



# SHALOOM CARE HOUSE NEWSLETTER

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## INTRODUCTION

*Shaloom Care House is a faith-based organization operating under the Health Department of the Catholic Archdiocese of Mwanza in Tanzania. It was established in 1992, under the HIV Prevention Program of the Archdiocese, following the 1987 Declaration of the Tanzania Episcopal Conference to combat HIV/AIDS.*

*Shaloom Care House provides services in Mwanza City for all, regardless of creed, nationality, tribe or color. These extensive services include psychosocial support, health care, education and legal support to people living with HIV/AIDS (PLHA), orphans and vulnerable children and their families. The Shaloom Care House Newsletter is published on a quarterly basis to share information with benefactors and other stakeholders. The newsletter is also published in order to solicit funds from different Tanzanians and international partners to support our programs, as the number of clients increases daily.*

*We would like to give special thanks to our leaders including the donor's community for your remarks.*

## Shaloom Care House Commemorates of World AIDS Week

**By: Msafiri Wanna, Project Coordinator**

The commemoration of World AIDS Week starts on 25<sup>th</sup> November and the climax is the World AIDS day December 1<sup>st</sup> each year. This is an opportunity for people worldwide to unite in the fight against HIV, show their support for people living with HIV and to commemorate people who have died. World AIDS Day began in

1988 as the first ever global health day. The world has recently committed to end the AIDS epidemic as a public health threat by 2030, as expressed in the new Sustainable Development Goals. Ending the AIDS epidemic involves reducing new HIV infections and AIDS-related deaths to levels that no longer represent a major health threat to any population or country.

In Tanzania, it is estimated that HIV prevalence is currently at an average of 5%. In some areas this figure is up to 14% and in some population groups even over 20%. There are 1.5 million people living with HIV. In 2014 Tanzania recorded almost 70,000 new infections and 50,000 Tanzanians died from HIV related conditions.

In this year 2015 Tanzania commemorated World AIDS Day in a new way following the proclamation given by the new President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Dr. John Pombe Magufuli. He has forbidden all functions which spent a lot of money on excessive eating and drinking. Therefore in this year the World AIDS Day was calmly commemorated and the money budgeted for celebration instead, procured antiretroviral drugs for the patients.

In commemoration of World AIDS Day, Shaloom Care House visited St. Joseph Girls Seminary to provide HIV/AIDS education to the students. Statistics show that young women aged 15-24 are twice more likely to be living with HIV than young men of the same age. Shaloom Care House also prepared a program which was aired in Star Television to raise awareness in the community.



The SCH team when visited St. Joseph Girls Seminary to provide HIV and AIDS education



Reginal Tunu was born in 1981. Shaloom Care House identified her as an orphans and vulnerable children in 2001 and immediately started to support her. She finished her ordinary level of secondary education in 2002 at Bukumbi Secondary School, and then was selected to go on with an advanced level of secondary education at Geita Secondary School. Regina stayed there for two years until 2005 when she completed her A-Level studies. In July 2005 she attended a short course program for teaching, and was appointed to teach at Nela Secondary School.

In 2007 Regina was selected to join the University of Dar es Salaam to pursue a bachelor of education degree. Currently she is a tutor at Nyanza College of Education in Mwanza, Tanzania. Regina is married and has one baby girl.

## **Orphans and Vulnerable Children Annual Gathering**

**By: Msafiri Wanna, Project Coordinator**

On 12<sup>th</sup> December 2015 all the children cared for by Shaloom Care House came together for recreation. The day was full of festive activities; children presented their different talents such as singing, dancing and drama. The children got the chance to present a speech to the Honored

## **In Job training for Shaloom Staff**

**By: Edna Evarist, Nurse Counselor**

Capacity building improves the performance of any organization. Shaloom Care House engages in capacity building by providing job training for staff members. James Zephania benefited by job training in 2015. James has been employed at Shaloom Care House since 2012 as a Youth Counselor. He is among the hardworking and creative staff who contributes well to the good of Shaloom Care House and to the public. August 2015 Shaloom Care House offered James a three month course in counseling at BUGANDO CENTRAL PASTORAL EDUCATION in Mwanza Tanzania.

James is very grateful to the management of Shaloom and the sponsors who financed his counseling course and he promise to apply the acquired skills for the benefit of Shaloom Care House.

## **Successful story**

### **Regina Tunu; a Successful Shaloom Care House Students**

**By: James Zephania, Youth Counselor**

Guest Mr. John Carney from Busega Scotland Foundation.

In their speech, the children gratefully recognized the educational support they receive from Shaloom Care House, and they gave many thanks to the coordinator and staff of Shaloom for developing the library service, providing school supplies, paying school and examination fees, and providing guidance, counseling support, and life skills education.

The children also requested that the Shaloom Care House improve the library service by adding some books. They noted a shortage of books in A-Level education especially for science subjects. They also mentioned the shortage of computer devices and the wish for expert computer training. The honorable guest Mr. Carney was very delighted to see the live performance from the children of Shaloom Care House. He said that in Tanzania is a blessed land to have such talented children.'



The Mahavi Cultural Group from SCH Youth Centre entertains the Audience.



The children cared for by Shaloom Enjoy Lunch at the Annual Gathering

## Umoja wa Wanawake wa Chama Cha Mapinduzi Tanzania (UWT) visited Shaloom Care House

By: Msafiri Wanna, Project Coordinator

On 20<sup>th</sup> December 2015 a group of women from Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) the ruling party of Tanzania from Ilemela District visited Shaloom Care House. The women were accompanied by the Deputy Mayor of Ilemela Municipal Council Mr. Shabani Maganga.

During their visit the Coordinator for Shaloom Care House, Mr. Msafiri Wanna spoke briefly about the program implemented by the organization. The Deputy Mayor expressed his appreciation of the management of Shaloom Care House for the good job they do for the impoverished children and for all people living with HIV. In his speech he also asked the orphans and vulnerable children cared for by Shaloom to concentrate on their studies in order to pass their examinations. He promised to provide material support to those who will become the best students in their different levels of classes.

The women of CCM from Ilemela also provided four boxes of laundry soap to support the

orphans and vulnerable children cared for by Shaloom Care House.



The Deputy Mayor of Ilemela Shabani Maganga visits the Shaloom Library

## Performance of Primary School children has Improved

**BY: James Zephania**

All-in-all the performance of children cared for by Shaloom Care House in 2015 was good and encouraging at all levels.

The performance of our children who sat for the Primary School National Examination in September 2015 has improved by 6% compared to 2014. The children who sat for that examination were 38. 30 passed the examination and have been selected to go on to the Ordinary Level of Secondary Education in different public schools in Tanzania. This is equivalent to 79%, while the performance in last year was 73%.

In 2015 only 8 children failed the Primary School National Examination. This is equivalent to 11%. This is a big challenge to the organization because our target is to reach 100%. We need all of our children to pass the primary school examination because our organization is not able to finance their studies in private schools, which charge very high fees.

The results for our children who sat for the Form Four National Examination were also good; approximately 60% of them passed that examination. Of the 23 children who sat for the National Form Four Examinations in 2014 seven passed with a merit grade, which is equivalent to division two, two children scored credit grade, which is equivalent to division three and five children have passed at the equivalent of division four. Valediana Leonidas was a best student in the group; she was selected to study Chemistry, Biology and Geography at Lugambwa High School in Bukoba region.

## EVENTS IN PHOTO



Children of Shaloom Care House CH visit the Main office, and Enjoy breakfast.



Shaloom Children Actively Use the Library.