

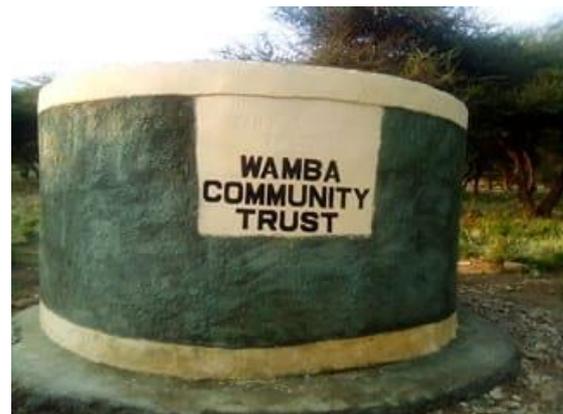


Wamba Community Trust

Newsletter September 2020

It has been a very strange 6 months for all of us due to Covid-19, and with all the educational establishments shutting on 16 March 2020 in Kenya, most of our sponsored students in colleges and universities returned to Wamba. Pre-schools, primary and secondary schools are not due to return until January 2021, whilst colleges and universities should be returning this month but most students are still unsure. Some colleges have provided online learning, and for those that haven't been bought a laptop already, Wamba Community Trust has supplied those students with one to assist their learning.

Wamba has so far stayed virus free, but there was a lot of fear and confusion in the early months as people struggled to understand the impact of the virus and the information they were receiving which was often misinformation, but the Community Health Volunteers worked hard to try to calm the communities with education about personal hygiene and social distancing. Wamba Community Trust paid for two bore hole pumps to be repaired to help with access to fresh water and bought 200 water containers for the most needy. We also received funding to mend our Margwe Water Tank that was in desperate need of repair before it became unrepairable.



With the current easing of movement around the country the figures of confirmed cases are rising. Pregnancy rates amongst girls and young women have risen drastically nationwide and drug abuse by boys and young men as boredom and idleness take hold.

Hunger in Wamba has been the biggest issue with people being unable to travel to earn money to feed their families. Wamba Community Trust has been able to respond to this in a small way. We received funding for our project "Its Hard To Learn



When Your Hungry” to provide Ruby Pre-school with food for the children, so instead of waiting until they return to school we have supplied 42 of the most vulnerable families with a months supply of food. They were selected by the Head Teacher and Chairman of the school. It was well organised and everyone was very appreciative of the food. We will repeat the process in October.

Another project we have been able to fund over the past few months has been to rebuild the toilets at Ruby Pre-school. We first funded the build of them 8 years ago but with extreme rains at the beginning of the year they collapsed. Some of the materials from the old toilets was re-used for the new ones where possible.



Medically we have funded 2 families to have a NHIF Card (Nation Health Insurance Fund) enabling them to get free health care for a year. Christine, one of our sponsored girls has new glasses as her eyesight has deteriorated, and we funded Roseline to have an x-ray and surgery for a lump in her breast. She is still waiting for the results.

Since April we have received funding grants of £7,500 and donations of about £3,000. The money spent on student fees for the first term of the year will have to be repeated in January 2021 as the government has written off this whole school year and the students will have to repeat that term. We have had to continue to pay rent for those students who go to college or university outside of Wamba as all their personal belongings are in their accommodation and they had to leave in a rush without knowing when they would be able to go back.

I'm hoping that I will be able to return to Wamba at the beginning of 2021 but of course I will be guided by the national and international guidelines at the time.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support of Wamba Community Trust.

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