



EDUCATE. EMPOWER. ENRICH

STUDENTS EXCEL IN NATIONAL TESTING! Father Robert Aliunzi

Saint Thomas Aquinas College Erepi (STACE), may be only a few years old, but it has already made its mark and reputation for excellence! Recent Uganda National Examination results revealed that our students can compete with the best schools in Uganda both in academics and in sports. STACE emerged the second-best performing school in the region with our pioneer student candidates achieving a 100% success rate in the national examination results! When I visited STACE earlier this year with Micki Schroeder, our E3Africa board chair, we witnessed firsthand, the incredible leadership and commitment of our Principal, Executive Director, and staff. They all work so hard to make STACE a model school academically, socially, and spiritually. This has resulted in highly motivated and disciplined students, eager to learn and excel. We are immensely proud of our students and the staff! Thank you for supporting our students and the school! Knowing that strangers over 9,000 miles away love and care for them has a profound effect on these young people. We are so grateful for all your support. You are indeed changing lives! Happy Easter!



E3 Africa Founder,
Rev. Robert Aliunzi



Arizona Gives Day is April 4, 2024! Click to support E3 Africa

MARCH, 2024

Newsletter Highlights

E3 Africa Founder, Rev. Robert S. Aliunzi: Students Excel in National Testing

New Lighiing Installed at School Increase Student Safety

E3 Africa Board Chair, Micki Schroeder Visits St. Thomas Aquinas College Erepi and attends Peace Conference

E3 Africa's upcoming Golf-for-a-Cause Event

Agricultural Update

Visit E3 Africa's Arizona Gives Day Page to make a donation in support of E3 Africa's Mission to Educate, Empower and Enrich the Orphaned and Impoverished children in Uganda.



SCAN HERE



MARCH 2024

E3 Africa Board Chair on her Visit to STACE

By: Micki Schroeder

I had the wonderful opportunity to spend time with the students and staff at St. Thomas Aquinas College, Erepi, and it was truly incredible. I was constantly surrounded by people and had someone to guide me wherever I went, thankfully reminding me of names as I greeted everyone. It felt like a celebrity – an absolutely surreal experience!



The main purpose of my trip to Uganda was to contribute content for the Peace Convention scheduled for the end of January 2024. I collaborated with various professionals to deliver valuable content to the participants, as outlined below:

- Historical Perspective Towards Peace
- Peace in the learning Institutions
- Impact of National Peace in Education
- The Role of Traditional Leaders in Building and Keeping Peace

My primary content topic was on Peace Building in Community. Besides leading the students through this convention, I had the opportunity to explore school and farm facilities, meet local leadership, staff, and most importantly, spend time with the students and alumni.

Everyone expressed their gratitude for the incredible and successful efforts made by E3 Africa leadership, donors, and sponsors for their continued support and prayers for the school and the sponsored students.

As I was able to meet with alumni students who have found fruitful lives despite the difficulties they faced in their childhood as pharmacists, architects, teachers, accomplished painters, and attorneys. There are many more alumni out there, these are the few that I was able to speak with during my visit.



Enhanced Campus Security Features at St. Thomas Aquinas College Erepi



Thanks to the generosity of a major private donor and the parish of St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church the campus security features have been significantly improved. The installation began on Monday, January 15th, and completed on Wednesday, January 17th. Thirty solar-powered lights have been installed on poles along the perimeter fence of the 30-hectare land, providing an added layer of security and beautifying the campus at night. The significance of providing light in the darkness for the students is profound!



MARCH 2024



SAVE THE DATE!

April 27, 2023

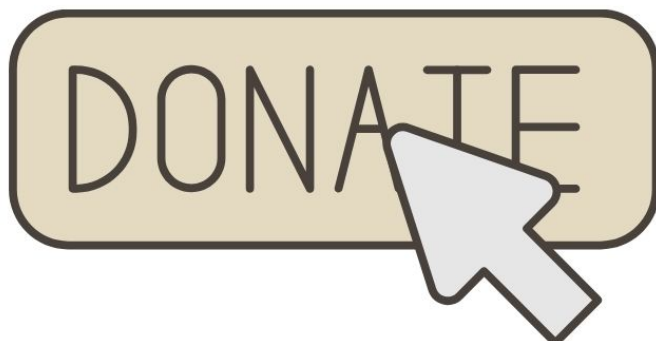
TOPGOLF Glendale
6101 N. 99th Ave
Glendale, AZ

E3 AFRICA GOLF FOR-A-CAUSE!

Join us on April 27 10am-1pm: Golf-For-A-Cause!

Help us raise money for our mission, while relaxing at beautiful Top Golf Glendale. Food, t-shirts, a great cause, what could be better? Everyone welcome, no golf skills required! It's all for fun and to support the students in Uganda. Contact Kristin Smith kristin@e3africa.org for more information or to register to play!

