



WELCOME TO

PAAV-CITOMBO COMMUNITY PRIMARY & JUNIOR SCHOOL

10 Great Years Making a
Difference

In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. -- 1 Thessalonians 5:18

ABOUT PAAV-GITOMBO

PAAV-Gitombo is a christian school located in kiambu County, Kenya, under PAAV-International Ministries, a non-profit organization in Denver, Colorado.

Mission : Bringing the Gospel to the village of Gitombo, Kenya through Christ centered education and transformational ministries”

Vision : “To have have godly educated future leaders guaranteeing healthy families to impact the community.

Motto : “More than academics.”

A MESSAGE FROM WANJI, THE FOUNDER

PAAV is the result of a thought that came upon me in 2003, when an organization presented at Denver Seminary where I went to school, and asked the students to consider child sponsorship. I laughed to myself and wondered which of the children in my village in Kenya would be singled out as a likely candidate. I thought loudly “The whole village needs to be adopted!” and wrote down “Project Adopt a Village”, a term that would later encompass my vision for Gitombo B, the small village where I grew up.

My father had always urged me to return to Gitombo and make a difference. It was only after his death in September 2008 that the vision crystallized and I began to see a way forward. This would be by adopting the community, empowering the people to ultimately transform the whole community and this can only happen with the Gospel. Our mission statement clarifies that well. The vision has come to fruition.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!!



“Other people helped me to get where I am and I feel compelled to make a difference in the lives of others.”

“Don’t forget to do good and to share what you have because God is pleased with these kinds of sacrifices.” (Hebrews 13:16).

Wanji Mukunga
Founder & President
PAAV International Ministries

TESTIMONIES FROM PAAV SUPPORTERS

Hear from some of PAAV's earliest supporters:

"In 2010, while working with Wanji at a nursing home, I shared with her about a non-profit I was helping set up. She soon told me of her father's wish for her to return to Gitombo and help transform that underdeveloped village. God gave Wanji the vision, and with guidance, she quickly founded "Project Adopt a Village" (PAAV). I helped her register PAAV as a 501(c)(3) non-profit and we began fundraising. Starting with a small school, the project has now grown into a thriving ministry, transforming lives and offering hope for a brighter future to an entire community."

Georgia Berger
Florida

"We remember Wanji's early concern for her village and her father's advice to return and make a difference. We witnessed PAAV's humble beginnings (Zechariah 4:10) and have seen it grow into something truly marvelous. We praise God for this work!

Lord, we pray for new leaders to rise from Gitombo to stand beside Wanji. We ask for Your favor and protection over her, and may the impact of Your presence in Gitombo spread to other villages as well. In Jesus' name."

Peter and Caryn Boddie
Denver, CO

In October 2010, I was at a healthcare conference and trade show in Keystone, Colorado. Wanji walked up to my booth and we started talking. We quickly realized that our meeting was a Divine appointment. I am the founder of True Impact Ministries, a faith-based non-profit that provides holistic care for orphans in Uganda and builds supporting infrastructure. I went to the village of Gitombo B a year later, met Wanji's family and village leadership, and began working with Wanji to raise money, drill a water well, build a water distribution system and sponsor children in Gitombo B. All this was done under True Impact's umbrella until 2014, when Wanji established Project Adopt a Village.

It has been a pleasure to see God's hand in Wanji's life and what He is doing through PAAV. I am excited for the transformation occurring in Gitombo B and pray for continued improvements in education and growth in faith of the people in the village in the years to come. I hope I get the chance to return to Gitombo B and see His transformative work first-hand some day.

Andrew Stewart
Co-Founder & President
True Impact Ministries,
Castle Rock, CO

TESTIMONIES FROM PAAV SUPPORTERS



12 years ago, my deceased husband Dr. William Scholten was a 77-year-old practicing psychiatrist. I was an 83-year-old retired teacher. Our lives were happy, but we were open to God's new challenges! We shared 2 important principles:

1. How to promote the importance of education
2. How could we best help needy persons?

Our answer came when we met Chaplain Wanji Mukunga! She soon challenged us to help her fulfill her vision of helping her childhood Gitombo B, Kenya village! While serving on the board, we marveled at how God works: \$50,000 soon came in and the PAAV board had the money to bring a new water system for the village! Then later another \$50,000 was donated for the 20-room house-the present center of the school system! That was 12 years. Ago – now, we are challenged to:

GIVE generously to this worthy cause and pray for the 185 students and their needy families!

