

TANZANIAN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION – MIDWEST USA, NFP

20600 Promethian Way
Olympia Fields, Illinois 60461
TEL 708.747.5670 • FAX 708.747.5670

ANNUAL REPORT

2nd ANNUAL MEETING

THE TANZANIAN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION-MIDWEST USA, NFP.

Matters to be communicated to TCA Members during the General Members Meeting of May 7, 2005

1. Introduction

Tanzanian Community Association – Midwest USA, is a Not-for-Profit organization incorporated in the state of Illinois since 2002. The articles of incorporation are as appended and are on record.

2. Main Goals for 2004-2005

- 2.1. Lay down the association foundation and build up an organizational structure
- 2.2. Devise and implement ways of increasing the membership
- 2.3. Enhance interactions of members and set up ways of providing and coordinating community support efforts
- 2.4. Set up new or improve means of communicating with membership
- 2.5. Devise ways of creating an education fund and of soliciting scholarships and set up a mechanism to disburse related funds
- 2.6. Formulate and conduct fundraising activities and projects
- 2.7. Conduct educational seminars/workshops on issues that are beneficial to our members and the community
- 2.8. Review the Constitution and amend it if necessary
- 2.9. Create an information data bank on East Africa/Tanzania with a long-term plan of offering consultancy services in that area.
- 2.10. Create a Tanzanian Community Center in Chicago
- 2.11. Set up a structure for soliciting and coordinating donations and relief assistances to Tanzania
- 2.12. Long term planning of establishing a business wing and a credit union.

3. Matters to Report

- 3.1. The state of affairs of the association is encouraging. The number of active members is now 79.

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- 3.2. Members of Board of Directors are: Saul Mwakatapanya, Dr. Eustace Kaijage, Asinati Andrew-Chambaka, Rachel Wasira, Dr. Rev. Joseph Bocko, Dr. Rev. Norbert Mwitula, Jackson Munuo, Dr Fatuma Karuma and Evans Ruaika.
- 3.3. Members of the Executive Committee are: Saul Mwakatapanya, Dr. Eustace Kaijage, Asinati Andrew-Chambaka, Evans Ruaika Dr. Rev. Jerry Mngwamba, Dr. Allan Issangya, John Munuo and Charles Shengena
- 3.4. The Board of Directors held one meeting, the Executive Committee had eight meetings and the standing committees held several meetings.
- 3.5. The TCA standing committees and names of members in those committees are as follows:
 - 3.5.1. Education: Charles Shengena (Secretary), Dr. Abba Mpesha, Dr. Rev. James Mutayoba, Martina Mung'ong'o, Kokuleeba Lwanga and Edward Malisa.
 - 3.5.2. Budget and Finance: Evans Ruaika (Chair), John Munuo, William Mwakilasa, Aggrey Kihunrwa, Ndeninsia Issangya and Kaanaeli Makundi.
 - 3.5.3. Social and Cultural Affairs: Dr. Allan Issangya (Secretary) Tina Lupembe (Chair), Rachel Wasira, Astrid Urassa, James Kitia, Lusungu Alois, Samson Chekingo, Patroba Mazara and Bonus Mteme.
 - 3.5.4. Economic and Social Development: Dr. Rev. Jerry Mngwamba (Secretary), Severian Ndyetabula (Chair), Dr. Eustace Kaijage, Dr. Rev. Joseph Bocko, Dr. Fatuma Karuma and Francis Mushi.
 - 3.5.5. Child and Youth Welfare: John Munuo (Secretary), Raheli Mwitula, Sadik Wasira and Elly Mngwamba.
 - 3.5.6. Constitution Amendment: Dr. Eustace Kaijage (Secretary) Dr. Frank Mwakasisi (Chair), Dr. Rev. Jerry Mngwamba, Dick Manumbu and Yaphet Mkono.
 - 3.5.7. Publication: Asinati Andrew-Chambaka (Secretary), Emmanuel Msengi (Chair), Luponelo Chambaka, Angeline Kileo and B.J. Mwakyoma.
- 3.6. **Social and Cultural Affairs:**
 - 3.6.1. In concerted efforts to publicize the association, recruit more members, enhance member interactions and raise funds, the TCA Social and Cultural Affairs committee organized the following social activities:
 - 3.6.1.1.02/14/2004: Valentine's Party at North Sheridan St., Chicago.
 - 3.6.1.2.03/13/2004: Get-together Dinner with Tanzanian Ambassador to the US at 20600 Promethian Way, Olympia Fields, IL.
 - 3.6.1.3.03/20/04: Khanga Party at North Sheridan.
 - 3.6.1.4.06/05/2004: BBQ Picnic at South lake Shore Drive, Chicago
 - 3.6.1.5.07/10/2004: BBQ Picnic at Lake Michigan Beach, Wilson St, Chicago.