Can't join us? No problem! You can still help by sponsoring Father Robert, Sister Betty, or any of your favorite E3 Golfers and volunteers. Details at e3africa.org or click the DONATE button below to support a golfer. Don't miss the fun!!



Thanks to E3 Africa's Golf For-A-Cause Sponsors!



Lovingly donated by CB Long and Family

In Memory Of
Chaplain (MAJ) Fr. Charles Watters

T-Shirt Sponsor



Food Sponsor

Beverage Sponsor

STACE Agricultural Development
JOE WELLER

During this last visit to the U.S., Joseph Ambayo (EENU's Executive Director), had an opportunity to meet with several donors interested in developing agriculture at STACE. As part of this visit, he was able to visit high schools, Brazosport College, the College of the Ozarks (known as Hard Work University) and several farms. As background, many of our sponsored students come from some of the poorest of families in Uganda, existing on less than a \$1 a day and eat what they can grow in small garden plots. Hunger is a common every day experience.

Two years ago, Rosalie Weller, co-founder of E3 Africa, generously donated the funding for one hundred acres of farmland near the school. This incredible gift of farmland created an opportunity to educate, enrich, and empower the students attending our growing school, St. Thomas Aquinas College at Erripi (STACE). At the time, no one knew how vital the farm would become to the sustainability of the school.

With this grant, agricultural education was added to the curriculum of the school, as required by Uganda's recent educational directive. The goal of this directive was to encourage the teaching of vocational and practical skills, in addition to traditional academics. STACE, to support its accreditation, needs to provide more than just junior and high school level academics. Uganda is urging vocational skills training in practical areas such as agriculture, woodshop, welding, food service and other skills. The development of our agricultural component at STACE, is exemplified by its Young Farmers Club, helping to grow crops to supplement the school's basic food sources of corn mash (posho) and beans. With their efforts, the school seeks to expand their diet by supplementing with fruit and vegetables from the school garden. Recent world events have caused the cost of food to more than double in all of Uganda and other African countries. What this means for students at boarding schools, such as STACE, that the cost of food has risen from 20% to 50% of the cost of education. To meet this cost increase, many schools in Uganda have limited the length of the school terms. Up to this time, STACE has not been forced to limit its school terms. Since food is a major cost of education, efforts to improve food independence is an important way to insure the sustainability of the school and provide additional revenue for future development.

Agriculture, as a vocational component, benefits the students, STACE, and community in several ways.

Direct agriculture education at a basic level. This provides a skill that can be taken back to their families and village. An example might be high intensity square-foot gardening.

Crops grown at the farm with mechanical agriculture are targeted at making the school self-sufficient and providing developmental revenue. The current planning program has a goal of 50 metric tons of corn to meet the needs of 700 students and staff when harvested in the fall, to provide food for the 2025 year. Rice, soy beans, and casava are also being developed at the farm, as well as, vegetables and greens in the plots at the campus. Students take field trips to the farm to see mechanized farming and learn about the expanding program there.

There are future goals to add goats for milk, pigs, bees, and other fruits and vegetables.

Currently, as a further result of Joseph's visit to the US, several donors combined their efforts to fund chickens and chicken coops which will provide eggs for the school. The foundation of this building has now been laid, and when complete in March, the school will have approximately 500 hens, providing an estimated 250 eggs a day and fertilizer for the student gardens. E3 Africa extends a special thank you to the Ehrhart and Schaffer families for this much needed addition to the students and the sustainability of the school.

MARCH 2024

STACE AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT Continued

A long term plan has been developed with local and US experts for continued development of the farm. Current improvements, clearing additional crop land, adding a new well, revitalization of the current well, and solar pump tanks for limited irrigation are in progress, due to the generous donations from the Ellebracht, Mergen, and Weller families. E3 Africa also extends its thanks to the Rostossi family for the John Deere tractor, planter, and farm implements.

(photos of equipment/improvements)

While in the US, Joseph had an opportunity to visit with the key staff of College of the Ozarks, in Branson, MO. This college was set up in 1906, to allow disadvantaged/poor students to get a college education. As part of their education, the students worked in various farm programs to offset their educational costs. Currently this model school, continues to operate today, teaching over 80 vocational skills and providing jobs that allow the students to cover the tuition of the school.

As our vision for STACE goes forward, new paths to education will be created to enrich the lives of additional underprivileged students, beyond the current sponsored students. STACE's goal is to have classes with about 50% sponsored students and 50% self-paying students from the community. There is a third category of potential students whose families cannot afford any or all of the tuition and do not have sponsors, but might be able to attend based on the College of the Ozark method, where they can earn part or all of the tuition by working in various programs.



Maize Cultivation



John Deer Planter (Individual donor provided)

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