Though we are 8,900 miles away-we are all part of God's wonderful world!

**Lovingly,
Glea Rietema Scholten
Denver, CO**

TESTIMONIES FROM PAAV SUPPORTERS

“Looking back, we can see God’s leadership over PAAV in the last ten years. We look forward to where he will lead us in the next ten years.

To God be the Glory. His love endures forever.”

Ed Schaans
PAAV Board Chair
Denver, CO

“As we look back on 10 years of Project Adopt A Village, we are amazed by how God has blessed this ministry to the Gitombo community. He provided the vision, funding for a deep well, land, and buildings for educating children through Grades 1 to 9. We pray that in the next decade, God will continue to bless PAAV with a secondary school for Grades 10 through 12, transforming and empowering more lives in Gitombo. May His guidance continue to lead this ministry in bringing hope and opportunity to the community.”

Hal & Carol Simpson
PAAV Board
Denver, CO

We've been involved on the PAAV Board since 2017, after several years of sponsoring a child. To see how God has blessed and grown the ministry has been exciting to watch. Many challenges along the way, but God remains faithful.

Last year, our family had the privilege of going to Gitombo to help at the school for a bit. Those children grabbed our hearts immediately. To see where they come from & the poverty they deal with, the PAAV-Gitombo school is a real blessing of hope for these kids & their futures. They have a strong support system with the teachers & Wanji, with academic, spiritual & emotional guidance during these years at the school.

It has been exciting supporting a university student whom we met in Gitombo last year. We believe that her future and others will be bright. May God continue to bless the PAAV ministry through the years.

John & Monika Van Kirk
PAAV Board Member, CO
Centennial, CO

TESTIMONIES FROM PAAV SUPPORTERS

We had the blessing of meeting Wanji soon after she arrived in Denver to attend Denver Seminary. We have seen how her passion to help the village she left in Kenya has brought her back to her people. Her wisdom, passion, compassion and faith have been used mightily by the Lord to transform the life of both children and adults in Gitombo. It is a privilege to have been a part in Wanji's vision.

Jim and Elaine Vander Kamp
Denver, CO

Wanji answered God's call in her life, delivered through her dear dad, to educate the children in her Kenyan village. She is a visionary, a prophet, and a pastor. Wanji knows firsthand the potential in children who receive a Christ-centered education. She has walked the talk, leaving her second home in Colorado to return to her first home in Kenya. Through PAAV, God is building hope and a future for the children and the families of Gitombo B.

Kathryn Roy
Executive Director
Love INC (In the Name of Christ)
Littleton, CO

I met Wanji through a mutual friend at Denver Seminary. She would share about her village and her life growing up. She wished for a better life in Gitombo. My late husband and I became involved with PAAV when we did the borehole to provide water for Gitombo. I was sceptical about the water but watching Wanji with perseverance moving forward, the Scriptures gave us hope. We celebrated water and started a school. My husband donated many books to the library.

Wanji moving back to Kenya was our loss and Kenya's gain. But with Wanji at the helm, PAAV moved forward quickly. My faith has grown largely as I have witnessed God's faithfulness through his people. "Is anything too hard for God?" Jeremiah 32: 17. Watching the Lord open doors as Wanji and PAAV move forward my faith has been enlarged. May PAAV remain a legacy that glorifies God on earth.

Barbara Martin
Castle Rock, CO

TESTIMONIES FROM PAAV SUPPORTERS

"Wanji and I would sit on her couch, and she'd share her vision—first for clean water in Gitombo, then for a school, and even a clinic. We'd brainstorm ways to make it happen, but God already had the plan. Ten years later, much of that vision is a reality. It's incredible to see how the ministry has grown, blessing so many children and adults. My prayer is that the next decade brings even more growth, and that many will come to know Jesus Christ as their Savior."

Glaphre Spencer
Denver, CO

"Has it been ten years already? I remember meeting Wanji in Denver when she was a seminary student and later my intern at the VA hospital. As my husband Fred and I spent time with her, it became clear her heart was in Kenya. With a mix of sorrow and joy, we sent her off to follow God's calling. Now, ten years later, her dream is alive with children and the community thriving through PAAV's mission. Congratulations to Wanji and her team—may they continue their success for many more years to come."