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3.6.1.6. An attempt to organize a TCA social event outside of Chicago, in Michigan failed due to logistical problems and due to other private events taking place within the community.

3.6.1.7. 12/11/2004: Tanganyika Independence Day Party at the President Hall, North Sheridan Street, Chicago.

3.6.2. TCA experimented with a mechanism that allows an individual or a group of TCA members to jointly sell their food at TCA social events. It was agreed at the 2nd board meeting that ethnic food should be sold at TCA functions that it should serve as a source of revenue. However issues of liability associated with catering will need to be addressed prior as well as liability of source and caterer certification with relevant bodies. Details to be discussed at Executive level.

3.6.3. TCA will solicit sponsorship to host future social events. Volunteering efforts in kind and other for TCA functions encouraged.

3.6.4. There is a general feeling by the community that TCA social activities have brought the community closer and has indirectly helped facilitate other private events in the community e.g. weddings, baby showers, graduations, offer support to individuals who lost their loved ones, etc.

3.7. Publication:

3.7.1. The TCA Publication committee continued to improve the TCA website (www.tanzaniamidwestusa.org). Some animations and more links to other important websites were added.

3.7.2. Work is in progress to create a chat room, sections for classified advertisements, for the TCA social and cultural events and a suggestion box.

3.7.3. Problems of duplication of messages to members have been noted. The committee is working to resolve the problems.

3.7.4. The committee has been asked to propose a secure way of enabling TCA to post financial and budget reports on the website.

3.7.5. It was agreed to encourage Tanzanian youth in the IT field to participate and improve the website (color coordination, calendar of events).

3.7.6. It was felt the website needs to be updated more frequently. However this endeavor is more involving and might not be feasible unless an individual takes on the responsibility of their own accord.

3.7.7. Several members of the community have volunteered to work with the Financial Committee in formatting a Financial Statement suitable for presentation to the IRS and for TCA records.

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3.8. The Budget and Finance Committee:

- 3.8.1. TCA opened a bank account with Bank One in Chicago (Account Details to be made available to the Board). Dr Mwitula requested that the bank statement be made available at the next meeting.
- 3.8.2. The signatories of the account will be President (or Deputy President in the absence of the President) and the Treasurer (or Deputy Treasurer, in the absence of the Treasurer). Any 2 signatories out of 3 can currently sign the checks; it would require an amendment to the TCA By-Laws to change the details.
- 3.8.3. Executive Committee decided that the Deputy Treasurer be a member of this committee.
- 3.8.4. The Finance and Budget committee has been asked to research on and recommend a way of opening, if allowable, a For Profit account. A credit union being formed would later interact with the TCA NFP wing.
- 3.8.5. Two members (Mrs. Makundi and Mrs. N. Issangya) indicated an intention to resign from the committee and one new member (Mr. Aggrey Kihunrwa) was recruited to join the committee. The committee is still looking for at least two more members. TCA is seeking volunteers with qualifications in financial and budgetary matters and have interest in financial aspects of Not for Profit associations.
- 3.8.6. The Treasurer has been asked to determine and build into the budget the operating costs of running TCA
- 3.8.7. In future TCA is planning to place the financial reports on the website for easier access by members. The information will be privileged to members only.
- 3.8.8. The sources of funds are provided based on the promises given by the Social and Economic Development Committee. Another source is the proposed increase in annual fees and increased enrollment.
- 3.8.9. The chairman suggested that a committee be established to write a justification for a continuous \$50 annual membership fees. The committee comprises of Ms. Wasira, Mr. Jackson Munuo and Mr. Ruaika. This sub-committee has been given the task of marketing the advantages of being a member.

3.9. By-Laws and Constitution Amendment:

The committee reviewed the constitution and has just submitted their recommendations to the Executive committee. Special Executive, Board, and a General Members Meetings will be called to review and vote on the amendments.

