WITH MCW SUPPORT, TANZANIA OPENS RENOVATED DENTAL SCHOOL IN DAR ES SALAAM

TANZANIA, November 3rd — President Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete opened the newly renovated Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences School of Dentistry (MUHAS) at an official ceremony in Dar es Salaam.

In his remarks, the President said the government will aim to allocate more funds to the dental school to help sustain operations after the expected increase in enrollment due to the recent renovations.

Eddie Bergman, MCW Executive Director, urged MUHAS Dentistry School graduates to stay in Tanzania after their studies to provide services to the population instead of moving abroad.

Stanley Bergman of Henry Schein Inc., Dr. Anne Eiting Klamar of Midmark Corporation, and John Spencer of Dental Components International represented the team of dental equipment donors. They were joined by more than twenty MCW friends from the U.S. and Tanzania.

The renovation, valued at nearly $2 million, began with a call to action from President Kikwete to Dr. Marion Bergman, MCW Oral Healthcare Program Director.

This led to a two-year effort to build a public-private partnership among Tanzanian health officials, MUHAS Dentistry School faculty, and international dental supply providers under the umbrella of the MCW Oral Healthcare Initiative (OHI).

According to former MUHAS dean, Dr. Emil Kikwilu, Tanzania the country has approximately 306 dental professionals, at a ratio of 1 to 120,000. As a result, thousands of Tanzanians go without treatment for dental maladies every year.

Both the Tanzanian Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, under the leadership of Professor David Mwakyusa, and MCW, hope with its upgraded equipment and excellent training, the school will attract new faculty, train even more students and continue to serve Tanzanians.

VERMONT, August 5th— When volunteering at MCW’s centers in Tanzania and Rwanda, I thought I understood youth perseverance. However, at MCW’s 12th Annual Youth Leadership Retreat (YLR) in Vermont, I began fully to realize the broad capacities of youth.

It’s difficult to articulate how it feels to be consistently impressed by each new person you meet, to be moved by the stories that have shaped their dreams, and inspired by the ways they harness their own potential to take action.

These delegates from a dozen countries built their vision plans with thoughtfulness and conviction, leaving everyone within earshot reconsidering their own potential.

Anna Myers volunteered in Rwanda and is a YLR mentor.
Miracle Corners of the World (MCW) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 1999 with the mission to empower youth to become leaders of change. Based in New York City, MCW serves youth worldwide through:

**COMMUNITY CENTERS**
Developing sustainable, youth-led learning centers as spaces for education, exchange, and entrepreneurship.

**LEADERSHIP TRAINING**
Helping youth build the skills, confidence, and networks to achieve their goals and contribute to their communities.

**PARTNER INITIATIVES**
Leveraging partnerships to make a difference locally and globally.

- **Oral Healthcare** - Strengthening the oral healthcare system in Tanzania by bringing together public and private sector partners to provide dental equipment and access to oral health expertise.
- **Jacqueline’s Human Rights Corner** - Raising awareness about the crime of genocide through genocide prevention programs and supporting the establishment of the MC-Rwanda center.
- **Container Initiative** - Sending containers of educational and athletic materials to support MCW projects and partner institutions in Africa.

**CONTACT US**
- **Our Website**
  www.miraclecorners.org
- **Our Facebook**
  www.facebook.com/Miracle-Corners-of-the-World
- **Our YouTube Page**
  www.youtube.com/miraclecorners
- **Our Blog**
  www.miraclecorners.wordpress.com
- **Our Tweets**
  www.twitter.com/miraclecorners

**OUR LANGUAGE**
- **AVF** Alumni Ventures Fund
- **CC** Community Centers
- **JM Corner** Jacqueline’s Human Rights Corner
- **MCR** Miracle Corners Rwanda
- **MCCL** Miracle Corners Sierra Leone
- **MCT** Miracle Corners Tanzania
  - **MCT-S** Miracle Corners Tanzania-Songea
  - **MCT-A** Miracle Corners Tanzania-Arusha
- **MCW** Miracle Corners of the World
- **MCZ** Miracle Corners Zambia
- **OHI** Oral Healthcare Initiative
- **YLR** Youth Leadership Retreat

**GET INVOLVED**
- Volunteer at an MCW center in Africa;
- Participate in or volunteer at the next Youth Leadership Retreat;
- Mentor a YLR Alum;
- Donate to the MCW Container Initiative;
- Participate in a Dental Outreach;
- Volunteer at the NYC Office;
- Invite MCW to speak to your community.