Fred & Leslie Depenbrock
Florida

"It was an unforgettable time of celebration when the water system was nearly completed in Gitombo. We sang, danced, and even had ice cream! Being the only white lady there startled some of the children at first, but the joy was incredible. Seeing Wanji's passion for Christ and serving the community was a true blessing. Now, hearing about the growing school amazes me and I am thankful for God's goodness. May God continue to move in Gitombo, drawing the people closer to our Savior in even more remarkable ways!"

Deb Nieusum
California

PAAV-GITOMBO FAITH JOURNEY

This is how it all started. In 2010, Wanji traveled to Kenya and called the Gitombo Community together. A three-tier focus was agreed on by the Community to break the cycle of poverty. These three were:

1. Water.
2. Education.
3. Financial support for self-sustenance.

Wanji struggled with how to start working on the above projects. God is faithful! Ten years later, PAAV has tackled all the above projects starting with water, education, and recently, microfinancing.

Wanji went back to Denver where she worked for Christian Living Communities (CLC). She started to share her vision with her friends, who were very supportive of this initiative.

Wanji gave all these plans to God and there were some obvious DIVINE APPOINTMENTS. To start with, a non-profit had to be formed and Wanji didn't know how to go about it. However, one day, while at a CLC management staff retreat, in Keystone, Colorado, Wanji met Andy Stewart who was manning a Sander's Construction Stand. As they introduced themselves and talked, Wanji learned that besides his work, Andy had a ministry in Uganda and was in the process of forming a nonprofit. God was at work. Following subsequent meetings, Andy took in Wanji's PAAV vision under the new True Impact Ministries (TI) with one vital condition: that nothing would be done before Andy and his TI team visited Gitombo. They visited Gitombo on their way to Uganda. Their visit energized the community! Water and Education were again highlighted as priority needs. A sponsorship program was started for children to attend boarding schools. The program started with 10 children from very poor families.

With water being the first urgent need, Wanji and her friends started to raise support. Sufficient funds were raised and an 820-foot borehole was done. In August of 2013, the community celebrated the water with ice cream, a gift that was donated by Dorothy, a godly woman, in her final days of life, who wanted her last gift, on earth, to go to the Gitombo Water project.

After the joy of piped water, the community put forward a proposal for a school for young children. Back in Denver, Wanji shared the water joy. Soon she started to share again the idea of starting a school in Gitombo and the concern for children who could not walk long distances. One day Georgia, a friend of Wanji, called to tell her that her deceased aunt had left a donation of \$2,000.00 to be given to a charity of choice! That donation was used to put up the first school building ever in the community. It was made of iron sheets. Upon completion, three children were available to attend the school. The teacher often left the children in class alone while she went out looking for other children to join the school. More children meant that she would be guaranteed a salary. Upon hearing this, Glea, one of Wanji's friends, said she would pay the teacher's salary! "The teacher stayed in class and more children joined in.

At the end of 2015, the school had 25 children ready to move to Grade 1. But the school had no land for expansion. The iron sheet shack had been built on a plot provided by the County Government for the water project and so the school did not have permission to build on that property. The question was "How/where to accommodate/take the 25 children? DIVINE INTERVENTION: God provided a way where there seemed to be no way! Amazingly, a property on the western side of Gitombo B was for sale. The said property had a big house on it which had been abandoned for many years and seemed more like a ghost-house. The price was astronomical and Wanji immediately dismissed the idea of buying it. However, Wanji's mother wanted to see the property and while at the site turned to Wanji, asking her to reconsider. She pointed to the house and announced, "There is your school." When the owner heard that the property was for a school, he was very excited and he reduced the price. Wanji went back to Denver not knowing exactly how God was to work it out. She called the PAAV Board together and they agreed to the proposal. A big step of faith! Within a relatively short time, the \$50,000 needed was raised. Renovation began and infrastructure repair. The projects were quite a task and costly, taking a long time. The community came together to do the clearing and cleaning both inside and outside. The school relocated and by January 2016, the beginning of a new year, the school was in session. SOMA became the new name for the building. In the following years, pit latrines were dug and semi-permanent classes, activity rooms, and storage rooms were constructed. A concrete water storage tank was constructed to harvest rainwater. New toilets were later built moving from mud-pit latrines to Asian-type, water closets, and urinals. The school grew and teachers and other staff members were hired. Today, there are 185 children, from Pre-primary, Grades 1-8.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!



