

REACHING THE UNREACHED THROUGH SELF HELP GROUP (R.U.S.H)

NEWSLETTER FOR 2016

Our sincerest apologies for the lengthy period of time that has passed by with no formal communication in form of newsletter from RUSH but It's with great pleasure and joy that we get to put down on paper what this organisation has been able to achieve for the past year and more so years since it came into existence. By God's grace and mercies R.U.S.H as an organization has been able to touch the lives of many in diverse, positive and permanent ways with the support you give us; ways that may raise the inevitable question, how exactly do they impact people's lives as it is. Well, this is the main question that we intend to answer by the time this document comes to a concrete conclusion on the exact detail of the beehive of activities that R.U.S.H has been able to indulge in for the past year to the current period, together with the goals and visions set for the future.

THE SCHOOL

RUSH SECONDARY

We thank God for the far that we've come. We have an enrolment of 111 students since we started secondary school. This year, we have 30 form four candidates who are supposed to sit their K.C.S.E final exams in November. The teachers are focused and committed to make sure that we produce good results. Our expectations this year is to take at least 20 students directly to our public universities and the rest colleges. We appreciate all supporters form UK for enabling us build a storey tuition block which accommodates form 1's to form 4's. The students used to learn under the trees for technical subjects but now we have enough room for all thanks to you all.



The total number of teachers at the moment is 12 and 1 lab technician not forgetting Enock and Eric Amukowa who are assisting in the school by teaching Business studies, Biology and physics respectively, hence the need for immediate replacement when they report back to the universities.

The school has been ranked top among other schools academically in all the contests that we have participated in. The form four candidates have just finished sub-county mock exams of which results are to be released early September.

The challenges that we are facing at the moment are teacher's salary, lab chemicals and textbooks just to add on the urgent needs which are: to put up a fence for security purposes and build girl's dormitory.



RUSH PRIMARY



We thank God for the safe closure of the second term and now the pupils have reported back, baby class to class eight, all ready to put in work as we come to the end of the year. The class eight candidates are done with the syllabus and are now on revision with the teachers working hand in hand with the slow-learners just to make sure that they are ready for the end year national exam. The few mocks sat by the candidates have proved that they are going to perform in their final exams and we are therefore urging you to pray for us as we soldier on towards achieving the best results.

The prayer day was conducted earlier this year i.e 20th August, for both primary and secondary due to the new regulations imposed by the ministry of education which, restrict any activities from taking place in the schools in third term together with any visits from either parents, guardians or any other visitors. It was a wonderful day as candidates got to spend time with their parents and teachers in prayer and also receive moral support just to remind them that the school together with their parents are fully behind them and wish them all the best as they approach the examinations.

RUSH AGRICULTURE

We planted on time but encountered a number of challenges including: stealing and delayed rainfall leading to a late harvest which was otherwise conducted successfully with the secondary students helping and now we're removing the maize from the cobs hoping that it would be a major boost in this term's food supply.



HOME BASED CARE [HBC] We've had a very successful year of looking after old people with this group and all of them are faring on well. The HIV patients are doing fine too. This woman called Mwenje is 101 yrs old and can't come to RUSH hence the need for home care. Home based care cleans the house for her and cooks too hence helping her maintain her good health.





The mama above is Ingosi currently doing well. We found her walking on her fours due to a back problem that she has had for 30 yrs. The HBC visit twice a week just to make sure that she is comfortable and also to mobilize the community around to help her.

It takes quality time to make a 91 yr old Dinah to laugh and have a good time. The list is endless and HBC is planning to take the next age group of 80's for a retreat soon immediately we get enough funds, just to kill the loneliness in their lives.





We want to appreciate blankets made by you that have brought a big smile on the little ones and their mothers. During our visits we've come across the needy cases and have blessed them with your blankets

This is the product of your good work, thank you.

ADULT EDUCATION

This program started four years ago due to the need of reading and writing among men and women. It offers more than just general literacy as the adults also participate in community building activities like tree planting which was a self-initiated project as a way of giving back to the community and they have done this in school recently.



Such activities build team work and enhance a spirit of brotherhood and sisterhood enabling them accomplish more than they would have on their own.

MICROFINANCE

Through microfinance, women with entrepreneurial skills are empowered and enabled to engage in business activities and in the long run improve their living standards.



TAILORING AND CARPENTRY

They are resuming school on Tuesday. Last year's results came and they all passed currently awaiting graduation. This section more so reminds us of our late beloved mama Florence (kukhu) who tirelessly raised money for machines and graduation that we hope to be able to do sooner with availability of funds.

CHURCH

The church is doing well and growing spiritually as people get to see the ways in which God is reaching his people and transforming their lives in different ways. This year the praise and worship were able to record a CD under sister Cecilia. A pastors' conference was held end of last year and we were able to empower them through Salisbury church by giving them motor bikes and bicycles which enable them to move from place to place easily and also earn a living. Look at how excited they are...



TUESDAY MEETINGS (Prayer day)

Tuesday meetings are actively on but we have taken a break for the feeding program this month because of harvesting but still feeding those involved in the process. For those who don't know, Tuesday is a day for each and every RUSH member where we meet for social spiritual nourishment.



INEVITABILITIES



Sometimes you receive knocks at the door and unexpected phone calls bearing devastating news that leads to sudden interruption in the daily set routine. Such moments call for instant action and above all total attention.

This little girl was left in a terrible condition in the village because the mother had given up on her skin condition that was caused by an anti-malaria drug containing sulphur. When she came by, she was groaning in pain and agony. It never crossed our minds that one day she would be happy again but this is her after 3 weeks.

... a smile after 3 weeks.

It is our desire that we get volunteers that would be praying for us each day at least a day per week everyday, because we live in home of unpredictable circumstances that would be hard to handle without prayer.



AMUKOWA'S FAMILY



When RUSH was born my two sons were under 5 years and the younger one Elon was not born. Our daughter Phylis was 7 years old. it was easier moving from Nairobi because they were young hence moving wasn't really an issue to them.. but look at them now. They are grown-ups and a constant reminder of how far we have come as RUSH and also as a family.

Phylis finished her degree in Kenya and is currently in the UK for masters; Enock awaits graduation and currently helping in school; Eric's been helping in school during his long holiday and now reporting back for his 2nd year in the university; Elon in class 6 preparing to go to class 7 at RUSH academy. Finally, Andrew and I haven't had an opportunity to go for a break this year so kindly pray that we be in good health to see the candidates through their exams. Actually when you open your arms to the needy, God opens his arms to you. This family is the doing of the lord for those who have lived near, around or with us will bear witness that God is **REAL**.

John 15:16 We did not choose him, he chose us so we will serve him whole heartedly.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray that we may work in **UNITY** as RUSH family.
- Pray for our candidates in both primary and secondary that they may sit their exams in good health.
- Pray that we'll get all we need for the exams of our candidates.
- Pray that God will sort out the salary issue.