

Dreams Of My Homeland

FEBRUARY 2022 NEWS LETTER | BETTER SKILLS



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2021 was an exciting and challenging year for Dreams Of My Homeland. We are excited to share some of our accomplishments. First and foremost, we are grateful to God for making this work possible- many great people have offered their expertise, time, and resources to realize the mission in Kinsevere and in Lexington, Ky. We thank you for that. The 2020-21 academic year has been disruptive globally; and there are important lessons we have learned from our work. For our students in Kinsevere, the widespread closures and the lack of access to technology were significant barriers to learning. Families were also hit hard by the economic crisis caused by the pandemic.

Participation in the labor market is seen as the most important factor in achieving economic stability. Refugees can face difficulties achieving full employment in the United States. We are happy to announce the Refugee Career Pathway program- a partnership with Bluegrass Community & Technical College(BCTC) in collaboration with the Kentucky Office of Refugees(KOR), to expand employment services for refugees in Lexington. The Refugee Career Pathways program will enable participants to achieve self-sufficiency by obtaining the necessary credentials, education, experience, and job skills to secure employment in professional and/or skilled career fields.



Refugee Career Pathway Lexington

Are you looking for employment? Searching for a way to improve your English or computer skills? Are you ready for another step in your career?

Do you have the desire to enroll in college classes? Did you complete a professional degree in your home country and want to have that revalidated in the US?

THIS MAY BE THE PROGRAM FOR YOU! Employment programs and workshops for refugees.

Who: I94 Refugee, SIV, Parolee, Asylee or T-Visa holders who arrived AFTER March 1, 2015 and are not yet US Citizens.

A New Beginning

For over 4 years, Dreams Of My Homeland(DOMH) has ensured children in Kinsevere get the right infrastructure, teaching and support so they can benefit from their time at school and go on to achieve their potential. Kinsevere is a community more than 60miles from the city of Lubumbashi, Democratic Republic of Congo. Despite the challenges presented by the global pandemic in Kinsevere, our donors, staff, parents, and students showed tremendous determination in finding solutions in order for learning to continue. Across Central Africa, an estimated 40 percent of all school-aged children missed school due to the pandemic and had no option for virtual education (UNICEF). The global pandemic affected our student level of education, having missed more than a year of school. We thank our teachers for their outstanding efforts.



Leadership

Kaite Mbayo, Executive Director, truly went above and beyond, dedicating 12 weeks of work from October to December, despite the challenges of international travel. Ms. Mbayo led the project of manufacturing 60,000 bricks, fabricating new benches, installing a new water tank and a generator, cleared a road from the asphalted main road to the school and re planted trees around the school.

Parent Meeting

1. Due to the limited capacity of classrooms, DOMH downsized the program in Kinsevere to primary education only.
2. Consensus was reached to raise monthly school fees from \$2.50 to \$3.50, in order to subsidize teacher's salary.
3. Consensus was reached to develop a school meal program, which is vital for the general health of students.
4. The Group voted a new parent committee.

"We are very happy our children have clean water at their school."



Our Patners in Congo

- MMG Mining company** donated 200 trees (orange trees, lemon trees and guava trees).
- Maskini Hana Rafiki** provided machinery to clear the road from the school to the asphalted main road.
- Congregation Pere des Salesien** donated school materials for students.
- Church 8 ème CEPAC Pierre Vivante (Poteau-76)** for administrative support.
- Madam Maguy** with the local government, for the support.

WE ARE THANKFUL TO ALL OUR PARTNERS

Partners in the United States

- Amteck
- D'& D electrical
- Bullhorn
- Bluegrass Community & Technical College
- Justin Skeens
- Heritage Baptist Church
- Vineyard Community Church
- Green Room Exchange
- Legacy West Media



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[to get involved](#)



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