FIRST LEARNERS 2014



PAAV-GITOMBO, 2024



KINDERGARTEN, 2014



SAME LEARNERS NOW IN JUNIOR SCHOOL, 2024

Meet our first three children who are now in Grade 8, Junior School:

My mother was one of the first staff members at our school in 2014. She worked as a cleaner and I would tag along as she did her work and I would take the teacher's chalk and write on the floor as she cleaned.

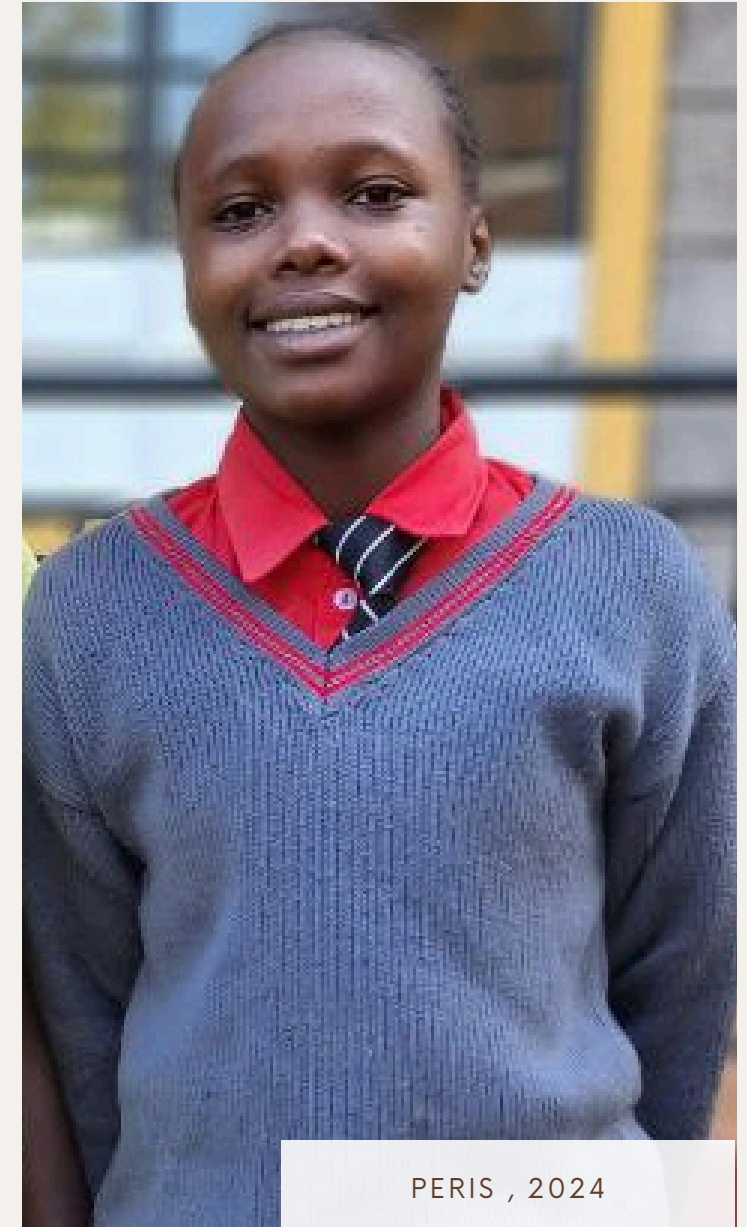
I am in Grade 8, in the Junior School section of our school. I am so proud of my journey through PAAV and of my mom who has continued to work, cooking food for all of us at the school. Thank you, Mom, thank you, Madam Wanji, and thank you, PAAV for such a wonderful school. God bless you.

Peris, 14

Grade 8, PAAV-Gitombo Junior School



PERIS, 2014



PERIS , 2024

I love my school for all the support we give to each other. Early in my life my father was involved in an accident and was bedridden for a long time and was unable to help us. I thank God for Madam Wanji who saw my situation and responded with compassion.