Photo by Jim Lopes

Maina Baina, Internet technology coordinator, assists students in Songea.

MCW projects and alumni around the globe. (Map by Google Maps.)
Welcome to The Corner

A Message from the Executive Director

Ten years ago, Rob Alsbrooks and I co-founded Miracle Corners of the World (MCW). Today MCW comprises hundreds of friends and supporters collaborating across Africa, the U.S. and around the world on core programs, including leadership development, community centers, and partner initiatives in the areas of oral healthcare, genocide prevention and shipping containers.

To each and every one of our friends, thank you for your leadership, your support, and your contributions along the way, from which our success emanates. Please join us as we celebrate a decade of accomplishment with all our partners who have played a role in bringing MCW to where it is today. Together we can make a difference!

Eddie Bergman is also the Co-Founder of MCW.

A Message from the Editor

In an effort to represent the true character and dedication of MCW, this issue of The Corner illustrates MCW’s reach. We want to show the progress we made throughout 2009 and set the stage for what is yet to come in 2010.

The pictures and voices of the MCW team and friends speak for themselves; we have aimed to provide only a general context for each story.

In this issue, we have also added many new features: a map to show our global network of friends and partners; spotlight pages on our projects and the people who have helped our organization grow; as well as a financial statement.

Thanks to all our supporters for allowing MCW to make an impact on youth leaders and their communities.

Thanks to Alfie Hanssen and Sharon Roling for their devotion to MCW over the years and for their help with the preparation of this issue and to Star Quality Printing for their support.

We hope you enjoy all that is described in the following pages and we look forward to receiving your feedback.

Hannah Lee is an MCW intern in NYC and an NYU junior.

In Beloved Memory

Our dear friend and mentor Ambassador Daudi Mwakawago has passed away and is resting in peace. He lived each day of his life to the fullest.

In recent years, the Ambassador would proudly say, "While I'm retired, I'm not tired." He loved his country, he loved Africa, and he loved humanity. He worked hard, he never complained and he was an amazing diplomat with a natural gift of unending patience.

He loved his family, his children and his beloved wife, Mrs. Daisy Mwakawago. He was a sensitive individual who expected the best from everyone. The Ambassador commanded respect and reciprocated with love. He was a gentle giant.

What I admired most about Ambassador Mwakawago was his honesty. He was a humble individual who believed in the principles on which former Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere founded his country, and he adapted and grew as the world embraced all Tanzania has to offer.

The Ambassador was a man of faith, a believer, and a Muslim who respected every form of life, not based on religion but on tolerance. He avoided cynics and believed in life.

He was a man of words, of action, and of honor. He was an optimist despite all that he saw and experienced at the United Nations, in Africa, and around the world.

Let us open our hearts to find a special place for the memory of Ambassador Mwakawago. Let his inspiration live on in all of us who have been touched by him.

In the words of our beloved friend: "Together we can make a difference" or in Swahili “Pamoja tunaweza kuleta mabadiliko.”

A Note from Eddie Bergman

Photo by Jim Lopes
The Chanyanya lagoon would be still at dawn if not for the fishermen gliding over its waters in sleek canoes.

At the harbor, village women begin setting up in the small market, arranging dried fish and frying balls of dough. And further inland, a group of youth are pushing wheelbarrows of cement and sand to the construction site of their new community center.

Life in this rural village along Kafue River is hard. Education stops at grade nine, though many students end their studies earlier for economic reasons. Most youth have fishing and subsistence farming skills, and a limited income.

Beyond this, there isn’t much opportunity for further growth. What the community has is a vision for its future: a vision of empowering youth to become leaders of change.

It is life-changing to see an entire community work together on an endeavor that allows them to pursue their ambitions of creating and seeking employment opportunities through vocational skills training.

It is exhilarating to work hand-in-hand with fellow youth to effect change, by creating a space in which youth can engage in activities and discussions regarding community needs. And it is inspirational to see these youth take their future into their own hands with such excitement.

It also is empowering to experience the progress made by the two communities — MCW and Chanyanya — working together through the exchange of ideas and skills.

MCW educates the individual not just in skills development, but also in the commonalities among people, no matter where they originate, what they’ve experienced, or who they are. It is an organization that encourages people to seek change in their communities while assisting them with the tools to do so.

