Newsletter Autumn 2021

Dear supporters,

Hello and welcome to all the latest news from our life changing projects in Uganda, Tanzania and Palestine.

In this update:

- How you helped us protect and equip healthcare facilities and hospitals in Uganda for their two Covid infection peaks.
- Our projects to bring sustainable income generation in some of the poorest communities of Tanzania and Uganda.
- How we now plan to protect and help young mothers and children who live on the streets in Tanzania and Uganda.
- Our support for women in Gaza who lack Cancer care.

1. Tanzania and Uganda – Street Born

A striking problem I have witnessed, mainly in cities, worsened by Covid, is homelessness, abuse and insecurity for women and children. There is no state help for the homeless in Tanzania or Uganda and my heart breaks when I see young children begging or sleeping by the roadside or searching through rubbish dumps. If you are born on the street in East Africa, you will not go to school or have hope for a safer life. Women on the street face abuse, unsafe sex work, trafficking, health conditions and malnourishment. Children lack schooling, risk being abducted or exploited.

PTP is proud to be working with <u>Amos Trust</u> and <u>Cheka Sana</u> to provide a range of support to these vulnerable homeless women and their children. We are discussing ways to expand on the work being done and how PTP can do what we do best - provide a means of long term income generation and self support.

We will begin with helping provide

- Health cards to give access to clinics
- Counselling and support groups
- Basic sanitary provisions
- Access to education and training so women can go on to work
- Self defence training so women know to own their bodies and can escape abuse

We plan to expand this to provide

- More options for women to work together in safe spaces and generate their own income- our sanitary pad making equipment and training has worked well as a model to expand on
- Support for children to catch up on education missed and start school
- Working with locals to help provide safe places for women and children to get help

What you can do

I'll be running the Virtual Kilimanjaro Marathon in November- this involves wearing a GPS tracker as I run 26.2miles, all alone but at the same time as others around the world. We then upload our GPS log to show we have completed the distance in the allotted time. This is to encourage your generosity and show my commitment to the cause.

All I ask of you is to <u>donate</u> and help get women and children out of danger and off the street.

 \pm 100 can fund a safe place for a child to sleep, some food, support for the child's education, mental health therapy, and family reunification where possible.

You can donate <u>here</u>

Bank Transfer:

PROJECT THE PROJECT Account number:35286668 Sort code:309897

100% donations go to the projects. Helpers and trustees, expenses and resources are funded voluntarily by PTP's Founder/Director.

2. Cancer Care in Gaza

Medical care in Palestine is always inadequate and many people suffer from living under occupation in the West Bank or Gaza. Both Israeli and Palestinian leaders have made the situation very difficult. Covid and bombings have worsened the situation in recent months.

PTP is linking arms with <u>Amos Trust</u> to bring cancer screening services to women in Gaza. If breast cancer is detected early, women stand a chance of accessing treatment. If detected later, women stand very little chance of being able to afford or access the more rigorous treatment needed. PTP is not active in Gaza but our friends at Amos Trust are the experts and we are discussing how we can expand this vital work.

You can watch a webinar about the cancer screening program here: https://vimeo.com/637826868

£60 provides one woman in Gaza with breast cancer screening and support. This can make a meaningful gift - please email or reference your donation 'Gaza appeal' if you'd like your donation to be directed specifically to this program.

3. Sanitary Pads and Sewing Skills, Uganda

As detailed in our previous newsletters, we have had great success in providing materials and training for women with little income so they can start to overcome the issue of unaffordable sanitary pads by making their own and go on to build their own small businesses. We even helped these women make reusable face masks for schools to prevent costs being a barrier to education. All this is also reducing plastic waste problems in the area and reusing waste fabrics!



We plan to replicate this model and expand income generating projects so communities in need have the means they need for individuals to become self reliant and stable.

When Covid restrictions allow, local community support groups can resume and PTP will work with experts in the region to use our project as a connection to counselling and anti violence measures.



4. Covid Measures in Uganda

Thank you so much for your generous support for hospitals and clinics in response to the two surges of Covid 19 in Masaka, Uganda. We worked closely with our trusted friends at the Uganda Marathon Foundation to provide medicines and PPE. You can read the full report <u>here</u>.

PTP funded PPE for hospital workers, hand washing facilities and treatment for sufferers.

- There was a huge pressure on hospital resources. The number of patients that needed ICU facilities exceeded the available oxygen and ventilator system.
- High hospitalization charges affected the patients and family members. Many resorted to self-medication, spiking a rise in new infections.
- High death rates of those on ventilators or in hospitals caused fearful rumours and misinformation to spread.
- COVID 19 mainly affected the aged with underlying medical conditions and it further affected the economy which was already limping due to stringent government measures of shutting down the country.
- Since March 2020, of 15 million students, less than 1 million have sat a final examination, the rest are yet to continue with schooling. It's believed that when the schools are finally opened, many will have lost interest to continue.
- Increase in the number of people below the poverty line by 2 million, most living hand to mouth.
- Continued unwanted teenage pregnancies hence increased pressure on already inadequate resources.
- Increased cost of basics such as food, cooking oil, rice, transport, rent and other amenities.
- Gender based violence is on the increase in most regions.
- Logistical and funding issues continue to prevent access to healthcare.
- Supply of drugs does not meet the demand in public hospitals and is too expensive for most.
- There has been partial lifting of the lockdown and some people are able to return to their jobs.

PTP is committed to addressing these ongoing concerns with our community work with those suffering most.

5. The Amazing Goats in Tanzania

Our long term friends seem to be doing very well with the goats we donated and they are now able to fund their school independently by breeding and selling goats. We continue to stay in touch with the community and we supplied emergency food supplies during Covid restrictions. We also funded the materials locals needed to build a safe enclosure to protect the goats from hyenas at night.

If you would like to donate a goat as a wonderful gift, for Christmas or any time, please donate £50. I'll send you a photo of your goat and report back how you have helped more children go to school with your gift! You can donate as always here

Bank Transfer:Account number:35286668 Sort code:309897

Apologies for the delay brining you this update. Unfortunately, communications are still more limited in the areas we work. I'll continue to post on our Facebook page <u>here</u> and website <u>here</u> when we can.

Please help if you can so we can continue our work to bring long term life changing and life saving chances to those without.



You can even donate as you shop online with no cost to you!

Visit

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/ and follow instructions to 'support a cause' and add Project the Project. Shops will then donate a small percentage when you buy things!!

Thank you so much for your support!

Very best wishes,

Lucy