

# WGC UPDATE

Third Quarter | 2016 | July-September

## Girls Leadership

- The Girls Global Summit/Girls Leadership Program to be held in the Spring is currently under preparation.

## Women's Economic Development (WED)

- The Pushaq Warmi women added two new members. The group keeps growing their arts and crafts business with effective marketing and quality products. They have strengthened the organization with additional mentoring. Four members have Global Business Partners grants helping their individual businesses.
- WGC has been preparing for the Gala with the theme of Quinceañera to celebrate the hard work, collaboration, and the fruits of 15 years of WGC with WGC friends, to be held on October 13, 2016.
- Current membership in the Bukoba Women's Empowerment Association (BUWEA) has grown to 788, and in addition, there is a satellite BUWEA group in Shinyanga consisting of 350 members. Thirty-two rainwater harvesters have been built up to date.
- Biggest priorities for BUWEA are setting up the day care and getting soy patty to the market as they make their income producing operations self-sustaining.

Left: WGC's partners in Bukoba, Tanzania surveying the damage to their homes after the 5.9 magnitude earthquake

Right: Some of the Hekima Girls Secondary School dormitories were severely damaged



## Women's Economic Development (WED) cont.

- The BUWEA women are seeking new productive uses of part of the soy farm land and awaiting the government promised irrigation of their land in 2017. WGC and the Christus grant are aiding in these processes.
- Hekima Girls Secondary School: There is a new women's empowerment group of 20 mothers and other female relatives of Hekima students called the Opportunity for Women group in keeping with the Hekima vision. The group is ready to apply for official status and seeks to assist other women in the region with family and business challenges. WGC has started mentoring them, connected them to the BUWEA group for additional advice, and keeps giving special training workshops to the school girls.
- WGC is building relationships, planning and solidifying its collaboration with WE-CAN (Women in Conservation), a women's empowerment organization in Kakamega, Kenya, through on-site capacity building with grassroots women's groups and mentoring for the WE-CAN leadership.

## News

On September 10, a 5.7 earthquake hit Bukoba with 16 lives lost and over 250 people injured. Thankfully, none of WGC's friends from BUWEA or the Hekima School were injured or killed, but many BUWEA members suffered significant damage or loss of their homes. Three dormitories at the Hekima School are beyond repair. WGC is continuing to raise funds for the Bukoba Earthquake Relief efforts through the WGC website, and checks.

## Emergency Micro Loan Fund (EMLF)

- 2 new loans made in 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter; total of 16 loans currently being paid back monthly; 1 loan paid back in 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter

## Development

Sophomores at St. Anthony Catholic High School are raising funds for their second rainwater harvester in Tanzania.

After the 5.9 magnitude earthquake hit northern Tanzania, where Bukoba and the Hekima Girls Secondary School are situated, WGC has been raising funds to restore homes and lives. \$8000 have been raised so far towards this purpose.

WGC is partnering with the BUWEA women on the development of one of the first child care centers in the region, located on the campus of their soy production plant facility.

## Immersion Trips

During the immersion trip to Kenya and Tanzania, WGC gave a total of 41 workshops. Nine of them were Early Childhood Education (ECE), including 821 WED participants and 244 ECE participants totaling 1,065 altogether.

As a result of the July and August immersion trips, next steps with BUWEA include assisting with plans and needs for the childcare center, soy product development including new equipment needs, better packaging for long distance travel of the soy milk, and marketing.



Left: Students at the Hekima Girls Secondary School in Bukoba, Tanzania

Right: Sophomores at St. Anthony Catholic High School working to get a second rainwater harvester to Tanzania

## Immersion Trips cont.

One of the volunteers led a workshop on Menstrual Health and Sanitary Pad Making in 12 different locations in Tanzania and Kenya. Many of these groups are considering making sanitary pads as an economic development activity and use it to help girls stay in school.

Next steps with WE-CAN are to plan 2017 mentoring and workshops offered by BUWEA leaders and WGC to include start-up of an organizational revolving microloan fund.

In the immersion trip to Peru in May, three volunteers plus two WGC staff provided 7 workshops with a total of 61 participants from Pushaq Warmi on topics such as grant writing, doing business in the USA, financial reporting, and craft quality/pricing. Five additional volunteers, including three UIW Nutrition students, offered four workshops and cooking demonstrations for Pushaq Warmi, the Hospice, and community members for a total of 59 participants. In addition, they made in home hospice visits and planned a data collection project.

## Incarnate Word Missionaries

Three new advisory committee chairs have been added. The advisory committee, including the new additions, consists of Sister Alice Holden, Sister Mary T. Phalen, Yvonne Dilling, Monica Cruz, Sister MariChui Bringas, Sara Garcia, Lisa Uribe, and Ada Gonzalez.

There are seven new Incarnate Word Missionaries.

Three missionaries returned home-Nicholena Vranicar went home to Pennsylvania, Yvonne Moynihan went home to Cork Ireland and Kristen Amaro came back to San Antonio.

Travelers in the “second wave” of the East Africa summer immersion trip, including Tanzania and Kenya, ready to go!

