

FRIENDS SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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FRI-SUCODE SPEECH TO THE GUEST OF HONOR

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is my great honor and pleasure to express my sincere and warmest greetings thanks to all of you attending this memorable and momentous occasion. My mind cannot help but utter the sweet and famous line of a poet: "Thanks" is the best one single most beautiful and powerful prayer can offer.

To the Lord Almighty, the source of Wisdom, for the special gift and blessing of this colorful and splendid gathering;

To the ever-dynamic District Commissioner of Arumeru for creating an enabling and peaceful environment in which we work who happens to be the guest of honor today;

To Jorg Schwarze who is our chief guest today;

To the vibrant and supportive German friend, Eckard Crause who authored and sponsored the bill of NVCTC project.

To the special guests of FRI-SUCODE who are invited here today;

To the equally cause-oriented Board of Nambala School for its overwhelming vote of trust and confidence whose C/man, Joseph Mushi, has been particularly a strong and towering pillar of support;

To the Nambala Community at large;

Good morning.

Let me begin by saying that the long and arduous struggles, sleepless nights, and hard work are finally rewarded. Today, we are at the brink of making an history. We are now part and parcel of the big league of ICT transformation change in the country.

This precious moment marks the beginning of a new chapter in the life of Nambala village whose history of academic excellence and of producing great leaders is well-documented. Now, I humbly request the guest of honor to consider opening the Nambala Education Resource Centre, albeit, filled with hope and joyful anticipation to better serve our countrymen in this part of the country.

A. Organizational Overview

FRI-SUCODE mission is to bridge the technological gap between Privately funded schools

and public schools (government run schools) in Tanzania that lack the budget for computer education and technology. Located about 10 kilometers from Arusha, the public schools we are focusing on are the Kikwe Primary and Secondary School, Nganana Primary school, Nambala Primary School, Uraki Secondary School, and Laki Tatu Secondary School. These schools are in a low income community that consists of about 20,000 families. With over 15 corporate volunteers, FRI-SUCODE can offer a broad range of technology related services to the students. Their acquired computer education will help improve their chances of employment upon graduation.

B. Description of Programs

FRI-SUCODE works to bring computer access, education and economic opportunities to secondary and primary school students. The program will benefit at least 500 low income students in the area per annum.

The training for the use of the computers and basic software will be managed by the corporate volunteers of FRI-SUCODE. The training will be offered after school hours to targeted students.

ACCESS:

To ensure that the students have access to computer related technologies, we are planning to

operate an CENTRE FOR TRAINING AND COMMUNICATION at Nambala Primary School where students from these schools will attend. The centre will operate six days a week for 40 hours to offer Internet access; word processing, graphic design, computer tutorials and technical support programs to those students and the community at large.

C. Population Groups Served

FRI-SUCODE serves people of all ages and backgrounds at Nambala area. We plan to continue serving approximately 300 people a week 75% of which are children and teenagers.

FRI-SUCODE's mission is to reach out to public schools by way of our corporate volunteers' skills. This has aided thousands of low income students since 2011. Our volunteers have contributed their time for reading literacy programs, sports coaching, field outings, cooking, baking and sewing.

Despite its proximity to the Arusha Town, this community has not reaped the benefits of the technological revolution due to:

1. The transportation cost being high since most of the daladalas are not passing

through Nambala on their way to town.

- 2. Awareness of the community members.
- 3. Poverty among most of the families around.
- 4. Unavailability of ICT facilities within the nearby proximity.

In our usual humble way, We are most happy to say that in the past years that the following outputs were attained:

- i. Support 91 Orphans and vulnerable children with school uniform, school fees, school contribution, exercise books, and psychosocial support, shelter.
- Supporting with text books to Kikwe sec school, Nambala Pr, Ngana Pr, Nganana and Nambala nursery. over six million spent.
- iii. Singisi VCT supported with various equipments in Catering, Mansonry, Electricity over 3,000,000/=spent.
- iv. 30 house hold provided with Diary goats
- v. Built and furniture one class for Nganana Nursery School.
- vi. Roofing once class for Numbala nursery School.
- vii. Provision of three swing to Nambala Nursery school.
- viii. Provision of various sports gears to schools and community team(Football and Netball).
- ix. One microfinance group Identified and trained on saving and lending.
- x. Provision of medical equipments at West Meru District Hospital.

CHALLENGES

"Nobility, Solidarity, and Unity"

As an NGO the metaphor behind it is that there is more that lies ahead for us waiting to be done. There will be bigger and excruciating responsibilities and steeper tasks that lie wide open on our doorstep, calling our immediate attention and unflagging teamwork. With its undying zeal, the FRI-SUCODE motto which briskly stands as "Nobility, Solidarity and Unity" is our guiding light when we take off and sail a new path today and in the days to come. The values of unity, team work, love, cooperation, hope, faith, and understanding that helped us assail to the apex of our dream is our stance to make everything possible. Let it clothe us then, and we should be fully inspired to let these spirit and force continuously thrive and empower.

While addressing the challenges I have just mentioned, let me also lay down the true groundwork and foundation of this Administration's future plans.

- To ensure that the building is whole completed;
- To equip the building with computer and furniture facilities;
- To undertake capacity building programs to schools teachers;
- To mobilize the community members for their support in ensuring that all targeted students are all served;

To effectively implement all these future plans, we must have the courage and wisdom to pursue the collective tasks and shared responsibility with energy, synergy and God-driven leadership.

My friends, FRI-SUCODE which we are envisioning is one that continues to care for our people, for the family, for the poor, for the old, for the young, for the weak and for the vulnerable and helpless, while NVCTC ensuring cohesion, competitiveness and strength of NVCTC as a whole.

All of us must have the courage and wisdom to grasp the opportunities now before us. As we move onward and realize the principles and policies that we all believed in, let us join all our hands in reaching out. We have started but we cannot do it alone; even the facilitative staff cannot do it by themselves. Each of you is a part and parcel of this institution: government, parents, and members of the community. All of you have a share of burden with the biggest challenges that lies ahead of us.

Like eagles, let us mount up our wings and soar high the vast skies where we all can reach our dream, and together, there, we will proudly say and claim, "This is our Beloved Nambala Educational Resource Centre".

God Bless!