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3.10. Education:

- i. TCA through the Education committee devised short-term (0-3 months) and long-term (in excess of 1 year) plan activities. The short-term activities will include organizing seminars or information sessions whereby individuals with expertise in areas that are relevant to our community will be invited to speak.
- ii. TCA organized two such seminars on December 11, 2004 at The President's Hall, 5649 N. Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL 60660-4803. Mr. S. Ogetto who is an International student advisor at Columbia College in Chicago conducted the first seminar, on college education matters. The second dealt with US Immigration matters and was conducted by Mr. Richard Hanus who is an immigration lawyer in Chicago.
- iii. The community is also planning to work with parents and find ways in which TCA can help in the education of children in the community, for example organizing tours to higher level educational institutions, encouraging children to participate in science project competitions, etc.
- iv. Long-term activities will include setting up of a Tanzania/East Africa information data bank and center. Key areas of interest in promoting education, business, culture, tourism and travel related services will be identified and will form a basis for offering consultancy services.
- v. The Education committee will research on and devise strategy for getting scholarships for our community in the Midwest and for students in Tanzania.
- vi. The committee is also exploring other ways of raising funds for educational purposes, e.g. sale of T-shirts.
- vii. Dr Karuma pointed out the need to share experiences with other Tanzanians especially in reading the fine print and paying attention to detail.

xi. Economic and Social Development:

- i. TCA is preparing a proposal seeking funds from General Mills Corp. to assist our community.
- ii. The TCA executive has formed an ad-hoc committee to work out a mechanism of disbursing funds or allocating scholarship when they become available in future

xii. Child and Youth Welfare:

- i. TCA bought a number of games to entertain children at its barbeques. Children enjoyed playing soccer, basket ball, badminton, etc, while their parents were barbecuing.

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- ii. The Executive committee has proposed a number of events to help our children advance in every aspect of their lives; such events may include visiting various museums in Chicago, etc.
- iii. The committee has proposed identifying a volunteer who would teach our children Kiswahili and folklore so that they become fluent in our native country's language and culture.
- iv. It was suggested that the committee should draw a plan to create a library of Swahili books on both language and folklore. Ms Rachel wondered whether the parents are interested in getting their children taught Swahili. This will be left to the discretion of parents, but emphasis should be on American born kids on the short run, and later TCA should draw a plan that will benefit the whole community
- v. Dr. Kaijage suggested that TCA should contact Mr. Simba Tayari's Swahili Institute for resources, While Dr. Bocko emphasized on the need of having a strategy, identifying training needs, methods and target group.

xiii. Others:

- i. TCA has offered advice on establishing similar associations to the Kenyan community in Chicago, Tanzanian communities in Minnesota, Dallas, Atlanta, Nashville and Milwaukee.
- ii. TCA is encouraging the formation of TCA chapters in other cities in the Midwest. Dr. Karuma inquired on the mechanism of bringing other Midwestern cities under the umbrella of TCA, in particular on whether we have been successful at all in getting other Midwesterners to work with us. The Chairman reported that there have been some limited successes Dr. Kaijage has represented us to a meeting in Milwaukee, he has contacts with Dr. Ruta, Oswald and their colleagues.
- iii. The anticipated amendment to the constitution will specify how these other associations can become part of TCA, or rather how to design the TCA leadership to allow easy working relations with other Midwesterners. The amendment will also chart what chapters should expect by being part of the TCA.
- iv. TCA is working out a mechanism of connecting willing individuals to newly arriving Tanzanian students or other Tanzanians who may need short time help in settling in the area. Volunteers will be able provide their names to be put in a special section on the TCA website. Recipients of such assistance will be pointed to resourceful information The Board warned that care should be exercised in case of liability and most importantly, issues of illegal immigrants and potential terrorists.

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- v. The social and cultural committee has been advised to draw a plan on how this can be done, and evaluate whether TCA should even officially involve itself in this venture considering issues of liability and dangers of not knowing whether we will be helping a legitimate immigrant or not.
- vi. TCA is proposing to introduce an annual membership fee to increase liquidity in its operating budget.

4. Going Forward (Future)

- i. Continue improving on what has worked in the past.
- ii. Cultural center- The board members challenged the Social and Economic Development committee to be more aggressive in writing proposals and search for funds to make the plan for the Center a realizable goal. It has been suggested that this particular committee should be helped by the Board in lobbying for such funds since sometimes we may need people with influence and inside information to identify the sources of funds as well as people with better marketing techniques, who can effectively sell TCA ideas to potential donors.
- iii. Increased emphasis on economic development matters

5. Appendix

5.1. ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION On Record.