Nate Crossley is an MCW fellow, a Zambia volunteer, and an NYU graduate (’09).
**Leadership Training & Partner Initiatives**

**MCW ANNOUNCES RECIPIENTS OF ALUMNI VENTURES FUND**

**NEW YORK, April 1st —**
MCW launched a new initiative at its fifth annual gala celebration: the MCW Alumni Ventures Fund (AVF). The fund provides grants to youth leadership retreat graduates, enabling them to pursue social ventures in their communities.

In addition to the start-up funding, recipients are matched with a mentor who helps the recipient develop and implement his or her plan, manage finances, and evaluate the work.

“The fund is our opportunity to empower youth, now and in the future. We’re taking the spirit, the essence and the assets of MCW, which are the young people, and giving them a chance to fulfill their dreams by mentoring them and investing in their visions,” said Steve Kess, Vice President of Global Professional Relations for Henry Schein, Inc. Steve established the fund with his wife Sharon Kess, the AVF chair.

Amma Agyapon, a 2005 retreat graduate and singer, received the award and hopes to give purpose to social entrepreneurship by creating a multimedia, community-based learning program in Harlem to serve the community.

2006 retreat graduate Shawn Crosby also received an award and seeks to further develop an after-school program devoted to teaching leadership skills to young adults for use in future higher education and career opportunities.

**MCW SENDS 8TH DENTAL OUTREACH TO SONGEA, TANZANIA**

**TANZANIA, August 15th —**
I was raised in a home that values community service, so it was only natural for me to volunteer with MCW last summer at the Liana Cohen Dental Clinic in Songea, Tanzania. Utilizing my skills as a dental hygienist and my Master’s in Public Health, I set out to change the world one tooth at a time.

In August 2009, MCW sent its eighth dental outreach team to Songea to help strengthen the region’s oral health care system, working out of the center. I participated in this outreach, and in two previous ones.

To watch someone’s vision grow from the ground up is amazing. The dental clinic is progressing nicely; by year’s end, all schoolchildren will receive fluoride treatment and oral health education.

After working with the clinic’s dental therapist, Eliud Bilal, and the assistant dental therapist, Augsta Winna, I can see how valuable they are to the surrounding community in Songea. I hope that the partnership we have continues to thrive.

Dr. Elizabeth Lee and Dr. Patrick So also participated in the August outreach. Dr. Walter Schneider participated in the November one.

Jill Fernandez, Dental Therapist Eliud Bilal, and Assistant Dental Therapist Augsta Winna at the Songea dental clinic.
Project Spotlight

MCT-Kisongo
MCT Trustee Honorable Halima Mamuya donates land for a new community center in Arusha.

Microsoft Africa executives climb Mount Kilimanjaro in March to raise funds for MCW community centers and future projects, as part of Microsoft Africa’s initiative to support education across Africa.

Liana Cohen Dental Clinic
MCW sends two dental outreach teams to Songea to assist in staff training, school-based oral healthcare education, and patient treatment.

MCW Alumni Venture Fund recipient Amma Agyapon organizes a multimedia event on Egbe Iwa Day in Harlem, New York City. The event includes a special video presentation, hip hop dancing, drum making, basketball, Orisa dance, arts and crafts and interactive games.

Youth Leadership Retreat
Palestinian participant Mahmoud Jabri moves forward with his vision plan called “Lens for Change,” becoming a top five finalist to attend the World Economic Forum in Switzerland.

MCT-Arusha
George Olesambu develops a new graphics course for the community center. New computers arrive to support Glory Philbeth’s IT class and Joachim Mayange’s Business English and Entrepreneurship classes.

Container Initiative
MCW sends a container of educational supplies, books and sporting goods to support activities at the community center in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

PATA
Pediatric teams from the Songea clinic in Tanzania and Kilgoris, Trans Mara district of Kenya participate in the annual PATA forum on the challenges of HIV treatment in rural areas across Africa in Rwanda.

MCSL-Freetown
The community center in Kissy starts volleyball, IT, Internet and catering programs.

MCSL-Kono
MCW secures land in Kono to build a new community center for the region’s youth. Volunteer Mike Goddard takes the lead in forming a leadership team to drive the process.

Alumni Venture Fund
Recipient Shawn Crosby plans to expand events and programs involving The American Children's Organization (TACO), a non-profit organization dedicated to post-secondary education and career opportunities.

MCT-Downtown ICT
Responding to the high demand of the surrounding community, MCW breaks ground on new IT facilities for future programs in Songea.

JM’s Corner
Jacqueline Murekatete continues her fellowship with MCW while entering her first year at the Benjamin Cardozo School of Law.

