MISSION STATEMENT

“PARTNERING WITH COMMUNITIES, SCHOOLS, AND TEACHERS TO SUPPORT QUALITY EDUCATION FOR TANZANIAN CHILDREN AND YOUTH.”
It all started when the oldest of four orphaned brothers decided to work the streets of Musoma selling candy and doing odd jobs with a singular goal: put his brothers in school. He offered to work for Brian Singer, a Peace Corps Volunteer who was there teaching high school math, and in return his brothers went to school.

After his Peace Corps service, Brian continued to send limited support to the family, but it was not enough to keep them all in school. In July 2000, Brian returned to Tanzania and reunited with the boys. Together they laid out a plan to place the two youngest brothers in an English-medium boarding school – and Project Zawadi was born.

“When I returned home I wrote a letter to friends and family requesting donations and very soon I had more money than necessary. It was time to prepare to sponsor more children.”

Project Zawadi was incorporated in December 2000 with a strong founding Board that established guiding principles which resonate in our work to this day:

A RELEVANT, QUALITY EDUCATION SHOULD BE A HUMAN RIGHT

CHILDREN BELONG WITH FAMILIES & THEIR COMMUNITIES (NOT INSTITUTIONS)

LOCAL COMMUNITIES KNOW BEST WHAT THEIR CHILDREN NEED

Since 2000, Project Zawadi has grown from sponsoring two students and raising just $5,000 to now sponsoring 248 students and raising over $200,000 annually. The deep reciprocal relationships that Project Zawadi has built with the community over the years provide the essential foundation for us to build our program model into the future.
We wrote a new Strategic Plan, including an updated Mission Statement that contains a fresh vision for our future work in Tanzania. The new plan led to several significant changes, most importantly the decision to build our own organizational infrastructure on the ground in Tanzania. We had long partnered with a local organization, but this year took the next steps by registering our own legal entity, opening our own office in Tanzania, and hiring new employees to lead us into the future. Our first two new hires were Co-Directors Judith Merinyo and Adrian Maganga. Together, they share responsibility for leading PZ’s bold and ambitious plans for the future. We are very pleased to have them on the team and supremely confident in their abilities.

With these exciting changes, we’ve been careful to retain all the things that make Project Zawadi special. The student remains central to our model, while we now have three clearly defined program areas (Sponsorship, Tenda Teachers, and Model Schools*). We reaffirm our continued commitment to a grassroots approach, maintaining our focus on engaging local communities and leaders, working in partnership toward mutual goals.

We are truly looking forward to the future because we know our work will have an even larger impact. For the past 17 years, we have grown steadily in size and learned many lessons along the way. We see a future that will bring significant growth to the organization and greatly impact the students and schools of Tanzania.

As Board President and Board Chair we literally can not thank everyone enough. We thank our committed and generous donors. We thank our school, community, and government partners in Tanzania. We thank our invaluable staff and volunteers both in the US and in Tanzania. It is a team effort and together we are all making a difference.

Sincerely,

*Please read more details about each of these programs in the pages to follow.*
Project Zawadi believes every student deserves an opportunity to attend school. That is why selections for sponsorship at the primary school level are based more on a student’s need than their academic ability. Selection for Project Zawadi’s sponsorship is done by the student’s home village community. Once selected, students and their families agree to make school a priority by ensuring that they regularly attend school and have time and space to do assigned school work. Project Zawadi employs two staff Counselors who regularly check in with students, families, and teachers both at home and at school. Counselors support students, track their progress, and trouble-shoot any issues that may arise that impact the student’s ability to attend school and learn.

At the secondary and tertiary levels, Project Zawadi’s Merit Sponsorship Program supports high-achieving students for whom the added costs of high school would otherwise make their continued studies financially out of reach for their families. Through a competitive selection process, these promising students’ financial needs, above and beyond the level of what their families can continue to provide, are supported.

From the original class of four primary students to today’s cohort of 248 actively sponsored students, Project Zawadi’s core promise has not changed. Project Zawadi promises to support a student’s educational expenses for however far their hard work and determination can take them on their road to self-reliance. Depending upon the student’s goals and interests, that may be an academic, vocational, or life skills training track.
ENGLISH BRIDGE:
250 STUDENTS PARTICIPATED, WERE PROJECT ZAWADI SPONSORED STUDENTS (10%)

TEACHER TRAINING:
LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR HEADS OF SCHOOL IN BUNDA DISTRICT 27

ALLIANCE:
14 ORGANIZATIONS JOINED

E-LEARNING:
DEVELOPED TEACHING MODULES 8
ACTIVE TEACHING AND LEARNING TECHNIQUES
Embracing the student-centered approach to active teaching and learning, the Tenda Teachers program offers intensive teacher training workshops. Teachers learn and practice skills, share techniques, and receive feedback from trainers and their peers. A free Active Teaching and Learning Techniques Handbook was developed to support these efforts.

THE ALLIANCE FOR TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN TANZANIA
The Alliance is a network of over 14 agencies devoted to developing teachers’ professional skills and improving the quality of instruction in Tanzania’s schools. Project Zawadi is coordinating efforts to create a professional support network and develop trainings, tools, and techniques for teachers.

E-LEARNING TANZANIA!
A series of electronic training modules offering video lessons on student-centered learning techniques and best instructional practices is in development. These lessons, linked to the National Teacher Competency Framework, will be available on electronic devices, allowing access for teachers even in the most remote locations.

ENGLISH BRIDGE WORKSHOPS
To address the switch in language of instruction from Swahili to English in secondary school, an intensive seven-week training workshop is held to better prepare students transitioning into secondary school. Future plans are to recruit native English speaking volunteers to aid in this training and to increase comprehension and conversational skills.

