



Mambo (hello!) from Tanzania. I have been back on the ground here since late December 2015 and have been very busy working at the home with the kids and especially trying to get our building finished. We are 90% complete with the building and will be moving into our new home very soon. Such an exciting time for our organisation and the children are thrilled!



Since our last newsletter Nadia joined our family in November 2015. Nadia is Remy's sister who had been 'missing' for some time and it was only at their mother's funeral that she was brought back to her family.

As is sadly quite common in Tanzania Nadia had been 'sold' to do domestic work at a very young age. When she was only 5 years old she was sent to work picking marijuana and wasn't given any kind of education or playtime. When Nadia came to our home she was very shy and her language skills were limited. She hardly knew how to play and had trouble understanding the concept because she had never been given the opportunity to just be a kid and have fun. Nadia has slowly adapted to life in our home and is now such a happy little girl.



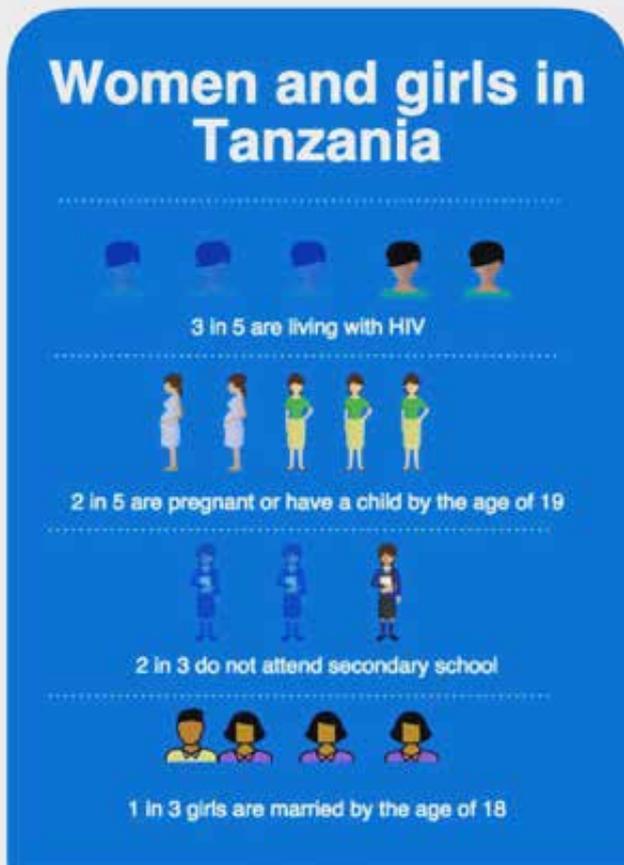
She is still shy but she knows she is safe and she loves getting to know her new brothers and sisters. It was wonderful to see her reunited with Remy and for us to be able to keep them together for the rest of their lives. We chose for her to stay at home for

the first term of school to help her catch up on the basics (numbers, alphabet, social interactions etc) and I am very happy to say that she started school in May this year. The teachers at school are giving her some extra help two afternoons a week and she is catching up to the others in her class very quickly. Her favourite thing to do is colouring in.

Nadia's story is exactly the reason we do what we do. Before she came to our home her future was bleak and I hate to even think what may have happened to her. Now her future is bright and she has the opportunity to be anything she wants to be. This is what gives me the drive and inspiration to keep doing what we do and to expand our organisation so that we can help more children. Nadia's life has changed immeasurably and she now has a chance to be happy, successful and to choose what she will do. When she was far too young those choices were taken from her and I am very proud to say that with your help we have been able to give her security, love and opportunity.

“ I could not be more grateful for these kind and dedicated women!

Below is a graphic from Unicef Tanzania that depicts the many challenges women face in this country that amplifies why what we do is so important in this community.