MCT-Kipera
Offers a new secondary school program while preschool and IT programs continue. Volunteer Sarah Ancas assists the Songea leadership team with program development.

Ghana & Senegal
Alfie Hanssen visits Ghana with Japhet Aryiku of the Adakum Educational Foundation, and Senegal with the Ministry of Tourism to explore possible joint projects for youth.
People Spotlight

Maina Baina  
(Internet Technology Coordinator in MCT-S)

Julia Walcott  
(Volunteer in Sierra Leone)

Yvonne Noel  
(Volunteer in Rwanda)

Kabinga Pande Jr.  
(MCZ trustee)

Nate Crossley  
(Fellow in Zambia)

Yasmin Elachi  
(YLR Coordinator)

Sarah Ancas  
(Volunteer in Tanzania)

David Willard  
(AVF mentor)

Innocent Nizeyimana  
(MCR Construction Manager)

Joachim Mayange  
(MCT-A English Business & Entrepreneurship Teacher)

Anne Eiting Klamar  
(Board of Directors)

Jackson Vugayabagabo  
(MCR Country Coordinator)

Andrew Chilufya  
(MCZ trustee)

Anna Myers  
(Volunteer in Rwanda)

Mike Goddard  
(Volunteer in Sierra Leone)

Jonathan Scheinberg  
(Co-Docuementary Producer)

Kendra Miller  
(Coordinator of JM’s Corner)

MCW also welcomes and thanks:

George Olesambu (Graphics IT teacher in MCT-A), Jean-Calude Harabagabo (Volunteer in Rwanda), Cesar Francia (Volunteer in Rwanda), Honorable Halima Mamuya (MCT trustee), Allan Ponera (Secondary Education MCT-S), Mindenda & Ivonne Pande (MCZ trustees), and May Chow (Co-Docuementary Producer)
NEW YORK, APRIL 20th —
As millions around the world gathered in April to remember the victims and survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, MCW organized a panel discussion at New York University (NYU) titled, “Denial, Justice, and Memory: Fifteen Years After the Genocide.” More than 100 people attended the event.

The distinguished panelists included Dr. Gerald Lewis Caplan (African historian); Chantal Kayitesi (genocide survivor); and Dr. Jens Meierhenrich (Assistant Professor at Harvard University). Sarah Nadeau (Deputy Director of the non-profit Council for Prejudice Reduction) moderated the discussion (right).

The panel followed a gathering at the United Nations Church Center memorializing the 1994 Rwanda genocide, which led to the killing of more than one million people. Titled “Remember, Reflect and Respond,” the program included opening remarks by Jacqueline Murekatete, who shared her own story with the audience and spoke about the need to work with genocide survivors in Rwanda and around the world.

The event also included a moment of silence; survivor testimonies; remarks on the “right to protect” from Fabienne Hara of the International Crisis Group (ICG); multi-faith prayers from Father Mesrob of the New York Armenian Community and Rabbi Dan Ain of the New Shul Synagogue; and a special candle-lighting ceremony led by MCW Board Member Eugenie Mukeshimana.

I first heard Jacqueline speak at the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York in January 2008, when I was trained as a museum guide. I was inspired by her story and passion for genocide education, so I decided to intern with MCW.

Now, almost two years later, I could not be happier to look back at how much JM’s Corner has grown in such a short period. I am also amazed at how many people we have reached through our work.

When I started, the new community center in Rwanda was in its preliminary stages. Now, with the center nearing completion, I’m hoping to visit Rwanda in the next year to see the impact of our work. I look forward to continuing our work together.

Kendra Miller coordinates Jacqueline’s Corner and is a graduate of Pace University (’09).
MC-RWANDA COMMUNITY CENTER SET TO OPEN IN THE SPRING

RWANDA, February 1st — After breaking ground in November 2008, construction of MCW’s newest community center in the town of Kayenzi, Rwanda is nearly complete. The center is located approximately thirty kilometers outside the capital city of Kigali.

Once the facility is built, Jackson Vugayabagabo, MC-Rwanda Country Coordinator, will oversee the center’s daily operations and the development of a wide range of social entrepreneurship programs, including IT training, an English language course, a pre-school, trauma counseling, and a micro-finance initiative. Jackson will work closely with the center’s leadership team and advisory board.

“Rwanda is such an exciting and rewarding place for development work. The country has made astounding progress in just one decade, and MCR is privileged to participate in its continued forward momentum. It is inspiring to see the dedication, commitment, and optimism with which people approach the work of directly improving their futures.”

