

August 2023



VEGA EDUCATION FUND



www.vegaeducation.org



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OUR VISION

A quality educational system that is fully accessible to all, regardless of income level or location.

OUR MISSION

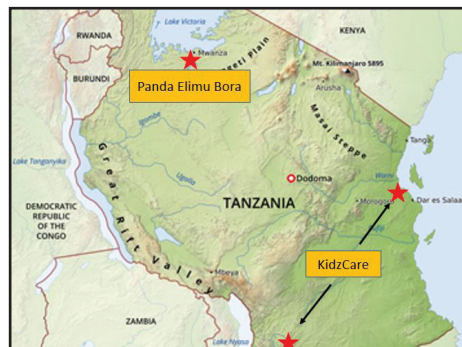
To provide opportunities for quality secondary education to academically promising, disadvantaged students in developing countries, beginning with Tanzania.

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“The direction in which education starts a person will determine their future life.” -Plato-

MEET OUR PARTNER CHARITIES!

Vega Education Fund partners with two on-the-ground charitable organizations in Tanzania, who have experience working with kids and are passionate about education. This allows us to sponsor students from three locations within the country (see map).



Panda Elimu Bora



Vega Education's founders, Leah and Tim Katerberg, helped to start Panda Elimu Bora (which means, in Swahili, "Stepping Up into Better Education") when they were living in Mwanza, Tanzania a few years ago. It was clear to them that high school education is critical to breaking the cycle of poverty, but there was no charity in Mwanza that was suitable for this kind of partnership. Panda Elimu Bora now has its official charitable status in Tanzania and is run by dedicated and compassionate Tanzanian friends living in Mwanza. Panda Elimu Bora identifies promising students from surrounding

villages, screens them for academic history and level of need, selects quality high schools, works with schools to ensure the students have everything they need and are working hard to succeed, and monitors their progress.

KidzCare



KidzCare provides a home for orphaned, abused or neglected children, giving them the chance to grow up in a happy, safe and secure home environment. They also prioritize education for these children, to give them a future. Since its early beginnings of teaching children under the trees in the villages, KidzCare has grown to having four Early Childhood Education centres with 300 children and two Primary Schools with 350 children enrolled. As they do not engage in high school education, our partnership with them is a perfect fit: we sponsor some of their most promising students to receive a quality secondary education, taking the baton, as it were, once these students complete grade 8. KidzCare has an exciting project on the horizon – they are partnering with the government to build a high school in Kyela, where it is desperately needed. This will mean some of the future students Vega sponsors in the Kyela area will be able to go to school much closer to home!

NEZIA'S STORY



Nezia was born in Musoma, a city that is a few hours' drive from Mwanza along the coast of Lake Victoria. Her parents own a small plot of land on which they farm and sell food at the local market to provide for their seven children.

Two years ago, Nezia's father had a significant injury to his foot which made it very difficult for him to continue farming. Nezia's village chairman wrote to Panda Elimu Bora (one of Vega Education's local partners) advocating for Nezia to be considered for sponsorship as her family was in a very desperate state. Upon visiting the home, Panda staff decided to provide transportation for Nezia's father to be brought to the hospital for medical attention. Nezia's application for sponsorship was approved and she was enrolled into high school at the start of 2022.

Since then, Nezia has gained a reputation for being a hardworking student. She routinely asks for extra help from her teachers when she does not understand something. She regularly attends nonmandatory study time with other students to ensure that she is attaining the best possible grades she can. Although she had good grades when entering high school, her grades continued to improve throughout her first year. Her final examinations from that year showed evidence of her hard work, and she received an academic award from the school!

Nezia is very determined to perform well in school so she can pursue a career in Nursing. Nezia is very grateful for her sponsorship, which she sees as an opportunity to rise above generational poverty.

BEATA'S STORY

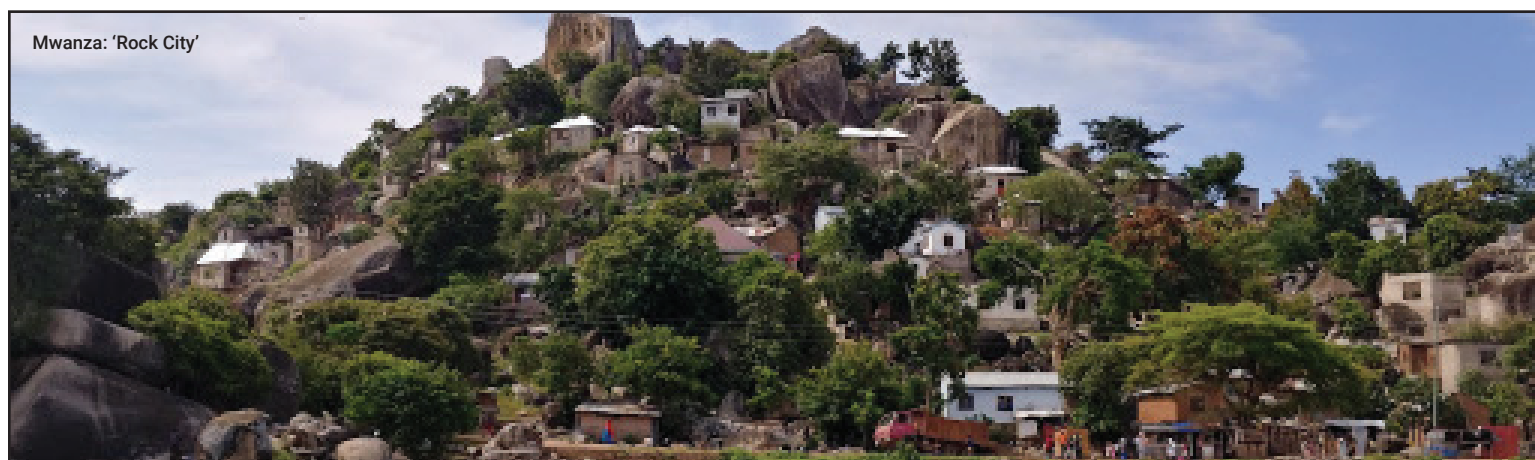


Beata was born on a small island in Lake Victoria. Her father was a fisherman, and the family made a meagre income by selling fish at the local market. Sadly, in 2019 Beata's father drowned in Lake Victoria while fishing.

A District Education Officer from Beata's area wrote to Panda Elimu Bora, one of Vega Education's local partners, on Beata's mother's behalf, asking for assistance with her daughter's education. Panda visited the home to find that Beata's mother was raising four children on her own, with little to no support. She could not afford the basic needs of all four of her children, let alone providing them with a good education. Despite this, Beata's school marks showed that she had potential, as she performed very well in her final examinations.

Beata's application for sponsorship was approved, and she started attending one of our partner schools in Mwanza. At the beginning of her first year, Beata's grades struggled due to the language barrier (only very basic English is taught in public primary schools). However, she has improved tremendously as her English comprehension has grown, thanks to extra help in this subject.

Beata enjoys her life at school. She has made many new friends and is eager to ask questions in class. one day, Beata wishes to pursue a career in medicine to apply her education and help those in need. She is very grateful to all the sponsors who have made it possible for her to have this opportunity!



Mwanza: 'Rock City'

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