring of government financial support. Each family must find their own source of support for food, as money through a working income has mostly stopped. Dativa has encouraged a support group experience, meeting weekly, and manages any donation money for this that arrives. Unlike our countries the food banks do not exist and starvation is a reality. This has happened since the early days of July, August and September and continues now as Rwanda struggles to open up as is the case around the world.



Ladies group receiving support for food

Preparation for the school to meet the government requirements for opening, this includes three handwashing stations, ground markers for ensuring separation, protocol signage, masks, and a great deal of discussion to put the right things in progress and quickly. More desks were procured (no longer multiple students seated at one desk station) to ensure students are seated further apart. All of these requirements are now provided throughout the school.



A hand wash station



New Desks



Signage



Distancing markers

added

A fence was added (brick and mortar wall) to separate the school area from the larger portion of the property as required by the government for Covid school reopening. This will also Improve rain water capture and runoff to prevent damage from flooding during the rainy season. The rainy season just past in August – September created considerable damage so this will make a major improvement to the school grounds, safety, and access/availability to the school.



Building the drainage and fence retaining wall



Finishing one half of the wall



Support of food (pigs, mushrooms, goat, including bagged care packages) and wellbeing to families in the local area. Growing of community food through their expanded vegetable garden. A crop of potatoes has already been harvested and replanted.



Growing Mushrooms



Expanding Fields for crops

A revision of the Elementary School attendance time table (half students at one time, others at another time) to further ensure separation.

Teachers were given a minimal financial support to carry them through the school closure during early Covid. This is a school supporting itself, an NGO, and therefore the national government does not offer any financial relief to support the teachers or the school.

All of the above has contributed to a successful government inspection in the last week of October and the approval to open the school Grades 5 and 6 starting this first week in November. Other grades will follow quickly if no Covid 19 comes into play.



### Government inspectors ready to complete Covid 19 compliance review

A strong note of appreciation to Bishop Denis's wife Dativa who has contributed, supervised and managed all of the above progress. Any and all funding that supported the above necessities came from other sources than the High School Completion Fund. We in our adventure applaud all of you in ensuring this school has survived flooding, and all the downswing that prevails through Covid 19. There is more need to come as the student to teacher ratio has changed so much that the basic income that provides teacher salaries is not sufficient with the low student count. The need to have a great deal more teacher time per student as required for reduced class sizes, perhaps one third of what they were pre Covid, increases the pressure to provide salary. The school has only grades 5&6 open and no income from other enrollment.

### **The following items are specific to the High School Completion Fund.**

**One:** Setting up the progress payment schedule to Rwanda for donations to the fund. Mostly done in September - November. Still clearing some final details. Even though donations have continued for three months we have **not** accumulated sufficient funds to allow the full targeted funds over the 20-month period.

**Two:** The program for automatic monthly withdrawal from a bank account is completed as of mid-October and some test cases are going through the program at this moment. This will certainly provide a greater opportunity for donors to participate in a monthly support program.

**Three:** Producing a pamphlet to handout during presentations. Done in September. Updating to ensure it stays current continues and likely will for the full duration of the project.

**Four:** Preparing a presentation for use with on-line and personal meetings with potential donors. Done in July and August and updates continue for each presentation.

**Five:** Searching for potential donors and making contact with them. (approx. 35 persons) Done June –November and will continue for the full 20 months.

**Six:** Following up with a lifelong friend of Bishop Denis to engage their support for High School Funding

**Seven:** Presentations to Rotary clubs in Nanaimo. (Three clubs) Done in September and October

**Eight:** Contact with Belleville Rotary in November resulted in a substantial donation.

**Nine:** Presentation to 8 corporations, none of which have even taken the time to reply. Done September

**Ten:** Completion of a YouTube presentation on the benefits of supporting The High School Completion Fund. We have put the link on the Emmanuel Church website. Started developing it in late October and it is be available in early December. Thanks, so much to Fred Apon of Edmonton for guidance and his time and skills.

**Eleven:** Coming activities for the December month are to approach more service clubs, follow up on any potential donors, and develop more corporate contacts. I would also like to talk with more churches to see if they could each provide something like one hundred dollars per month.

**Twelve:** Start to layout the construction schedule and discussion with individual trade persons in Rwanda.

**Thirteen:** Money will start to flow to Rwanda for Construction in mid-January for a start date of January 2021

Christmas is a time of giving and it would be especially wonderful to have a “reaching out” to attract dollars and potential 20-month donors. Can I get some help with this idea? Contact PISCompletionFund@gmail.com

Some people like to make a donation as a gift to someone and perhaps we can get this project to be their choice. Send an email if you know someone that makes this choice.

An apology on progress as Joyce and I have been on a relocation journey from Nanaimo to be closer to helping family this winter in Ontario, so progress during October and the early weeks of Nov. were slow.

I must pitch here as well. Do you remember “Dime a Time” from days gone by? Now I’ve revived it as “Tooney Today” If you put a Tooney aside every day of the month, Jar, piggy bank, silk stocking, you will have accumulated \$60. Now take the Tooneys and deposit them. Make a donation to the High School Completion Fund of \$50 and set aside the other ten. In six months, you will have enough saved to take your loved one out for a low-cost evening. (Covid under control) Now start the process all over again. It is in the giving not the amount so come up with your own formula that represents your financial ability. This example will bring \$600 dollars to the Completion Fund each year of much needed support and with twenty families \$12,000 dollars and that is 11% of the total. Wonderful.

Our thanks from Bishop Denis Mugabo, and all those in Rwanda waiting for the school to complete, to all of you supporting their needs and you know who you are because you received this report. Let me wish you in advance a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year for you and your family. May Peace, Joy, and love be with you. Yours Sincerely.Bp Denis Mugabo.

In Jesus name we pray our thanks that we are so fortunate to be able to bring about this success to the Peace International High School.

Should you like more information on any of these activities please get in touch with myself through PISCompletionFund@gmail.com