



April 2008 Newsletter

Dudleys' Report on TACODA



TACODA volunteers and supporters, Fred and Bebe Dudley of Glastonbury, CT worked at TACODA from 1/16/2008 to 2/14/2008. During that time, they observed the effectiveness of the Home's care of the boys and the status of the boys' development.



Based on their feedback, we confirmed that we are achieving all we had hoped for the children of TACODA!

The Boys' Development

"When it comes to the boys, they simply grab your heart and hug your being. They are all respectful, resourceful, caring, well-fed, and robust. They have pride in being a TACODA child, yet each is also his own developing person. They have curiosity about the world and an eagerness to learn. These traits have obviously been emphasized and need to continue to be nourished and encouraged. They are both symbolic, and living proof, of the hope and spirit that seem to pervade TACODA and Tanzania." *Fred and Bebe Dudley*



The Home's Effectiveness

"We must compliment the entire staff. They were uniformly gracious, helpful, patient, and, most important, dedicated to providing a positive environment and experiences for the children. This comment should be highlighted and repeated because it is the essential, constant, daily reality of TACODA. We don't know what each is paid, but it is not nearly enough for the work and love they provide." *Fred and Bebe Dudley*



Gema Tarimo Home Operator Fred Dudley Bebe Dudley

Dudleys' Recommendations for Future

- The TACODA boys should attend private school to qualify for secondary school.** The public primary schools the boys attend are not adequate for this task. Derick J. and Hamisi have the best chance of being admitted first. They should be interviewed and assessed immediately. The annual cost for each child would be US\$1,700.
- A full-time English teacher (or effectively trained volunteers) is necessary.** English is the single most important element the boys will need to take advantage of the opportunities ahead of them. They must have this support now.
- The TACODA volunteer program should be formalized and less staff dependent.** Orientation should be standardized and work activities should be identified in advance.

Thank you Fred and Bebe for all that you are doing for TACODA!



The Acquisition of the Property for the New Orphanage

After a frustrating year of delays, we signed a contract to purchase the property for the new orphanage. Since mortgages are not available, our arrangement has been structured as an installment purchase. We made our down-payment and must pay off the remaining balance in monthly installments over two years. We also have to make the necessary repairs and renovations as quickly as possible so that we can move the boys out of the rented facility and into their new home.

If you have the resources, please consider making us a 10-year loan to help us pay the remaining purchase price and the required renovations.

We are currently gathering a group of energetic volunteers to go to Tanzania from mid-June through to help make some of the necessary repairs and renovations under the supervision of our US contractor, Jeff Saresky of Port Chester, NY. Although Jeff just became a Dad for the first time, he and his wife have agreed that Jeff will lead this effort on our behalf. This is will be Jeff's 2nd renovation on our behalf. Thanks so much!

If you want to help us make this dream a reality, please think about joining this effort in Tanzania.

Our in-Kind Donation Container and Packing Crew

On 2/5/2008, we packed a 20 foot container with in-kind donations for TACODA and the



The Foundation for Tomorrow's children's library. The container held 2 bicycles and 454 boxes.

1,500 children's books, and all the clothes, shoes, school supplies, athletic equipment, household items, and handcraft items are destined for TACODA's Children's Home, Lending Library, and Widows and Community Outreach Programs.

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped pack the container.

Thanks to all the individuals and corporations who made this shipment possible!!

Congratulations!

Donata Arden is being honored as a "Woman of Promise and Distinction" by Norwalk Community College on 4/3/2008.

Recognition for Work Well Done!

Katherine Decelles, Chris Decelles and Derick Dirmaier of Boston, MA, were recently profiled for their TACODA work in Arusha by their high school, Westminster School, in Simsbury, CT. Katherine and Chris are also graduates of Greenwich Country Day School in Greenwich, CT.

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Creating a Better Life for Tanzanian Orphans

www.tacodachildren.org