TENDA TEACHERS

IN RESPONSE TO GROWING RECOGNITION THAT SUPPORTING TEACHERS’ NEEDS IS INTEGRAL TO IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION FOR STUDENTS AT THE SCHOOLS WHERE PROJECT ZAWADI WORKS, THE TENDA TEACHERS PROGRAM WAS FORMED IN 2015. IT ADDRESSES THE GAP IN TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS, BOTH IN THE NYAMUSWA AREA AND NATIONWIDE.
MODEL SCHOOLS

PROJECT ZAWADI HAS LONG WORKED TO PARTNER CLOSELY WITH COMMUNITIES AND SCHOOLS IN THE NYAMUSWA AREA TO PROMOTE EDUCATION AND SUPPORT SPONSORED STUDENTS.

Over the years, Project Zawadi has conducted a limited series of infrastructure projects, teacher training workshops, and directed donations of teaching and learning materials to several schools in which sponsored students were studying. Student results were mixed and the impact on improving the quality of education in our partner schools was difficult to measure.

As a result of an organizational strategic planning process in 2017, Project Zawadi plans to more fully engage in a Model Schools program. Directed by an intensive community and school planning initiative, all Project Zawadi program areas and resources (sponsorship, Tenda Teacher trainings, and infrastructure and material projects) will be more intensively integrated into a limited number of schools in support of each community’s vision of a model, high quality, educational institution.

The Model Schools planning process is complete at the first two sites: Busore Primary School and Sarawe Primary School. Each community identified their strengths, prioritized needs and highlighted key areas for Project Zawadi support. It is anticipated that projects in the following broad categories will be incorporated into a Model School program: infrastructure projects, teaching and learning materials, teacher and administrative professional development and student support.

We believe that after five years of intensive and holistic support the Model School sites will be dramatically and permanently improved, thereby improving education for thousands of students.

“The community members were so engaged! They aren’t usually asked to write their own strategic plans. They really took ownership of the process.” - Judith Merinyo
“OUR SCHOOL OF 848 DOES NOT HAVE ENOUGH CLASSROOMS TO ACCOMMODATE ALL OF THE STUDENTS, BUT THANKS TO THE SUPPORT OF PROJECT ZAWADI, THROUGH THE EXPANDING HORIZONS FUND, WE NOW HAVE A BEAUTIFUL NEW KINDERGARTEN CLASSROOM.”

- MR. WAKWESA, KURUSANGA PRIMARY SCHOOL

“BECAUSE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY, EVERYTHING WILL CHANGE FOR MY FUTURE! I WON’T LET MY GRANDMOTHER OR COMMUNITY DOWN – I WANT TO BE A ROLE MODEL FOR OTHERS IN THE VILLAGE.”

- PAULINA MAIGE, SPONSORED STUDENT
MANY THANKS TO TENDA TEACHERS. I NOW HAVE THE ABILITY TO HELP ALL OF MY STUDENTS INCREASE THEIR LEVEL OF UNDERSTANDING, AND THEY ARE MORE EXCITED TO ATTEND MY LESSONS.

-MADAM TAUSI ALI, SARawe PRIMARY SCHOOL
2017 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

INCOME

Foundations & Corporations $32,587
General Fund $106,247
Student Sponsorship $40,269

TOTAL INCOME $179,103

EXPENSES

Fundraising $3,191
Management & General $16,585
Program Expenses $161,896

TOTAL EXPENSES $181,672

Surplus (deficit) ($2,569)

ASSETS, LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

2016 2017
Assets $246,274 $239,291
Liabilities $9,624 $5,210
Net Assets $236,650 $234,081

Surplus (deficit) ($2,569)
PROJECT ZAWADI IS PROUD TO REPORT ANOTHER YEAR OF STRONG SUPPORT FROM OUR AMAZING DONORS THAT ENABLED US TO SERVE HUNDREDS OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH. AS WE LOOK AHEAD TOWARD GROWTH AND EXPANSION OF THE TENDA TEACHERS AND MODEL SCHOOLS PROGRAMS, WE REMAIN COMMITTED TO FISCAL PRUDENCE TO ENSURE SUSTAINABILITY AND HIGH-QUALITY PROGRAMMING FOR EVERY STUDENT, TEACHER, AND COMMUNITY WE SERVE.
LEADERSHIP – TANZANIA TEAM AT A GLANCE

JUDITH MERINYO:
Judith has many years of rich experiences and training in the non-governmental organization, evaluation, education, research and health care worlds. Judith is a graduate of Moshi University College with a degree in Cooperative and Business Studies and from Sokoine University of Agriculture with an advanced degree in Community Development. Based in Arusha, Judith brings her expertise in coordinating educational, logistical, financial, vocational and social-emotional support to Project Zawadi sponsored students.

ADRIAN MAGANGA:
Adrian holds a BA in Education from Ruaha University College and has several years of teaching experience, most recently serving as headmaster (principal) at Nyamung’uta Secondary School in the Nyamuswa area. Adrian specializes in teacher professional development and is leading efforts both locally and nationally to expand opportunities for teachers and more fully incorporate a student-centered approach to teaching and learning.
LEADERSHIP - BOARD & STAFF

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The text on the page is a list of donors to the 2017 Project Zawadi Annual Report. The donors are listed alphabetically by name, and their contributions are categorized into different ranges. The bottom section includes a list of matching gift organizations. The page also includes some introductory text, possibly about Project Zawadi, though it is not fully visible in the image.