

LARCHFIELD PROJECT UPDATE

INTRODUCTION

Larchfield is a charity registered in UK and USA and regulated in each country. It is a cause actively and passionately supported by **Gulf4Good**, which is in turn regulated in London and here in Dubai. Larchfield and G4G work together.

The overall objective is to establish a safe and secure refuge for children in a particular district in Tanzania (where Larchfield is also registered and regulated) whose families have been dislocated and destroyed by HIV and who lack the basic amenities such as shelter, nourishment, care and education. We aim to build and operate a caring environment for these orphans, so they may thrive. At present, there are thousands of children living without access to even a basic level of food and water, security and care. This project began with them in mind.

The refuge has been designed from here in the UAE by the Open Source Arc team, a group of professional engineering/architectural volunteers. The strategy is to provide professional and nurturing respite for the kids, as well as an opportunity to transition and be adopted by appropriate families and reintegrated into new happy family relationships. This strategy will, over time, enable Larchfield to function as an excellent school attended by boarders and day pupils, and benefiting from exchanges with the educational communities with Dubai and UK. We want to encourage healthy interaction between Larchfield community and the surrounding population and to set standards which benefit the kids tremendously and also encourage best practice elsewhere.

PROGRESS

Construction work began over a year ago and we have now completed construction of Phase 1, ready to admit an initial community of 60 orphans, average age around 6 years old. We have been very fortunate so far in raising the funds required to bring us to the present level of construction completion. But the amount we have raised is short of our target and more funding is needed to sustain the operational phase with staff and kids in residence (including employment of properly trained carers, security, creation of a sustainable source of good food and clean water, purchase of beds and other furniture, provision of kitchen equipment etc) and to complete a properly designed and constructed perimeter wall and auditorium, covered walkway, dedicated kitchen and a dining hall, drainage and landscaping, before embarking on phase 2 (accommodation for another 60 orphans) which should cost around USD 265,000. When all phases are complete, we should be able to accommodate 300 orphans on a plot of land measuring 22 acres. All project payments are verified and carried out by Price Waterhouse Coopers. Visuals of the project are attached.

RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING

The key to a successful project is to have gifted and highly trained staff. Great care will do taken in recruitment and constant training – both staff and board members. The board in Tanzania are engaged in this, in order to source and train the initial work force, consisting of a centre manager, a cook, 12 carers and a driver.





