BRINGING THE JOY OF READING TO KIDS IN TANZANIA

Equipping children with foundational literacy skills helps them stay in school and look forward to healthy, productive lives for themselves and their families.

This is what Toronto-based lawyer Christopher Bredt has passionately championed for 34 years since first becoming involved with CODE. Having raised over two million dollars and cast his net of inspiration widely, Chris is a shining example of the good that can be achieved through committed volunteer service.

This July, Chris will lead his fifth and final “Summit for Literacy” to the top of Tanzania’s Mount Kilimanjaro, towering 19,354 feet above sea level. His team of 14 climbers is on a mission to kick-start CODE’s new children’s literacy program in Tanzania through their personal fundraising efforts.

In Tanzania, a shortage of reading materials and qualified teachers are contributing to an exceedingly high illiteracy rate amongst children. In fact, as many as 90% of Tanzanian children are unable to read and understand a simple text by age 10 (World Bank, 2021).

With the support of Chris and his team, CODE is working to reestablish and scale its impact in Tanzania. Working with stakeholders across the education and publishing sectors, CODE seeks to contribute to market-based solutions for strengthening Tanzania’s book chain and build the capacity of teachers to engage classrooms of young readers. More at: code.ngo/new_tanzania

The most recent program enabled by our supporters in Tanzania ended in 2016. The results were great and that’s what we’re seeking to replicate!

“Children in project schools on average understood twice as much of what they read and were almost three times more fluent [than their counterparts in comparison schools].”

-Charles Temple Ph.D, principal researcher
YOUR LEGACY IN GHANA

With the sixth and final year of the Reading Ghana program complete, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to each and every one of our donors for making this program possible. Unlike many of CODE's programs that benefit from large-scale institutional support, the Reading Ghana program has been funded exclusively through donations from family foundations, corporate partners and individuals like you.

What we have achieved together -- to foster a culture of reading at 44 schools in Ghana's Ashanti Region -- is really quite remarkable. With our local partner (the Ghana Book Trust), we've provided intensive training in literacy instruction to 176 teachers, distributed 34,090 books for the creation of school libraries, facilitated reading competitions, and Mobile Library Van visits. Ultimately, we've improved the reading skills and habits of over 5,000 boys and girls.

Our reading assessments show that students in the Reading Ghana program schools performed better than those in comparison schools on all three key measures of literacy assessed: word recognition, oral reading accuracy and reading comprehension. Most notably, 73% of students in program schools demonstrated an improvement in all three sub-tests listed above as compared to 38% of students in comparison schools after one year in the Reading Ghana program.

In the coming months, we look forward to sharing what's next for CODE's work in Ghana!

"The students love the books. It has improved their interest in reading and now they even take initiative all by themselves to get the books to read from the library."
- Mr. Ofori, Teacher at Aboabo-Tetekaso JHS

GIVING WITH IMPACT

For more than a decade, MoneySense’s Top Charity listing has been helping Canadians make informed choices about their donations. MoneySense believes donors have a right to know how their money is being spent and whether it’s truly helping people. CODE is proud to be recognized as a top charity for 2022.

Read more at: code.ngo/accountability

OVERALL LITERACY SCORE IMPROVEMENT

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reading Ghana Schools</th>
<th>73%</th>
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<tr>
<td>Comparison Schools</td>
<td>38%</td>
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