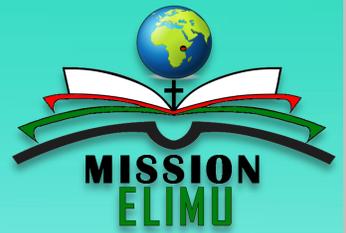




MISSION ELIMU NEWSLETTER



ISSUE 1 | FEBRUARY 2020

TRANSFORMING A CULTURE THROUGH EDUCATION

Meet the Mission Elimu Team



Team Lead:
Rev. Lilleth Harper



Secretary:
Viva Romeo



Team Member:
Victoria Sandy



Team Member:
Jacqueline Taylor-Chase



Team Member:
Dainnha Thomas

MISSION ELIMU

Bwana yesu asifiwe (Praise the Lord)

This vision was birthed in 2017 during the North East District’s annual short-term missions trip to Kenya. After a tour of the facilities of the Abigail School (teachers’ salaries are funded by the NED) and interviewing the students of ‘Class 8’ (equivalent to our SEA class) about their aspirations, my heart was saddened ... without adequate external funding, the anticipated future reality of some would only be a dream. These future Kenyans were enthusiastic, as this year, for the first time, students wrote national exams, yet socioeconomic, familial and other challenges were potential barriers to experiencing formal secondary education. **All praise to our God who converges circumstances for His glory.**

God strategically unveiled what is now, **Mission Elimu** (elimu is ‘education’ in Swahili). Churches and individuals in the sending country and other countries, could participate in this global initiative with eternal dividends. A core team works with our Kenyan liaisons, Pastor Daniel Musiya (Director of the school) and Pastor Mudogo, and with the assistance of the NED, 10 children’s futures are being reshaped. The synergy in our core team inspires each team member’s resolve to run with the vision. The watchwords; Integrity, Transparency and Accountability, govern the dynamic partnership between two cultures. The recipients are the selected students of the school. This project is addressing one of Pastor Musiya’s three-pronged missions/evangelism plan to change his culture for the honour and glory of God.



2019 marks the **first year** of planning, promoting, fund-raising and submission of funds to the six schools our ten children attend. The criteria for inclusion and for remaining in the partial funding arrangement, guide us in determining the students who are the most vulnerable and in need of support, notwithstanding, the agreed expectation to raise the first portion (25%) of their tuition cost prior to the release of funds. Based on liaison reports, students have been maintaining acceptable grades, punctuality and regularity at school despite the tragedies that some of them faced (e.g. gutted dormitories, flooding, financial constraints). You too (potential partner) can partner with team elimu in order that multigenerational change agents are educated today, for a different tomorrow. Pastor Musiya and the students have sent inspiring words of appreciation to the team and partners. Further, this initiative creates a platform for the inclusion of children who are not socialized in Christian households but are being exposed to a Christian environment at Abigail. We invite you, the reader, and others who will be challenged by this mission, to join the growing partnership and to assist with the ongoing promotion or however your skills can assist us, so that this word will go further, consistently. Will you partner with us? **...continued on Page 2.**

Missions Trivia

Who was the very first Missionary?

Answer on pg. 4

Contact Us (Website Coming Soon)

missionelimu@gmail.com

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Sis Viva Romeo (Secretary) - (868) 494-7444

Rev. Brian Selkridge (NETD Missions Director) - (868) 795-6989

CRITERIA FOR INCLUSION

Students are included in the project based on the following criteria:

1. Funding based on socio-economic background data (employment status, marital status of parents, household income and expenditure, familial challenges, family composition and “unusual challenges”).
2. Academic performance at National Exam.
3. Ability to pay **25%** of tuition as a contribution to school fees **annually**.
4. Student must be from the Abigail School.

Mission Elimu continued...

Friends and partners, the church's mandate (universal and local) obligates us to reach out to ethnic (people groups) groups in the nations, proclaiming the good news (Rom.10:13-15) to unreconciled hearts destined for destruction. Jesus in Jn. 4:35 intentionally refocused His short-sighted followers to reap the whitened harvest **now, not later**. Missio Dei (the mission of God) suggests that mission is not the invention, responsibility, or program of human beings, but is defined, directed, energized, and accompanied by the character and purposes of God (Murray 2001, 39). Jesus made it clear that his will was to do the will of the Father and to finish his work (Jn. 4: 34). Our primary focus should be to make disciples of Jesus **in all nations** (Matt.28:19).

