



TUWAPENDE WATOTO

Dear friends and supporters of the Tuwapende Watoto Foundation,

In June 2025, my husband and I had the pleasure of welcoming the well-known documentary filmmaker Thomas Gerber to Bunju B. Together, we spent a truly exciting and enriching week! Thanks to the funding from the Dr. Rau Foundation, the film about the activities of Tuwapende Watoto could be produced.

We were invited by the Dr. Rau Foundation to the film premiere on October 1, 2025. It was an extraordinary experience to share this special moment and to watch the documentary together with friends, supporters, donors, and the President of the Dr. Rau Foundation, Mr. Peter Marti, as well as Vice President Mr. Schlauri. We all agree that Thomas Gerber succeeded masterfully in capturing the diversity of our work. On behalf of all our staff, I wish to express heartfelt thanks to the Dr. Rau Foundation for making it possible to preserve these meaningful images.



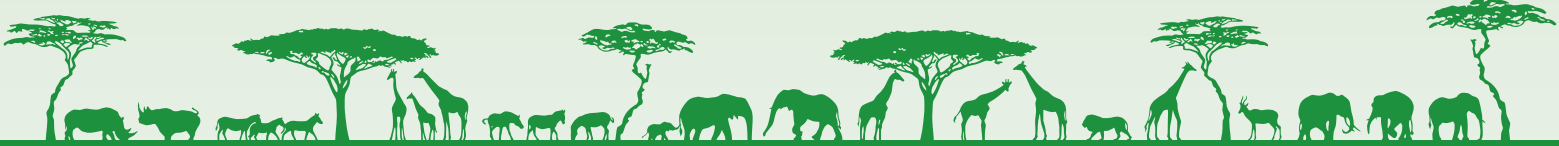
After the premiere, my husband and I had the honor of receiving the Dr. Rau Foundation Award. This award, inscribed with "OUTSTANDING COMMITMENT TO CHILDREN IN THE THIRD WORLD," is a great honor for us. We are happy to share this success with our family, our Foundation Council members, our ambassadors, and our local staff. We will bring the award to Tanzania so that they, too, can share in this recognition. A heartfelt thank-you to the Dr. Rau Foundation for valuing and supporting our work.



Children's Home – Security that builds strong roots



- Our youngest children will already be entering the Pre-Unit next year. They have been wonderfully supported in the nursery school and lovingly cared for by the Mamas, siblings, and volunteers. Michelle, our little sunshine, received her nursery school diploma on October 14 – she is now proudly looking forward to starting first grade in January 2026.
- Our teenagers and young adults have also achieved a great deal in recent months:
- Jackson successfully completed his CPA Master's course in September, following his bachelor's degree in accounting at the Institute of Finance Management. We are confident that he will soon find employment with his strong qualifications.



- Ema completed his bachelor’s degree at the Institute of Finance Management with excellent grades. After an exciting internship at John Deere, he began his master’s program in November.
- Didier also achieved an outstanding bachelor’s degree at the Tanzania Institute of Accountancy and began his master’s studies in Accounting and Finance in November.
- Eliza celebrated her graduation from Baobab Secondary School on October 11; Vanessa and Gabriel graduated on November 15.
- Eliza, Vanessa, Aisha, and Gabriel completed their fourth year of secondary school and sat for the National Examination starting November 17.
- We are proud of all our children, teenagers, and young adults – for their motivation, resilience, and joy for learning. Every step they take shows how impactful your support truly is.
- With your help, we give our children not only education, but also confidence and future opportunities.