I attend Sunday school on Sundays and have learned to apply the teachings of Jesus Christ to my life to help me overcome the challenges I face. I want to work hard at school so I can be a surgeon in the future to help those who are sick like my father was.

Elizabeth, 13
PAAV-Gitombo Junior School



I thank God for my school where I have the opportunity to study the subjects I love. and my teachers who are always willing to assist me with my studies. I hope to be a nurse in the future so that I can help my family and community.

Brian, 14
PAAV-Gitombo Junior School



PAAV-Gitombo is a Christian school whose motto is “more than academics.” PAAV has brought high quality Christ-centered education closer to the children of Gitombo while at the same time creating employment opportunities for many parents in our school and community

We started Junior school in 2022 when the school was officially registered in Kenya as PAAV-Gitombo Community Primary and Junior School.

The Junior School academic block, Imani House, was constructed with your support. Within it, we have the school science laboratory, computer lab, music room, classrooms, a staff room, and the home science room

Our children learn the Bible, Music, drama, etc. Indoor board games and sports. Recently we have identified some children who are good at chess, piano playing, and recorder.

Over the weekends, we provide Sunday School for the children, Bible Study for the youth and Pillars parents, and Saturday Sports to the community children.



GRADE 7 CLASS, IMANI HOUSE, 2024



185 LEARNERS, 2024

Computers

The school has a computer lab and computers are taught from Grades 4 – Junior School. Introducing and teaching computers to children in a nation where there is little access to such education is one way of giving them an advantage in an already overcrowded job market. Incidentally, Kenya has gone digital in various aspects of government service provision making computer literacy a necessity.



Science lab

The science laboratory is a mandated requirement for Junior school by the government.

This has been a very costly venture but we are thankful for the support of donors.

The laboratory is proving to be of great benefit to some of our learners who are interested in the study of science subjects.



School Library

We have a small and congested library. Through the library, the school fosters a reading culture among our learners. We have books in English and a limited collection of Swahili storybooks.

We have seen our learners get an interest in reading. This has helped improve their reading and speaking skills.



Baraka House, Dining & Community Room

Baraka House was constructed after a donation by Barbara from Ireland. Before then, the children ate outside. It was constructed next to the original owner's man cave "Thingira" which we converted into a kitchen. "Baraka" means "Blessing" in Swahili.

Initially, some children came to school with food while others had no breakfast and came to school hungry. God took care of that. While in the air on a Lufthansa flight, Wanji was seated next to a pastor in charge of distributing food to poverty-stricken areas in Kenya. They talked. Out of that divine encounter, the whole school enjoyed free lunch for two years! At the end of it, we put in place a Meal Program. Today the children get two meals a day. Through cow donations by two families in Denver and Frankfurt, the children can enjoy milk in their porridge.

Baraka House has been a blessing for all the children by giving them a new dining experience where they eat at the table and acquire social skills, through eating and praying together as a family.



BARAKA HSE & KITCHEN



MEAL TIME AT BARAKA HSE

Sunday School and Bible studies

Sunday school, staff Bible study, and meetings are held in Baraka House. The staff have their Bible study every Wednesday evening. Our teachers take turns teaching Sunday school



Sports

The school children have sports every Friday afternoon. Our school field is about a quarter mile from the school compound.



NETBALL AT TUMAINI SPORTS FIELD

On Saturdays, the school children and the community children come together for sports on the school field. This is a wonderful opportunity for the community children who would otherwise be playing on the road. This is unsafe but there was no other field in Gitombo. They play football and volleyball after which a teacher leads them in Scripture, a Hymn and Prayer



SATURDAY SPORTS AT TUMAINI

Our Staff

PAAV-Gitombo has competent staff members who are very passionate about our mission and who go the extra mile in their dedicated service to the children. All of our first teachers came from the local community.

Meet our first three teachers

First teacher in 2014: I have witnessed many changes of growth and expansion. I am now the admissions officer working with all the parents at the school. I am thankful to God for everything that we have accomplished and I trust Him to make our school even greater and better.

My job has helped me to take care my family.