Swanson and Rusaw (2004) authors of The Externally-Focused Church, challenges the contemporary church to build internal capacity but with an external orientation. The church's resolve (Eph.4:11) must be intentional, deliberate and executed on purpose so that the adherents are equipped for deployment across the street and village (locally) and across the oceans (globally) and to “compel them to come in, that my house might be filled” (Lk.14:23). David Hesselgrave purported “**of what lasting significance is the evangelical commitment to the authority of the Bible if biblical teachings do not explicitly inform our missiology?**” (Hesselgrave 1991, 142). We have been chosen (Jn.15:16) to partner with Jesus as He builds His church (Matt.16:18) so that the nations can praise Him (Psa.67:5).

Please do not hesitate to contact us via our **email: misionelimutt@gmail.com** or our other stated contacts and send your contributions via the North East District office whose staff has been graciously receiving your funds for the past year.

Asante sana (Thank you very much)
Mungu akubariki (God bless you)
Rev. Lilleth Harper
Team Lead

I Will Make It

I am Lameak Atsianya, a form one student of Ndivisi Boys High School, admission 6726. I am happy for being a student of Ndivisi High School, and according to my studies, I am going well. The only problem is that I have a shortage of school fees. I have a view of learning up to University and achieve my goals of becoming an engineer.

All in all, I thank you project Elimu for your support which will help me achieve my future goals. I had never expected help to come in this form at this particular time especially when the odds said otherwise when I lost my both parents.

Project Elimu you added taste to my life and aspirations. Live long to help many more, I included. I know by the help of God and with your help I will make it.

Lameak Atsianya - Student

Student Letters

Elimu Project Gives Hope

I am Daisy Wasilwa. I am a student at Nemawanga girls. My admission number is 5083. Life at school is very fine. I am hoping to achieve my dreams of becoming a teacher in the future. My biggest problem is raising the funds for my school studies. Thanks to the Elimu Project, it gives me a lot of hope beyond where my status would take me.

Daisy Wasilwa - Student

BE COMMITTED AND FAITHFUL

It is a great privilege to be workers together with God and as His laborers, we encourage each other to be diligent in our service to the Master.

The Elimu project has made a valuable contribution to a segment of the Kenyan community. The development of children in biblical and secular education at an early age is an achievement that would transform thinking to stimulate change that would foster growth and maturity.

As Missions Director, I endorse and support the coordinated effort to pray, support and financially aid the Elimu Project.

Together, we in the North East Trinidad District reach out globally to help this African nation. Let us be consistent, reliable and committed in our assistance to this project. The Kenyan brethren are appreciative, and depend on us as their neighbor for this support, so that a much needed education can be provided for these children.

I, therefore, urge you to continue to show your kindness to these Kenyan parents and be faithful in your funding to the Elimu Mission Project.

We work together to build His kingdom. God bless

Rev. Brian Selkridge
Missions Director,
P.A.W.I, North East District,
Trinidad

Potential Long-term Impact of Projects such as Mission Elimu on National Transformation

Education is a weapon that has the greatest impact on a nation. How we develop, how we deal with our daily challenges and how we excel in every walk of life depends directly on our level of education. The proper knowledge and understanding of one's problems are the only way to succeed in formulating a solution to eradicate that problem.

In the short term, Mission Elimu has created an avenue for a selected group of children to have an opportunity to have a secondary school education. Few projects begin with absolute certainty. If absolute certainty was an "absolute" requirement, many projects would never get off the ground.

As projects are planned and executed, some facts and issues are known, others must be estimated. You can't just hope you have the resources needed to do the job, and you can't just wait until every resource is available to begin. Instead, you must take proactive steps to manage and mitigate using informed assumptions and constraints.

An assumption that projects like Elimu can have national effect can be based on the following. More schooling means higher lifetime incomes. These outcomes emerge over the long term. It is not people's income while in school that is affected, nor their income in their first job, but their income over the course of their working life. Thus, any noticeable effects of the current quality of schooling on the distribution of skills and income will become apparent some years in the future, when those now in school become a significant part of the labour force.