Joy You Can Feel

From the day I arrived at Tuwapende Watoto, the love and joy that exists here was immediately apparent. I walked into a scene of smiling and laughing children, unafraid to be curious about the world around them. This is a scene that repeats itself every day here, and it is quite beautiful to see. As time passed, I have found myself increasingly a part of the Tuwapende family. Being a part of it also comes with some responsibilities. Here at the children’s home, that could mean assisting with cooking preparations, helping the children with homework or creating fun activities for them, and perhaps most importantly, showing the kids some love. There’s also plenty to be done outside of the children’s home. Help is always needed in the classrooms of various schools run by Tuwapende. Given that these facilities exist in Tanzania, volunteering here has been an incredible cultural experience. From learning Swahili to trying new foods and seeing new places, it can be quite overwhelming, but absolutely worthwhile. For anyone out there considering coming here to volunteer, I could not recommend it more. I think that there is a place for everyone in the Tuwapende Family.

Jadon Schneider, Volunteer

Nursery School and Daycare – Growing together, learning for life

Nursery School Festival – A Day Full of Joy



- On October 14, Nyerere Day, we celebrated a cheerful nursery school festival with the families of our 234 nursery school children and the children from the daycare center. The excitement was especially great for the 41 girls and 44 boys in the pre-primary level – they celebrated the completion of their nursery school years. In January 2026, they will happily begin first grade.
- Our teachers and the children had prepared a wonderful, varied program – with music, dance, and surprises. The joy was contagious, and the guests, parents, and children were full of enthusiasm. Once again, the commitment of our staff from all school levels was impressive.
- Our nursery school teachers guide the children with great dedication. Through play, the children discover the English language, learn letters, read short words, and already count from 1 to 100. Music, singing, and movement activities are a regular part of their daily routine – learning with all senses.

Primary School – Education as a foundation for the future

- Our headmistress and our dedicated team work hand in hand to offer the best learning conditions. Regular training sessions, evening courses, and internal quality assurance ensure high-quality education.
- Together, we aim to help children not only gain knowledge, but also build confidence, responsibility, and joy in learning.



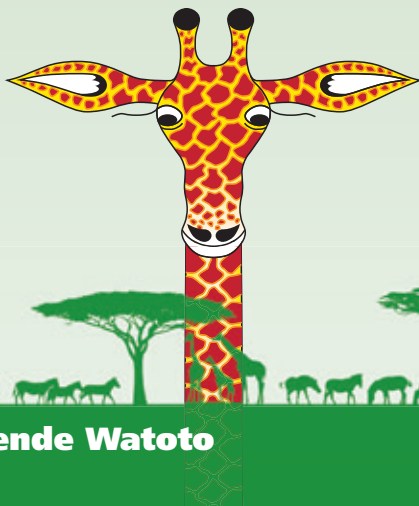


Successful 7th Grade Graduation

- The 12th Graduation Ceremony of Tuwapende Watoto Primary School took place on September 20, 2025 – for the first time in the new multi-purpose hall of the secondary school. A promising milestone! A grateful group of 54 girls and 46 boys completed their seven intensive years of primary schooling.
- We welcomed Mr. Simon Gerald Shayo, retired professor from the University of Dar es Salaam, as the guest of honor. Representatives of the I-NGO, the parents’ council, local authorities, school principals from neighboring schools, volunteers, and many parents and siblings were also present.
- All 127 staff members contributed enthusiastically to this special celebration. The radiant faces of the graduates were the best reward.
- Our guest of honor praised the excellent results achieved by our students in recent years. He was particularly pleased that we established a day-secondary-school combining academic and vocational education in grades 3 and 4 – aligning with national goals of strengthening practical skills.
- He was also impressed by our extensive school and vocational training infrastructure. Conversations with our secondary students and apprentices further reinforced his positive impression.
- Prof. Shayo expressed heartfelt thanks on behalf of the government to all donors for their generous investments and creation of jobs.

Excursions – Learning beyond the classroom

- In August 2025, several exciting excursions took place. These trips allowed students to explore new places and expand their knowledge in real-world settings.
- The **third and fourth grades** visited Bagamoyo, about an hour away. The ancient settlement of Kaole dates back to around AD 800, with remains of mosques and 30 graves. In the 18th century, Bagamoyo became an important stop for caravans and the slave trade, and later the main trading port on East Africa’s central coast.
- The **fifth graders** celebrated their excellent results in last year’s National Exam with a fun day at a water park, made possible by generous parents.
- The **sixth graders** visited the Tanzania Broadcasting Corporation (TBC), where they learned about radio and TV production. They then visited the National Meteorological Authority to learn how climate data and weather forecasts are created.
- The **nursery school children** once again visited the International Airport in Dar es Salaam. Seeing the terminal and a real airplane was a huge thrill.



