



# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

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## AFRICA BRIDGE, YEAR IN REVIEW

This was a year for Africa Bridge to continue the mission of empowering rural African communities to attain prosperity through a comprehensive 5-year program focused on children and youth. Our long-term strategy is to transition the organization from implementors to facilitators of the Africa Bridge Model. We did locate a partner organization, the Manyara Ranch Management Trust. We continued to do sustainability work in all Wards.

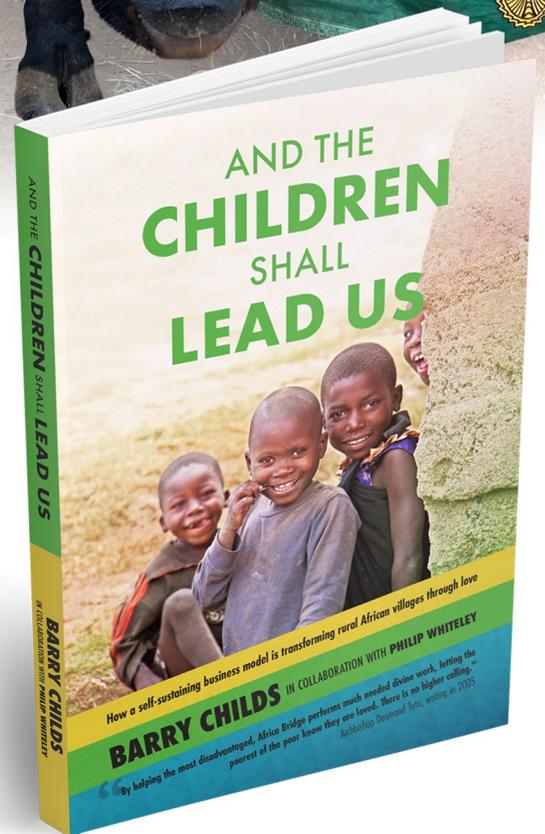
The Safari Trip included visits to the Lufingo, Kisondele and Kambasegela Wards.

## AND THE CHILDREN SHALL LEAD US

This book is published to share the success of the Africa Bridge model - based on both field experience and academic research - and to raise awareness of its powerful potential to lift the most vulnerable children out of poverty.

*And The Children Shall Lead Us* tells the engrossing story of how the project works, how it came about and was implemented, and what has been learned during its 23 years of operation. This work is not simply "charity"; it's a proven community-led model that could redefine ethical development in Africa. The book is destined to become recommended reading for the social sciences.

Barry Childs, founder of Africa Bridge (who spent childhood years in Tanzania and returned later in life to commit himself to helping his homeland) is available for interview. Passionate about the project, Barry has stories to tell.



# UNIQUE PROGRAM MODEL

Through our work this year we have refined and focused on the two parts of our unique model:



## Most Vulnerable Children's Committees (MVCC)

Africa Bridge creates village MVCCs, which manage the co-op membership and identify the Most Vulnerable Children we will serve. Africa Bridge local staff train committee members in social services, life skills, and organizational management. This process builds local capacity and transfers skills directly to families.

MVCC members visit the children and their families regularly to provide psychosocial support and monitor their progress.

## Education

Africa Bridge provides students with uniforms and supplies so they can attend school by making grants to the MVCCs.

## Psychosocial and health support for children

The MVCC supports children's clubs which serve as gathering places and sources of education and support for children and their caregivers. Africa Bridge trains peer health educators to provide education on key health topics such as HIV/AIDS and reproductive health.



## Income Generating Co-ops

Africa Bridge provides the seed capital to buy livestock and agricultural inputs, implements the operating procedures, and delivers ongoing training and business management.

## Pass-On Model

A family caring for a Most Vulnerable Child receives a cow. The first calf is given to another family through the MVCC, doubling the number of cooperative members. This process continues to repeat, increasing members continually and creating many more families with higher incomes. Families owning a cow have milk and manure for their crops.

## Graduation

After five years, the Ward graduates from Africa Bridge with the capacity to build future growth through our sustainable, regenerative process.



# PARTNERS AND FUNDERS

## PARTNERS

Cana's Feast Winery  
Laura D. Wanser Foundation  
Perkins Coie  
Rochester Rotary Club  
Segal Family Foundation  
Stafford Primary School  
Ubon Safari

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Vibrant Village Foundation  
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Ellen and John Worcester

## STAFF

Robert Kibweja, TZ Program Assistant and Driver  
Ponsiano Lupoli, TZ Co-op Coordinator  
Kelvin Ngonyani, TZ Most Vulnerable Children Coordinator  
Sharon Brabenac, Executive Director  
Mary Charpentier, Bookkeeper



## VOLUNTEER HOURS SPENT

Thirty-two volunteers contributed an amazing 4,213 hours for Africa Bridge in 2025. Thank you!

## REVENUE

Donors _____	\$200,767
Grants _____	\$1,500
<b>Total _____</b>	<b>\$202,267</b>

## EXPENSES

Program Services _____	\$112,597	69%
Management and General _____	\$28,011	17%
Marketing and Fundraising _____	\$22,397	14%
<b>Total _____</b>	<b>\$163,005</b>	<b>100%</b>



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