

**"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."
Galations 6:9**



**2021 ANNUAL APPEAL:
O'BRIEN SCHOOL FOR
THE MAASAI**

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

As someone that has participated in a large number of high functioning boards and who's had the good fortune to experience the cultures of many countries, it is with great conviction and humility that I share my involvement with the O'Brien School for the Maasai as being the most rewarding engagement of my life. I cannot point to a project more representative of what is possible when a diverse group of people is so wholly committed to a vision for a better future.

I was there when our first shipping container arrived at the school and for the construction of the first classrooms. I returned to build fences, interview and hire staff, and sit through the lesson plans as a student myself. Again and again, the school called upon me, the familiar faces and the loving community drew me in and invited me back.

I have witnessed the elation of graduation, and at the same time, I have seen first-hand the incredible adversity this village has overcome. And the adversity never stops. Now it is a terrible drought and a world changed by the pandemic. I share all this because I implore you to support this school. Everything this school represents to me - education, hope, community, collaboration, and resolve - it has brought the absolute best out of me, and I truly believe that in supporting the school, it will bring the best out of you.

God Bless you all abundantly,
David Bacon
& the entire Board of Directors



ANNUAL APPEAL

At O'Brien School, our mission is to make high-quality education accessible to Sanya Station village and beyond, **helping shepherds become scholars and future leaders**. Alongside our teachers, staff, and community leaders, we work to equip our nearly 400 students with the skills and qualities they need to change lives for generations to come.

Our Maasai village is in great need. They have not had rain since May, and this is a village that depends on their goats, sheep, and cows for survival. There is no grass for the livestock to eat and they are beginning to starve. The Maasai are herders, raisers of animals for many decades. They live in hope that tomorrow will be different. Science is telling us that Africa will be suffering through many years of drought and famine.

God called us to be more than just a school, but to answer the call of the needy. Please join us in fighting the cycle of poverty through our programs.

OUR IMPACT AND GOALS

Academics

Goal: \$59,400

OBSM is consistently ranked in the top 10% of schools in our district, and we have graduates that have gone on to become the pride of our village. Attracting and maintaining the highest level of teaching talent is crucial to our success. **Donate \$3,500 and you would cover the average annual salary for one of our teachers.**

149,000

hot meals served to our students per year

Faith

Goal: \$100,000

We instill values of kindness, respect, service, and love through character building activities and a longstanding partnership with sisters from the nearby Franciscan Capuchin convent and local pastors. **Donate to the school for the holistic development of our students.** The ripple effect is evident throughout the entire community.

80,000

seeds planted in our garden annually to add nutritious vegetables to students' diets

Health

Goal: \$5,000

We work to ensure the health and wellbeing of all students and staff by preventing the spread of illness, ensuring students eat two healthy meals per day, and providing necessary health education. **Donate \$15 per student to help us prevent and respond to their critical health needs.**

100%

of our 38 administrators, teachers, and support staff members are Tanzanian.

Opportunity

Goal: \$2,500

We promote women as leaders. We offer opportunities for women in vocational trades, such as tailoring, agribusiness, jewelry making, and other small business. **Donate to the entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and skills-building activities for women in OBSM-supported businesses.**

50%

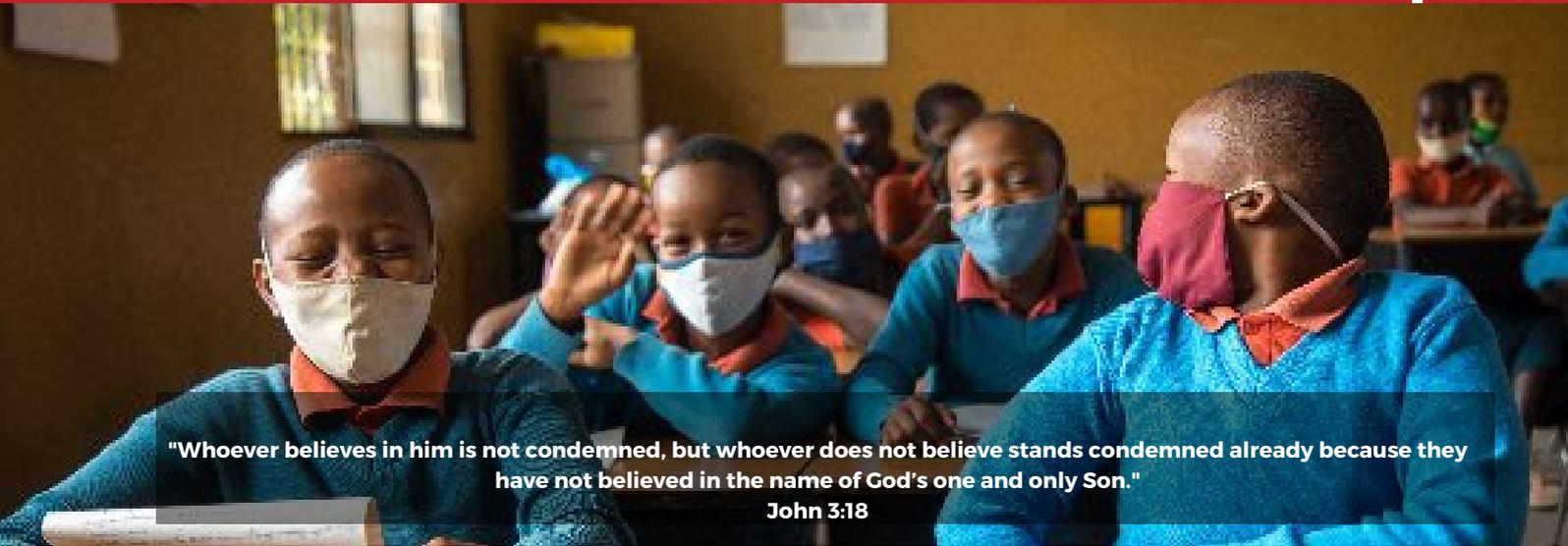
of enrolled students are girls



As a private school, we charge \$400 per student per year to cover our operating costs. In 2021, our families could only afford **27%** of their fees. **In order to continue serving this community, we need your help subsidizing the costs of educating our students.**

In 2021, we were able to send a 40' shipping container to the village. Because of the support of other organizations, our students have the advantage of receiving enough meals for two years, donated shoes and clothes to protect our villagers, and enriching art lessons in addition to their high quality education. ASANTE, ASHE, THANK YOU to these organizations for your support this year and beyond: **Christ Church of Oak Brook, Notre Dame Parish in Clarendon Hills, National Charity League, How to Draw a Lion, Feed My Starving Children, LuminAid, Home Depot, and Quaker Oats.**

INVEST IN THE FUTURES OF MAASAI YOUTH



"Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son."
John 3:18

WE NEED SUSTAINING FUNDS NOW MORE THAN EVER

YOUR DONATION CAN SUPPORT

\$1000

Clean water system
maintenance

\$500

Twenty solar lamps for
students

\$400

Annual school fees for a
student

\$275

One month salary for a
teacher

\$140

Meals for one student
for one year

\$100

Contribute to the
school's operating fund

\$20

Seeds for our 2-acre
garden

The Journey of this school is filled with immense dedication from you, our supporters, and Tanzanian villagers who are always guided by the belief that:

"We can do no great things, but only small things with great love."

- Mother Teresa

The O'Brien School for the Maasai is a 501(c)3. All donations go to the school and special programs and are tax-deductible to the full extent provided by law.



Donate to give the gift of education! Please mail checks to **527 W. Maple St., Hinsdale, IL 60521** or visit our website to securely donate by credit or debit card.