The continued support of projects like Elimu would result in poverty reduction, promotion of health, the provision of economic growth and national transformation. This proverb best surmises the subject matter: *"Give a man a fish, and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, and you feed him for a lifetime"*.

Rev. Dr. Raymond Boca, Bishop, P.A.W.I
North East District, Trinidad

THANKS, FROM KENYA



Since the visit of the P.A.W.I Missions Team to Kenya, in 2013, under Reverend Trevor Campbell, the Abigail School has never been the same, even to this day. The subsequent visit of Sister Lilleth Harper in 2017, has moved hope to be alive in children whose dreams could have come to an end in December 2017, simply because they couldn't afford to pay their school fees. These students can now smile; they have hope now thanks to Sister Harper and Mission Elimu. Mission Elimu has become a beacon of hope especially to those children from humble backgrounds.

This year, the number of beneficiaries of Mission Elimu funding increased to 10. The good news is that the students were able to raise 25 percent and Mission Elimu has paid the other 75 percent, something that would not have been possible if Mission Elimu did not come this way.

Today, I cannot hide my joy, happiness and laughter in the midst of uncertainty, discouragements, and threats of closure, lack of infrastructure, land, and sickness. Today, the Abigail School results are the source of my joy. The national results came out and the students have passed! They made a positive deviation of +14. Last year we had a mean of 278 and this year we have a mean of 302! Glory to God, praise the Lord! They will all transition into high school.

As a result of the Mission Elimu initiative, these children are now developing into good adults through education. Thanks Sister Harper, thanks Viva, thanks P.A.W.I. Thanks to all whose hearts have been stirred by God to help these poor Kenyans to achieve their life goals. May God bless you richly.

"Educate them; their future will never be the same"

- **Pastor Daniel Musiya**

FINANCIAL REPORT

On this one year anniversary, Mission Elimu extends thanks to all contributors for the tremendous support given to the children of Kenya.

All students attend National Schools with annual tuition fees of \$4410 TTD (63,000 KES). Mission Elimu supports these children by contributing 75% of their tuition. To honour this commitment to the children support is raised through contributions of individuals and churches.

In 2018, the team raised \$5,700.00 TTD (81,428 KES) for its first cohort of recipients which consisted of three students. In 2019, seven students were added to the programme. A total of \$27,184.00 TTD (338,342 KES) was raised for the 10 students assisted by Mission Elimu.

List of Funding Recipients:

1. Irine Nanjala Kisaka
2. Revene Winjila Wafula
3. Ian Barasa Wafula
4. Shekinah Glory Musiya
5. Braxides Nafula Masinde
6. Sharon Bukasu Musiya
7. Daisy Naliaka Wasilwa
8. Griffin Walubengo Masinde
9. Lameck Atsianya
10. Sunday Moluo Wafula

Once again, we express thanks to all contributors and we encourage you, the reader to join us in our vision of reaching the nations through Mission Elimu by your financial and prayer support.

Viva Romeo
Secretary

Swahili Words

Asante:

Thank you

Asante sana:

Thank you very much
Bwana yesu asifiwe:

Praise the Lord

Habari:

How are you

Habari ya asuburi:

Good Morning

Thank You

Team Elimu would like to appreciate Akeel Stanislaus and Dainnha Thomas for their focused and efficient work in producing our first newsletter. Asante sana

Rev. Lilleth Harper
Team Lead

Trivia Answer: The Apostle Paul - His first missionary journey started in Syria and took him to Cyprus and Asia Minor.

HOW YOU CAN GIVE TO MISSION ELIMU

Contributions should be made via the North East Trinidad District Office

PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

- Visit the P.A.W.I North East Trinidad District Office to make your contributions (cash or cheque).
- Write cheques to the P.A.W.I North East Trinidad District with a note for the designated project (Mission Elimu).

CONTRIBUTIONS VIA THE LOCAL CHURCH

Donations can be given to the church (as individual contributions) to be sent with the church's Mission Elimu contributions to the district.

CONTRIBUTIONS VIA OTHER DISTRICTS

Contributions can be given to your local district office which will be forwarded to the North East Trinidad District. Please clearly indicate to your district that funds are designated for Mission Elimu.

God bless you as you partner with us in this global effort to transform nations.

Asante sana (Thank you very much)