

## Visit Tanzania March 2023

We have had an enlightening visit and meetings with all schools and teachers last March. The visit shed light on our progress, challenges, and the potential to expand our impact in underserved communities. Here are the highlights:

The educational team of Kamitei is expanded with a new member; Rashid. Rashid is a former headmaster at Kilimanjaro English medium school in Arusha, brings with him years of experience and a robust understanding of the educational landscape. His expertise in education pairs well with Bill's strength in organisation and teacher motivation, forming a formidable duo leading in the field.

In terms of the progress of our schools, all Kamitei schools are performing commendably well, with the exception of Oltukai, the Masai school located a little distance away from Karatu. However, it's encouraging to note that a new dependent school (Engusero) has been established, ensuring that more children can access education without having to endure long journeys.

Our teacher development initiatives are yielding fruit. Teachers are consistently staying in their classrooms for their entire period, and increasingly incorporating the provided teaching aids into their teaching practice. This strategy has enhanced student engagement and interaction between students and teachers. The bottleneck nowadays is that Kamitei still needs to provide the teaching aids. When the teaching aids disappear or are ruined they are not replaced by new ones until our educational officers provide them again. A new challenge for Kamitei!

Our annual workshop in Karatu was a resounding success. Almost all teachers participated, with a highlight being the competition to create the most innovative teaching aid. The winning entry focused on teaching colors in English. It will be replicated by the Kamitei team and distributed to all our schools. Our focus on professional development was also underlined by a video with Bill and Rashid as actors. The video is about demonstrating effective teaching methods, highlighting the importance of a safe and stimulating learning environment.

Lastly, our trip to Makame was a sobering reminder of the urgency of our mission. We visited five primary schools that we wish to incorporate into the Kamitei initiative. The lack of resources, inadequate teacher presence in classrooms, and poor student engagement mirrored the challenges Kamitei initially sought to address. Our visit confirmed the success and need for our approach. To that end, we will provide books and teaching aids to the Makame schools this year, while also developing a plan for teacher guidance and coaching.

In summary, our visit reaffirmed the importance and effectiveness of the Kamitei initiative. Our model of change is not without challenges, but we are determined to make an impact. We will continue to build on our successes, address the challenges head-on, and work towards giving every child the opportunity for quality education. I will keep you updated on our progress.



Twenty new volunteers who are supported by Kamitei. Some of them are community scholarship students. All of them are working on one of the Kamitei schools and are coached by Bill and Rachid