Yvonne Noel, MCW volunteer in Rwanda

For more info on the center, including videos, and pictures, visit MCW’s Flickr page, blog and website.

“MCW Continues to Move West

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Costa Mesa, California

Victor Gruber, an MCW Board member, held a second benefit to support MCW’s Jacqueline’s Human Rights Corner in Costa Mesa, California in June 2009.

Eugenie Mukeshimana, Eddie Bergman, Alfie Hanssen and Jacqueline Murekatete attended the special evening event and spoke about MCW’s mission and work in Rwanda to more than forty guests.

Funds raised at the benefit help support the construction of the new MCW community center in Rwanda.

Plans are currently underway for a third West Coast benefit in the late spring of 2010.”
5th Annual Gala Dinner Celebration

More than 400 supporters gathered at the Kimmel Center for University Life at New York University on April 5, 2009 to celebrate MCW's achievements over the last year and to recognize the individuals whose work embodies MCW's spirit and mission.

Ali Velshi, CNN Chief Business Correspondent; Dr. Anne Eiting Klamar, Midmark Corporation President and CEO; John Spencer, Dental Components International President; and Dr. Marion Bergman, MCW Director of Healthcare Projects received MCW Leadership Awards. Jacqueline Murekatete, MCW fellow and founder of Jacqueline’s Human Rights Corner, received the Spirit of MCW Award. Senegalese-born Chef Pierre Thiam contributed a Senegalese appetizer to the evening’s menu.

The event raised more than $500,000 to support MCW projects worldwide.
STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND NET ASSETS

Support and Revenue:

Contributions:
- Restricted $1,304,566
- Unrestricted $552,983

Total operating revenue $1,857,549

Nonoperating revenue:
- Investment income $5,892

Total nonoperating revenue $5,892

Total revenue $1,863,441

Expenses:

Program services:
- Community Development Programs $352,191
- Youth Leadership Training $83,736
- Partner Initiatives $185,552
- Healthcare Outreach $1,157,932

Support Services:
- Management and general $56,370
- Fund-raising $35,768

Total expenses $1,871,549

Change in unrestricted net assets (8,108)

Unrestricted net assets at beginning of year $626,375
Unrestricted net assets at end of year $618,267

NOTES

* Prepared for fiscal year ending June 30, 2009.

* Cash and Cash Equivalents: MCW considers all highly liquid instruments purchased with a maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

* MCW receives in-kind support from various sources in support of its projects. In-kind contributions are reported as contributions and expenses in the accompanying revenue, expenses and changes in fund net assets at their estimated fair value at date of donation. In-kind contributions for the year ended June 30, 2009 recorded in the financial statements were $1,132,351. Included in this amount was $5,492 for Gala Dinner expenses, $73,678 in supplies for the Partner Initiatives Program and $1,053,181 in dental equipment and supplies for the Healthcare Outreach Program. In-kind contributions of volunteer time or technical assistance are not included in this number.

* Independent Auditor’s Report prepared by Peter J. Bertuglia, Certified Public Accountant, P.C. available on file at MCW’s NYC Office.

The MCW Community

**Volunteers

### Founding Mentors
- Dr. Elijah Anderson
- Lavern McDonald
- Amb. Daudi Mwakawago*
- Dr. Edward B. Shils*
- Dr. George Sideris*
- Dr. Herman Wrice*

### Board of Directors
- Paul Bergman
- Ranika A. Cohen
- Anna Conduolis
- Dr. Anne Eiting Klamar
- Roberta Richin
- Dr. Anthony Vernillo

### Board of Advisors
- Dr. Catherine DeLeo
- Bunny Grossinger
- Victor Gruber
- Sharon Kess
- Eugenie Mukeshimana
- Charmaine Peart-HoSang

### Co-Founders
- Rob Alsbrooks
- Eddie Bergman

### Program Directors
- Alfie Hanssen (CC)
- Dr. Marion Bergman (OHI)**
- Yasmin Elachi (YLR)**

### Staff
- Eddie Bergman**
- Khalid Elachi
- Angela Gerrow
- Sharon Roling

### Fellows
- Jacqueline Murekatete
- Nate Crossley

### Field Volunteers
- Michael Goddard
- Yvonne Noel

### Office Interns/Volunteers
- Robyn Deutsch
- Hannah Lee
- Kendra Miller
- Katina Mitchell