

# I CARE Post



Spring 2019

## 100 Kids Who Care Stouffville Helping the Children of Igoma

As sponsors learned in the Fall 2018 edition of the I CARE Post, local Stouffville charity 100 Kids Who Care made a significant donation to I CARE during their meeting this past October. 100 Kids Who Care pools together small amounts of money from children across Stouffville and donates it to a worthy charity. Once the funds arrived in Igoma in January, I CARE staff got to work with the teachers at Mahima Primary School to decide how best to use the funds. New school uniforms, including shoes, were purchased for dozens of children.



As well, funds were also used to purchase new school supplies for the classrooms including chalk, pencils and exercise books.

It is wonderful to see Stouffville's next generation making such an amazing difference in the world.

*Below: I CARE Program Director Moses handing our uniforms and school supplies to children at Mahima Primary.*



# December 2018 Trip to Igoma

In mid-December, a group of travelers left Stouffville for a visit to Igoma, Tanzania. Similar to previous trips, the travelers took part in the distribution of mosquito nets throughout the community, visited a local orphanage, dropped by classrooms at a school, and helped with various repair and maintenance jobs around the Urafiki Health Clinic. The children of I CARE and their families also came together for a special gathering with the group from Canada. Local Uxbridge photographer Angela Dukat from Dukat Studios ([www.dukatstudios.ca](http://www.dukatstudios.ca)) was part of the travel group and captured hundreds of beautiful photos. She has kindly allowed us to share these photos with our sponsors. The following photos capture some of the magical moments from the recent trip.



## Damali Shenyi



On Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, we received tragic news regarding the death of a young 8 year old I CARE child named Damali Shenyi. Following several days of feeling unwell, Damali's family took her to the Urafiki Clinic for care. After running a series of tests, she was diagnosed with yellow fever. Sadly, the disease had progressed

beyond which treatment was possible and after less than a day at the clinic, Damali passed away.

Yellow Fever is an acute viral haemorrhagic disease transmitted by infected mosquitoes. As noted by the World Health Organization, a small number of patients who contract the virus quickly develop severe symptoms and approximately half of those die within 7 to 10 days.

Vaccination is the most important means of preventing yellow fever. The yellow fever vaccine is safe, affordable and a single dose provides life-long protection against yellow fever disease. Sadly, many countries in Africa including Tanzania, where yellow fever is endemic, lack the resources to vaccinate many of their people

This is a tragic reminder of the fragility of life in Igoma and the importance of the work I CARE and the Stouffville Igoma Partnership are doing in the community through the distribution of mosquito nets. We would like to send our deepest condolences to Damali's friends and family. The entire I CARE team will miss her.

## Tax Receipt Reminder

As a registered Canadian Charity, the Stouffville Igoma Partnership (SIP), the organization which I CARE is part of, has the ability to provide tax receipts to sponsors. In order to remain in good standing, it is imperative that we abide by the rules set out by the Canadian Revenue Agency (CRA) for charitable organizations.



The Tax Act requires registered charities to have control over donated funds so that all funds are utilized within the context of the charity's established programs. Externally restricted funding support, for example funds which a sponsor wishes to send directly to their sponsor child for their benefit only (i.e., birthday and Christmas money, extra funds for a particular family) , and for which the charity has no discretion for how the funds are utilized, is not tax deductible. Consequently, no tax receipt can be issued.

As noted in the renewal letter which was sent to sponsors in Fall 2018, it is now possible to provide sponsorship funds using the Canada Helps website. The benefit of Canada Helps is that a tax receipt is automatically generated and emailed to donors. However, Canada Helps does not differentiate between the donation of the \$30 per month sponsorship fee and any extra amounts which a sponsor may wish to send to their I CARE child. As additional funds beyond the \$30 monthly sponsorship fee

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are not tax deductible, we would kindly request sponsors who wish to send extra money to their I CARE child, send a cheque to us so that we can ensure no tax receipt is issued for these additional funds. By doing so, we will be abiding by the rules set out by CRA.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to let us know.

## Letter from the Director's Desk

The very first person in Igoma I communicated with when I became Program Director of the I CARE Program in the Fall of 2010 was a woman named Marcelina. As ICARE's Family Services Director, she had been involved with our program for several years and was a wealth of information for a neophyte such as myself. In the early days, I sent Marcelina email after email with questions about our program, the challenges the children of Igoma faced and other issues related to life in a small Tanzanian village. During my first visit to Igoma in February of 2011, I had the pleasure of meeting Marcelina and putting a face to the name. As helpful and engaging as she was via email, Marcelina was even more wonderful in person and I was moved by her love for the I CARE children and her dedication to the local community. I fondly remember the day we first met and, while walking along the dusty main road through Igoma, I asked her why she was involved with I CARE. Her response, "these children need our help". I remember Marcelina's words whenever I feel overwhelmed by the work involved in leading the program.

Early this past January, news came that Marcelina would be leaving I CARE after all these years. I was saddened by the news but understood the circumstances. I have leaned heavily on her for guidance over these past 8 years and I will miss her greatly.

Her contribution to our program cannot be understated.

Marcelina, on behalf of the hundreds of I CARE children and their families who have come through the program, the sponsors in Canada, the local I CARE team in Igoma and myself, thank you for all your hard work. I hope our paths cross again.

Asante,

Marcus



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