National Examination – Grade four

The National Exam for the fourth graders took place on October 22–23, 2025. Teachers had prepared the students with great effort and patience. We are now eagerly awaiting the results and are proud of the discipline and hard work shown by all.

Secondary School – Creating opportunity, fulfilling dreams

- Study trips are an official part of Tanzania’s curriculum. To ensure compliance, we created a comprehensive travel documentation file. The first trip took place on August 29, 2025, to Hill Water Industry and the Bagamoyo Museum.
- In late July, a two-day inspection by four district inspectors took place. They evaluated eight categories, including curricu-



lum implementation, teaching quality, leadership, and school environment. They were highly impressed and praised our excellent start, strong environment, and high teaching standards.

- On October 13, 2025, we launched our pre-course for first-year secondary students – 40 motivated students attended. We look forward to beginning the new school year in January 2026.
- We also made several trips to Tanzania this year to oversee our projects. Regular communication via WhatsApp and Skype remains essential. We are especially proud of our newly equipped chemistry laboratory. Physics and biology labs will follow next year.
- In August, construction of phase 2 of the secondary school began. Eight new, modern classrooms will be ready for use in March 2026. Phase 3 is planned for August 2026.
- We are grateful to walk this path together with all donors and staff.



Solar PV system

To install a photovoltaic system for the vocational school and the secondary school, we planned a flat roof on the main building. My husband and our electronics teacher carefully designed the system. A local company was contracted, and we are proud that our students actively participated in the installation. They helped mount the panels and set up the inverters – gaining valuable hands-on experience. The vocational school is already powered by solar energy. The system for the secondary school is prepared and will be activated in 2026.



Vocational School

– A year of commitment and progress
This year, 230 motivated young people are enrolled in eight vocational programs.

Teacher Training:

In September, VETA organized a training course focusing on competency-based education, continuous assessment, final evaluations, and data reporting – ensuring our teaching remains at the highest standard.

Annual Quality Review:

Every August, we conduct a thorough evaluation of each teacher’s work, focusing on curriculum adherence, lesson planning, timely topic coverage, and correct assessment methods.

Hands-On Learning:

Bethel A. Gaserama, Tailoring Teacher Level 2, attended a seminar at the Stephano Moshi Memorial University College in Moshi, learning about digital tools in textile design.

TUWAPENDE WATOTO VOCATIONAL EDUCATION TRAINING CENTER

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Third-Year Students:

In July, we welcomed 21 third-year students in ICT, Electronics, and Electrical professions.

Internships:

For all 87 second-year students, internships were arranged again – in hospitals, factories, hotels, workshops, and even lodges in the Serengeti.

Firefighting interns from Hamburg

From September 1 to 3, we were once again delighted to welcome the firefighter trainees from Hamburg, together with Monika and Stephan Geiger. Through firefighting drills on our grounds and a first-aid training session, our students gained valuable knowledge, which they were able to deepen through hands-on practice. A fun afternoon of games provided a wonderful conclusion to the training. We hope to welcome Monika and Stephan Geiger and their trainees again next year.

Our Support in Itobo

For many years, we have supported over one thousand students in Itobo, an inland village in a very arid region. Many children walk over an hour to school – often without breakfast. We therefore provide a large cup of porridge each morning and support the local nursery school.

During the June holidays, our headmistress Emmaculate traveled to Itobo – an exhausting two-day bus journey – to ensure proper use of donations. The school director and accountant prepared a detailed report, and the visit confirmed that funds are used responsibly.