Staff

Our Mamas are managed by the incredible Fatuma and she does an amazing job! She is a single mum herself with a 3 year old and works harder than anyone I know. Since our last newsletter one of our Mamas, **Zuhura**, left to have a baby of her own, but we have been lucky to have **Sarafina** and **Latifa** join our staff to help care for the children. Latifa now lives on site with **Deborah** and Sarafina comes in each day to help with the ever growing laundry and cleaning. These women not only support their own families, but they care for our kids as part of their family as well. They are the ones who sit with them in the night if they are sick or have a bad dream, who help them with their homework, play games with them, feed them and guide them in the world.

I could not be more grateful for these kind and dedicated women!

We have recently hired a Tanzanian Project Manager called **Wilson**. He has a background in Business and Social Work and is a fantastic addition to our team. He is in charge of the management of the home and all of the legal requirements with Social Welfare, the Tax Office and other Government Agencies. He is a former street kid so he has personal insight into how the kids feel as well as extensive training and qualifications in Social Welfare. I'm excited to have him on board to help me and to assist in us taking the organization to the next level. It also means that we are now exclusively Tanzanian run In-Country, which is something that I am very proud of. That is a total of 7 paid staff in Tanzania (plus our building manager **Amani!**). We are here to create change in all areas including supporting the community and being a part of the change we believe in for the whole country.

With a new President at the helm there are a lot of positive changes happening in Tanzania which include providing better and more consistent services and forcing government agencies to effectively follow protocols and be accountable for their services. This is a much-needed change and is very positive for our organisation because it supports us more effectively and also allows us to be properly recognised for the work that we do.



From left: Fatuma, Latifa, Carley, Sarafina, Deborah

School

Sabina our eldest was struggling in an academic environment and while we tried to help her complete her O levels it just wasn't right for her. We found a hospitality training course for her, run by an International Organisation called Jobortunity and she loves it. She started in November 2015 and did 3 months of school based training and is now in a system where she does 3 weeks on the job training and 1 week at school each month. The course runs for a year and she has very good potential to gain employment at one of the work placements when she completes the course. We are hopeful that this will work well for her.

As she is the eldest we are also in the process of developing our "Age Out" Policies and Programs which will also include Life Skills training to ensure when our kids do head out on their own they have the necessary knowledge and emotional readiness to manage it.

It's an exciting new chapter in what we do.



All the kids are going well in school and enjoying their studies. **Kelvin** and **Yohana** are quite skilled football players and often represent their school in competitions.



Remy and **Anjelina** started Nursery Classes in January and they are both doing very well. Remy is showing himself to be a force to be reckoned with at just 4 years old! He has already decided he wants to be a Doctor and while his first assessment at school wasn't great and he was put into a class that needed extra attention, he has excelled and was number one in his class at the end of first term. Remy didn't let his tragic past get in the way of his future success; he used the extra care received from the teachers and support from our home and now he's number one out of 38 kids. What a superstar! When Remy came to us he needed two major life saving surgeries as a result of neglect in the environment where he lived before coming to Ujamaa. The fact that he now wants to be a doctor is another example of the impact our home can have on these kids. If you ask Remy what he needs to do to be a Doctor he says, "I have to pass all the subjects!" We look forward to supporting him on this journey.



Building

The building has moved ahead in leaps and bounds and as we finish of the last few things we will be moving the kids into their new home in the coming weeks. What a fantastic achievement! This is the culmination of over 2 years work and is vital to the forward movement of our organisation. There are so many generous people who helped us achieve this goal and I am so excited to get the kids into the place that they can call home until they are adults.

Since our last update we have:

- Put in ceilings
- Plastered and painted the walls
- Finished tiling
- Installed windows
- Installed toilets, showers and hot water heaters
- Bought a new stove and fridge
- Installed all lighting fixtures
- Put on skirting
- Put in a retaining wall for the playground area
- Cut and cleared the playground area
- Made the perimeter wall higher

The installation of doors and wardrobes is happening now as well as kitchen cabinetry.

Only a few more steps to go and then we will be in our new home. I will send an update as soon as we are there!



Our Next Event

Our Annual Cocktail Party will be held in Melbourne on July 28th at Glamp Cocktail Bar. This is our biggest event of the year and is not to be missed.