Margaret

**First teacher -- Now working as
the Admissions Officer**



The first three teachers



TR. BELINDA WITH HER SON, 2024

Second teacher: I was employed in 2015. I was quite young, straight out of college. PAAV has been the greatest influence on me as a teacher and an adult. I am now a mother and my son is in PP2 at PAAV Gitombo.

He loves his school and the friends he has made here. I am thankful to PAAV for the woman and mother I have grown into.

-

Belinda
Grade 2 teacher

Third teacher: I was employed in 2016. My time as a kindergarten teacher has been fulfilling because I love teaching little children. My son, Victor, is now in grade four. He is an intelligent boy and very active in school. I am thankful to God for the opportunity to work at PAAV and provide for my family

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Florence
kindergarten teacher



TR. FLORENCE WITH HER SON, 2024

Teachers

Most of the teachers are from all over Kenya and are graduates of various Colleges and Universities.



TEACHING STAFF AT PAAV GITOMBO

Non-Teaching Staff

Almost all the non-teaching staff are from the community. A majority of them are parents at school. Therefore, being employed at PAAV provides them with the honor of educating their children and thereby transforming their families. Doing Bible study and other training provided at the school has made a huge difference in their lives.



STAFF MEMBERS WITH THEIR CHILDREN & GRANDCHILDREN



STAFF MEMBERS IN A TRAINING SESSION

Testimonies from some of our non-teaching staff:

I have been employed since 2014 when my child was four years old and now she is in Grade 8.

Through the Bible study, I have grown spiritually, and I now lead my family in reading scripture and praying at home. I have seen my home being transformed as I have grown.

Jessica -- Hospitality Dept. head



JESSICA WITH HER DAUGHTER

I was employed in 2017 as the second non teaching staff at the school. My husband had disappeared when my children were very young, we still do not know where he is. I have since become the sole provider for my family —two boys and two girls. I am so thankful for my job at PAAV as it helps me to support my family. My oldest daughter is graduating next year as a special education teacher. PAAV has become my family. I am truly thankful to God for the director's leadership through Bible studies, and the core values that we are taught to embrace in everything. I have become a strong woman and mother.

Elizabeth -- Housekeeping Dept. head



ELIZABETH WITH HER CHILDREN AT PAAV

Uniforms

Our uniforms department is headed by two grandmothers. They make all the children's uniforms. Rachel sews while Miriam knits using donated machines. We buy the sports uniform but we hope to sew them at school in the future. While our children love their uniform, it serves the critical role of equalizing them, regardless of background.

At present, these two grandmothers are training other younger staff members to learn tailoring and knitting. Recently, Shadrack, one of our sponsored student in college has come to do his attachment in the department. We thank God for the people who donated the sewing and knitting machines.



MIRIAM WITH HER GRANDCHILDREN



RACHEL WITH HER GRANDCHILD

Administrative Staff



“Hello, I have been the Operations Manager at PAAV-Gitombo since 2023. I was born, raised, and educated in Gitombo, though I had the chance to attend high school and university elsewhere. Growing up, I experienced firsthand the issues facing our community—lack of clean water, poor quality of education, and food shortages. These experiences give me a deep appreciation for PAAV’s mission.

Working with Wanji at PAAV has inspired me to drive meaningful change in this community.

James Macharia
Operations Manager - PAAV-Gitombo



“I joined PAAV in 2018 after graduating from college. I enjoy my time with the learners and can attest to their growth. Through God’s Grace, I have been proud to lead an able, competent and dedicated group of teachers as we have done our best to help our learners.

I will always hold PAAV in a special place in my heart.

Samuel Kivwalu
Head Teacher
PAAV-Gitombo Community School



“I’m Jesciah Chiteri, the personal assistant to the Director and a parent at PAAV-Gitombo Community School since April 2022. In this role, I’ve gained valuable experience in school operations, supporting the Director and ensuring effective communication with staff and parents. Working with Wanji has been spiritually enriching, as her devotion to God deeply inspires me. I’m proud to contribute to the school’s mission of improving children’s lives through education, and it’s rewarding to know my work supports that important goal.

