



# Erokamano!

Summer 2019 | Friends of KMMA-CAITHS (501c3)

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## FRIENDS OF KMMA-CAITHS

**Mission:** working together to save lives and improve the prospects of the men, women, and children of Rusinga Island, Kenya, by supporting sustainable and safe solutions for education, health, nutrition, and sanitation through our partnership with the Kathy and Mike McNulty Academy (KMMA) and the community-based organization Centre for Advocacy and Interventions on Talent, Healthcare, and Sanitation (CAITHS).



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## *School library opens at KMMA*

Every school needs a library! In the United States, these have mostly transformed into “Media Centers,” but in rural Kenya – where resources are scarce, and electricity scarcer – the need is for good, old-fashioned books. Most households on Rusinga Island are not able to afford books, and a school library offers students the opportunity to read for both education and enjoyment.

When KMMA opened in 2016, there weren’t sufficient funds to include a library in the planning. This deficiency has been rectified, thanks to Kelly Makino and the Makino and Lukens families. To honor the wedding of Bill Lukens and Star George, they funded the construction of a school library and the purchase of books to fill the shelves. The Makino donation was generously matched by Capital Group ([capitalgroup.com](http://capitalgroup.com)).

The library now has 150 books – including story books, course books, and teacher guides – chosen by the KMMA faculty. It is open during school hours, and students can check out items for up to one week. If you would like to help purchase more resources for the library, you can do so by visiting [kmma-caiths.org](http://kmma-caiths.org) and clicking on the **DONATE** button. Unfortunately, we can no longer carry books to Kenya due to new tariff enforcement.



**Above:** the Kathy and Mike McNulty Academy school library. Currently more than 150 story books, course books, and teacher guides are available to the students, faculty, and staff of KMMA.

“We need to **MOBILIZE THE COMMUNITY** to learn about health, sanitation, HIV, and forces that contribute to our poverty.”

- Charles Okongo,  
Head Teacher, KMMA

## *Welcome to the new Grade Three*

The Kathy and Mike McNulty Academy was able to add a new grade this year, Grade Three, to continue educating students up to 10 years of age. This class solidifies the status of KMMA as a lower primary school - from Baby Class (3 yrs.) to Grade Three (10 yrs.) - and fills up the last available space in the buildings rented by the school! We are pleased to welcome Calvince Adian’g to the KMMA faculty as the new Grade Three teacher. Mr. Adian’g comes from the nearby village of Kasgunga on the mainland.

Although it is hoped that KMMA can add new grades in years to come, current students graduating from Grade Three should now be old enough to undertake the much longer commute to a new school for Grade Four.





## One size fits all?



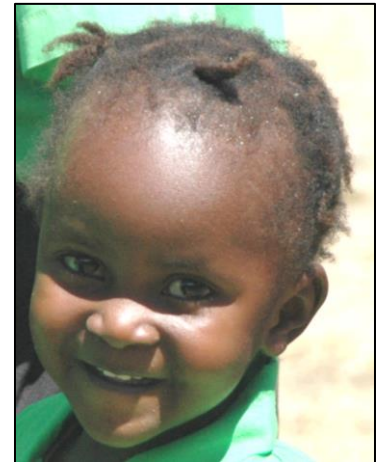
One difficulty faced by parents in *every* country is keeping children in shoes that fit. Among impoverished Kenyans, maintaining suitable footwear for a child can be financially impossible, resulting in many children who have little or no protection on their feet.

Thanks to our generous donors, each KMMA student receives the “Shoe that Grows” (becauseinternational.org): an innovative, sturdy covered sandal that expands up to FIVE sizes as the child grows.



## How much is a “Smile” worth?

Amazon is one of the biggest retail companies in the world, but not everyone has heard of their charity division: AmazonSmile. When you use AmazonSmile, you can designate a charity to whom Amazon will make a small donation for every dollar spent. Of course, you can choose any charity that is already registered with the company, but we hope you’ll choose **FRIENDS OF KMMA-CAITHS!**



- Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)



- Follow the prompt to choose an organization



- Use [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) instead of the regular site for all Amazon purchases





### Student Spotlight: Wendy Sheryl

Our spotlight for this edition is on Grade 2 student Wendy Sheryl. Wendy sets a shining example for her classmates not only in the classroom, but in maintaining proper hygiene for herself and her surroundings. She regularly volunteers to assist the KMMA hygiene officer, always remembers to keep her hands washed, and kindly assists other students when they need to see the school nurse. Thank you, Wendy, for your kindness and helpfulness!

### Christ the King: helping to improve children's lives on Rusinga Island

When residents and visitors in Northern Michigan decide to give, they give from the heart! After listening to Katy McNulty McCormick speak at Mass last summer, the families at Christ the King (Acme, MI) generously donated funds to help the less fortunate halfway around the world. **BUT, THAT WASN'T THE END OF THEIR GIVING.** Christ the King parish also placed KMMA on their list of organizations supported by the Sunday children's collection, and they collected and donated school supplies through Vacation Bible School.

This incredible response enabled FRIENDS OF KMMA-CAITHS to expand support for children on Rusinga. The money collected at Christ the King provided food, clean water, and shoes for students, and purchased critical medical supplies for St. Patrick Clinic at KMMA.

The McNulty family is blessed and honored to be part of Christ the King Parish. We thank you for your prayers and your generosity in helping to fulfill some of the Corporal Works of Mercy.

#### Support education, health, and sustainable development on Rusinga Island, Kenya



Friends of KMMA-CAITHS  
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Donate online by credit card at  
[www.kmma-caiths.org](http://www.kmma-caiths.org)  
Click the DONATE button



100% of your gift goes directly to Kenya to fund programming through CAITHS and KMMA!

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**CAITHS** (Centre for Advocacy and Interventions on Talent, Healthcare, and Sanitation) is a Kenyan grassroots organization dedicated to improving lives in impoverished and disease-ravaged communities on Rusinga Island. Started in 2013 by a handful of volunteers, CAITHS began conducting small acts of charity, education, and sanitation where it was most needed in their villages.

In 2016, CAITHS initiated their flagship program, the **Kathy and Mike McNulty Academy** (KMMA), to provide free education, food, and health care to the orphaned and needy children in the area. With the help of the U.S. organization **Friends of KMMA-CAITHS**, the Academy and CAITHS organization are helping to break the cycle of poverty on Rusinga Island through broad-based interventions and educational programs.