Tickets are \$75 per person – to book email: ujamaa.children@gmail.com

UJAMAA FOUNDATION

Annual Cocktail Party



When: Thursday July 28th 7pm - 10pm

Where: Glamp Cocktail Bar Level 1&2,
267 Little Collins St Melbourne

Tickets \$75 per person

Drinks and Canapes provided

Silent Auction and Giveaways!

Over 18's only

Special Guest MC - David Mchome

Pre-Booking is Essential

email ujamaa.children@gmail.com for tickets

Giving Orphaned Children in Tanzania a Home
www.ujamaachildren.com



Extra Activities

Roslyn Andrews, one of our Trustees from the Ujamaa Foundation in Australia came to visit in March 2016 and had a wonderful time with the kids and seeing the progress of the building. In the holidays we took the kids out to the Snake Park. They were able to ride camels and also see many different types of reptiles and birds. Roslyn was especially impressed with the improvement in how the kids speak English and the overall running of the organisation.



A note from Roslyn Andrews:

John and I had a wonderful trip to Tanzania as usual. We love to see the children grow and to share as many activities as possible with them. We were lucky enough to enjoy Easter with them and the children excelled in creating their baskets for the 'egg' delivery.

Whenever we are with the children, we wish that all supporters of Ujamaa could have the opportunity to see the joy and comfort that the 'Home' brings to all the children. Our special thanks to the Mamas. They do an incredible job.



Ride to the Divide – Charity Bike Ride

Massive thanks to Airport Toyota especially **Pas** (pictured) and Ride to the Divide, which raised \$5000 for our home in November 2015! It was such an incredible new event and everyone who participated was thrilled.



This will be an annual event so if you like the lycra, get on your bike and register for this year's event on November 6th – www.ridetothedivide.com.au

UK Trust



Our long time friend and Director of Ujamaa Children's Trust UK, **Imy Fisher**, came to visit us for a week over New Years. Imy took the kids on lots of different adventures while they were on school holidays. They were especially excited to go swimming – their favourite activity. Imy also bought a load of new items from the UK Trust such as new sports shoes, towel, sheets, pillows and kitchen items. The kids adore spending time with Imy and they often spend their afternoons having impromptu dance parties and photo shoots.

Imy and I met in 2006 as volunteers in Kenya and volunteered together again in Tanzania 2007 which is where my journey in the amazing country began. Imy has been involved in the home since the very beginning and will always be a member of our family. Come back again soon!

Very soon I will have news of the completion of our new house. This represents the next phase of growth and development of our organisation and will allow us to expand our project in a number of ways.

Thanks you as always for your support and generosity!

Carley Andrews
Director

Fundraising

Thank you to all the wonderfully creative and dedicated people raising money for our home. Here are some of the highlights:

- Elma Drayton (my grandmother who passed away in December 2015) donated **\$20,000** to our building
- The Ujamaa Children's Trust UK raised over **\$10,000** towards our building! They also sponsor 3 of our kids and help to cover all the general costs for our home.
- Andrews and Wallis Motor Group donated **\$10,000** towards our building
- Natty Seeff climbed Mt Kilimanjaro and raised over **5,000 pounds** for our building
- The Ujamaa Foundation raised over **\$1,300** at the Movie Night
- The Ujamaa Foundation raised **\$750** at the Ride to the Divide Sausage Sizzle
- Ride to the Divide, as mentioned above, raised **\$5,000**.

Our Fundraising Committee in Australia has been established and is doing wonderful things to help us grow and raise much-needed funds to support our work in Tanzania. Huge thanks to Kara Lowe who is now our Fundraising Coordinator! Kara is an amazing addition to our team and is working hard to spread the word about what we do. Thanks also to our other members including Galia Hardy, Kate McCarthy, Katja Matters, Raine Price, Wendy Ray, Susan Bradley and Robyn Karas.

If you would like to join our committee or host an event please contact me:
ujamaa.children@gmail.com