Jesciah Chiteri
Personal assistant to the Director - PAAV-Gitombo

Sponsorship Program

The sponsorship program began in 2010. About 10 children from poor homes were taken to boarding schools, where for the last ten years they have moved from primary to secondary school. Upon finishing secondary school those children have the opportunity to be in a 4-6 months mentoring and career guidance program, which we call “the PAAV Boot Camp”. During this time they work in different departments at school. The bootcamp has helped them to be better people, transitioning them from a sheltered life in boarding school to being independent before they are posted to different colleges. During this time, we also help them apply for Government student loans and other financial aid.

Currently, there are 11 students in various colleges in Kenya. Seven will be graduating next year (2025) with qualifications in business, Community development, plumbing, motor vehicle engineering, and fashion and design.

They formed a Bible study and Fellowship Group called Youth With a Difference (YWAD). They are key role models to our children at school.



SPONSORED CHILDREN WITH THEIR PARENTS, 2018



YWAD BIBLE STUDY GROUP, 2024

Testimonies from some of the sponsored children:

Joseph

I am Joseph and I have many siblings. My father died when I was quite young and my mother had no way of educating all of us. I was one of the first children from Gitombo to be sponsored in 2010 in a good boarding school .

I am thankful for being pushed to finish my high school education. Through the “PAAV Bootcamp” while working in the kitchen I felt that it was a good place to be in and applied for a job there. I am now employed in the school kitchen and my life has been turned around.

I hope to be a chef in the future and be able to build my mother a house.

Through Bible studies, I am learning more about God & myself.



JOSEPH IN THE SCHOOL KITCHEN

Shadrack

I am Shadrack currently pursuing a Fashion and Design course. I am currently on industrial internship in the Uniform Department. I enjoy learning from the grandmothers. I hope to be a top fashion designer in the future.

My involvement with the YWAD has helped me to be a better young man.



SHADRACK AT THE UNIFORMS DEPARTMENT

The Pillars ; the Pillars Program

The pillars program is an empowerment initiative aimed at improving the standards of living of the parents at our school. PAAV partnered with Get-Hope-Global, CO, an organization that provides faith-based business training programs to different countries. We use their training materials for training men and women in the pillars program. Through this program, the members are provided with micro-financing for small businesses.

The Pillars meet every Sunday afternoon for Bible Study. Currently, they are studying the Book of Exodus after they finished Genesis. Besides Wanji teaching, Samuel the Head Teacher, has enjoyed the fellowship while teaching these men and women! The Small Business training is now taking place during the week and some staff members have joined.

Through this program, PAAV is transforming families in the community.



Challenges and needs

Land & Construction

Land has always been a challenge. As the school grows, we continue to buy land whenever possible. Gitombo is densely populated. Land is typically inherited and subdivided among sons, who pass it down to their own sons. So, getting a parcel of land to purchase is itself a great opportunity.

Construction – As the school grows so does its need for new buildings.



Water

The school gets water from two wells and harvesting rainwater. A 40,000-liter concrete tank was built and other tanks donated in the last ten years.

We are still water challenged especially during the dry seasons. More water storage facilities are needed.



WATER TANKS

Testimonies from around Gitombo



"Hello, my name is Njoroge. I was born and grew up in Gitombo. I have 7 siblings. None of us were able to finish school due to lack of school fees. An uncle helped me to become his apprentice in masonry. It was hard work as I had to wake up early and go long distances to make the day pay. I worked without food or rest. Today, I look back and I am so happy that I kept at it. Later, I was supported to do a masonry course. Since graduation, I have worked in many places including Nairobi. When I was asked to come help renovate the house at PAAV, I was curious as to how that would turn into a school, since it had been a home with bathrooms, kitchens, and other small rooms! I am proud of PAAV for this great work and thankful for allowing me to work on the remodeling project. We have had to knock down walls, enlarge rooms, to make classrooms. I know every corner of this wonderful building! We are now maxed out for rooms!

I have also been amazed by the many changes on this property. Over the years I have been involved in most of PAAV's projects, being the lead contractor in the construction of both semi-permanent houses and permanent ones like Baraka, Bidii, and Imani Houses. At present, we are constructing a three-level "No name as yet" building which will house classrooms, a Chapel, a Library, and offices. This construction is special to me in the sense that I have had 4 boys working under me. These are boys straight from boarding schools with little exposure or knowledge of the construction industry. I am so glad that I can mentor them under the PAAV Mentoring and Career Guidance "Boot Camp" Program. This has started us off on an Apprenticeship program in the future!