Observation and Recommendation:

During the visit, it became evident that the children study for many hours under challenging conditions. The regular provision of porridge and access to pre-primary education are therefore essential and have demonstrably positive effects.

Finding:

The visit confirmed that the allocated funds are being used purposefully to improve the educational level and overall



well-being of the children in Itobo. We are very pleased that we can continue this important program – with the same strict accountability as before.

A Special Visit – The Swiss Ambassador at Tuwapende Watoto

It was a great honor for us to welcome the Swiss Ambassador, Mrs. Nicole Providoli, and her husband, Christian Ferraris, to Bunju B on June 5, 2025. Upon their arrival, they were warmly greeted by our nursery and primary school children with joyful songs and dances. At the secondary school, the students welcomed them in the new multipurpose hall. With great enthusiasm, the vocational school students guided our guests through the various workshops, proudly presenting their skills and projects. During the lunch that followed at the Children’s Home, lively conversations emerged about education, future opportunities, and the importance of sustainable support for children and youth in Tanzania. Mrs. Providoli and Mr. Ferraris expressed that they were deeply impressed by the dedication and warmth they encountered throughout their visit. The Ambassador praised the important work of the Tuwapende Watoto Foundation, which opens new opportunities for children and young people through academic and vocational education and gives them hope for a better future.

Remember When...

We celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Tuwapende Watoto Foundation on August 24 together with many volunteers at the beautiful garden of our Foundation Board member Christina Gartenmann. It was a joy to reconnect, share memories, and hear stories from past years. Many volunteers shared how deeply their time at Tuwapende Watoto shaped their lives and careers.

Heartfelt thanks to Christina and her helpers for their warm hospitality, delicious food, and the wonderful afternoon.

Thank You

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our headmistress, Emmaculate Mleke, and our 127 dedicated staff members for their outstanding commitment. Day after day, they give their very best for the well-being of the children and students entrusted to us – in the Children’s Home, the daycare center, the nursery school, and all our schools. Their dedication, patience, and love are the heart of our work.

On behalf of the Foundation Board, the I-NGO members, all parents, our students, our apprentices, and the entire Tuwapende Watoto family, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all of you – to our loyal private donors, clubs, and organizations; to the Dr. Rau Foundation, IFHE Switzerland, EDU-Mustache, and win for the kids by Serge Müller. Thanks to your generous support, we are able to provide the children and young adults with loving care, security, and a high-quality education. Each year, we are deeply moved to witness the achievements of our students and trainees – especially those from low-income families who, thanks to your help, are able to receive an excellent education.

A special thank-you also goes to the Swissair Staff Foundation for Children in Need, the Fondation Gertrude Hirzel, the Wyler-Andersson Foundation, Golf de Payerne, the association Bildung gegen Armut (Education against Poverty), the Lions Club Iselisberg, the Tuwapende Watoto Förderverein e.V. Germany, and IMS Marketing AG. Through their generous support, we were able this year to complete the construction of the two secondary school buildings, begin phase 2, and implement the solar power system. These investments open the door to excellent education for many children – giving them the chance for a better future free from poverty and hardship. We sincerely thank you for your loyalty and trust. We continue to use your donations purposefully, respectfully, and with great care – for sustainable, positive change in the lives of many children.

Our warm thanks also go to our I-NGO members, the Foundation Board, our Tuwapende Watoto ambassadors, and all volunteers. Through their tireless dedication and countless hours of voluntary work, they play an essential role in supporting, guiding, and empowering our children and our youth. We are incredibly grateful to be able to count on them.

We wish you and your family a joyful and peaceful Advent and Christmas season, and all the best, good health, and much happiness in the new year.

Warm regards,



President of the Foundation Board

Our bank details:

Berner Kantonalbank AG
3001 Berne
IBAN: CH70 0079 0016 9421 3324 5



**Our children’s home and schools are located in Bunju B, between Dar es Salaam and Bagamoyo.
Link: $-6^{\circ}37'44.78''$, $+39^{\circ}5'3.41''$**