Being part of PAAV has changed me as a man, and has greatly benefited my family. I lead the Pillars Men Group. I have witnessed firsthand the positive impact of PAAV in the community and especially through men. Meeting with young men has opened my eyes to the many challenges men face as fathers. PAAV has provided ways for us men to be transformed through small business training and Bible Study. With the help of God, men will change!

I enjoy our weekly Bible Study, which has strengthened my faith. This ministry has grown me into a position of leadership earning me lots of respect in the community too. I'm a father of three, with my youngest son in vocational school. My grandson attends PAAV-Gitombo. My prayer and hope for the future is having more godly families, and that no child lacks education due to financial constraints. I am excited about the Chapel for us. Thank you to all of you who support Madam Wanji in this great mission. I am a different man because of PAAV."

Njoroge
Grandparent & Builder

Testimonies from around Gitombo



"My name is Hannah Wanjiku Mukunga. Wanji is my daughter. I'm incredibly proud of her hard work and dedication. The vision for a school in Gitombo was something I shared with her father, my late husband, Mr. Mukunga Kibe. He would be amazed at all the progress made and would certainly want to be involved. That's why, despite my age, I always try to help.

When Wanji returned to Kenya, I was proud she took up our vision and made it a reality. Ten years later, the transformation amazes me—it has surpassed what our community ever imagined, and for that, the people of this community love her. The school began in a small iron sheet shack with just a few children and one teacher. Today, it has grown to over 100 learners and 20 teachers, with proper buildings and facilities. The school filled a critical gap in Gitombo, bringing hope for a brighter future.

I thank my God for all of you in America who supported Wanji and PAAV. The community is deeply grateful and still needs your support. Please come visit and see for yourselves that you have done! May God bless you and your families.

Wanji's Mother

Our Visitors

The people of Gitombo are welcoming and PAAV has been lucky enough to host many visitors from the US and Europe. It is always fun for them to interact with the children. Receiving visitors in our school has made our children overcome the fear of being with international visitors!



JANNA, GERMANY



PAAV INT BOARD MEMBERS WITH
THEIR FAMILIES IN GITOMBO



ANNIE & OAT



SPECIAL NEEDS
EDUCATORS

Vision For The Next Ten Greater Years

Senior School

Our first Junior school Grade 8 class will be graduating to Grade 9 in 2025. Junior School will transition to Senior School in 2026 to Grades 10-12. This will mean more land and additional construction.

Teacher's Housing

Building houses for teachers is essential for attracting and retaining qualified educators. In Gitombo B, teachers often struggle to find good quality housing, and a lack of accommodation can deter them from staying long-term. Providing housing would give teachers stability and encourage them to invest in the community, ultimately improving the quality of education and ensuring continuity for students.

Clinic/Dispensary

When a child or anyone else at school gets hurt, it takes time to travel to get them care. A clinic will take care of that. This service will also help the local residents.

Vocational/Apprenticeship/Skills Development

Most of our children may not pursue university education due to financial constraints and other factors. Doable vocational and apprenticeship programs would offer them practical skills in trades such as carpentry, tailoring, mechanics, or agriculture, leading to self-sustaining lives in the future.

Transition in Leadership

There is a great need to nurture new leadership to carry PAAV's vision forward. Therefore, We need to invest in leadership training as part of PAAV's transformative ministries in Kenya and beyond.

We look up to God for more land, food and buidings for our growing school ministry.

PLANNED GIVING: LEAVE A LEGACY

Thank you again for your continued support for PAAV now and in the future. You can continue your legacy of love for the children of Gitombo by including PAAV in your will.

Your gift will make it possible to educate many boys and girls in Gitombo and Support PAAV's other ministries in Gitombo

Your support will be long remembered and serve as an inspiration to others. God bless you!

"Those who are gracious to the poor lend to the Lord, and the Lord will fully repay them." Proverbs 19:17



"ASANTE SANA"

"Thank you for being a part of our journey. Together, we are transforming lives and breaking the cycle of poverty in Gitombo B."

Donate to make a difference in Gitombo



<https://www.coloradogives.org/donate/Paav-gitombo>

PAAV Tax ID: 46-5216590



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