

2017 Annual Report

A Message from the President

2017 has been another year where Nafasi Opportunity Society (NOS) continues to build on our successes.

First and foremost, another pilot program was completed with the graduation in November 2017 of 25 students. This program was based on our new curriculum that was developed by the Open University of Tanzania and has been accredited by the National Council For Technical Education in Tanzania. We are pleased to see that one month after graduation over one half of our students are earning an income from the training they have received.

OUT has also provided local liaison with the Vocational and Education Authority of Tanzania who delivered the professional modules of the program.

During 2017 we received two major grants - the Government of Alberta Community Initiatives Program and another from the Commonwealth of Learning. Our partnership with Bow Valley College has proven fruitful as they have received a Government of Canada International Youth Internship Program grant (IYIP) that will allow them to deploy 2 interns per year for 3 years in Tanzania to work on our project.

Although our donor base continues to grow which provides us with confidence in moving forward with our projects, we as most charities are challenged to keep exploring

and securing new resources. In 2017 we held another Gala event at the Muttart Conservatory in Edmonton. This evening was a huge success.

NOS has been able to maintain our formula of being 100% volunteer driven in Alberta. Our achievements are being realized with the engagement of a lot of talented and dedicated people which deserve to be thanked in big way. In particular I would like to express my appreciation and recognition of our dedicated Board of Directors. This Board is engaged, demonstrates a clear vision, and harnesses the resources to achieve our charitable goals.

We have plans to expand our charitable work and we have the Board that is capable of growing our work. Watch for some exciting developments in 2018.

Thank you,

Ron C Cherlet, President



Photo - Class of 2017

Mission and Objectives

Nafasi-Opportunity Society's mission is to create opportunity for women in developing countries where opportunities are scarce for financial independence. As business and entrepreneurship skills have been the medium to achieve the mission there has been much progress this past year.



Photo: Graduation Day at OUT

The Class of 2016-17

Open University of Tanzania hosted a graduation ceremony for our class in November/2017. Most of our students were able to attend. Inspirational speeches were delivered by a number of representatives but in particular the owners of two hairstyling shops addressed the graduates speaking to future possibilities they have in front of them. A class representative spoke to the good fortune they have experienced and also the challenges they will face in trying to establish themselves in the marketplace.

Special Thank You's

There are a lot of hands involved in making these programs happen and we want to thank them all. Two people in particular in Tanzania provided excellent leadership to this program and are deserving of special mention:

Dr. Harieth Hellar Kihampa is the Director of The Institute of Continuing Education at OUT and with her strong vision led our 2017 pilot program to success. She holds a Bachelor and Masters of Science from the University of Dar es Salaam and a PhD from Antwerp, Belgium. We are quite fortunate to have her leading the academic design and delivery of our program.

Keshubi Rwegasira represents NOS' interests on the ground in Tanzania and did an outstanding job in supporting the students and coordinating the first class. Keshubi is a Tanzanian national with a Bachelor of Engineering degree and Certificate in Computer Software Technology from McGill University in Montreal and has also worked on contract for the Canadian High Commission in Dar es Salaam.

Photo - NOS Director & Class July 2018



Ongoing Opportunities and Risks and Challenges

NOS is exploring opportunities to diversify our charitable work so 2018 could be a very interesting and pivotal year. We will plan to grow communications via the Internet to more effectively engage with sponsors, volunteers, partners, students and alumni. Small charities are always at risk with fundraising but our Board of Directors continue to chart a course that generates the funds required to deliver programs. NOS is small but extremely efficient in utilization of funds.

Fundraising and Local Profile

NOS' local profile has been enhanced through membership with Alberta Centre for Global Cooperation (ACGC). This is a dynamic provincial organization that has helped to raise our profile in the local community. ATB Cares is also featured on the website to receive a 15% matching of donations made, along with having all the charitable receipting done without cost.



NOS' *Styling The Future Gala* was a huge success. Approximately \$12,000 was raised and it continued to elevate our profile locally. The Honourable Marlin Schmidt, Member of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta and Minister of Advanced Education said a few words in support of NOS' work and extended greetings on behalf of Premier Rachel Notley.

The Year Ahead

As a relatively young charity we have experienced some great success and plan to build on it. With the completion of our 2nd class and expanding partnerships we will deepen our work, starting with research on our project in Tanzania to be commenced June 2018 by interns working through Bow Valley College in Calgary with Government of Canada's International Youth Internship Program. Assigned for 6 months at a time over a 3-year period this information should greatly assist us in growing our effectiveness.

The Open University of Tanzania March 2018 Newsflash: Hair Styling and Beauty students graduate!

The Vice Chancellor (VC) of the Open University of Tanzania (OUT) awarded certificates to the second batch of Hair Styling and Beauty programme during an event held on 15th November 2017.

In his opening speech, Professor Bisanda commended the president of Nafasi Opportunity Society (NOS) Mr. Ron Cherlet and the entire NOS for their support to young underprivileged women in Tanzania. Professor Bisanda said, "We appreciate the support you extended to us and especially to the young underprivileged women in our community". "The skills you provided to them added value not only in improving their personal well being but also for the entire society," added Bisanda. He further elaborated that in Tanzania, there is a saying that states when one educates a woman, the entire society gets educated.

On nurturing the hairstyling and beauty career, the VC said that, together with their counterparts, Vocational Education Training Authority (VETA) and the funders-NOS are considering to develop a Diploma programme in Hair Styling and Beauty Therapy in the near future and if successful, they will also develop a Bachelor degree programme.

Professor Bisanda hinted that in developed countries, hair styling and beauty industry has grown tremendously. As developing Countries, we ought to adopt the same. This will provide an opportunity for those who are talented in the art. He further encouraged and urged the graduates to start with small business for those who have no huge capital. He said, in addition to capital, businesses require one to have other two most important things, which are efforts and attitude.

Professor Bisanda said, "The secret behind success lies upon the three basic things which are capital, effort and attitude. If you have one of them and miss the of two you are likely to be less successful" "Above all, business requires one to be patient. You may not be able see the profit now but in the future you will. Have personal efforts, good attitude and however small the capital you have, you will make it eventually," added Professor Bisanda.

In his special greetings to the event, Mr. Ron Cherlet said the society is pleased to be working with OUT as the lead stakeholder for the project. He said NOS is looking forward to continue working with OUT once the evaluation of the program as pilot study is done.

One of the project Coordinators, who represented NOS Ms. Keshubi Rwegasira encouraged graduates to use the skills they acquired for their livelihood and make a difference in their lives.

The Director of Communications and Marketing (DCM) who was also the Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic in the event, Dr. Mohammed Omary urged the graduates to always turn the challenges into opportunities in order to succeed. "Life has ups and downs but I assure you that every challenge comes with a hidden opportunity. So, do not be discouraged and strive to achieve your ambitions," Said Dr. Omary.

To her side, the Director Institute of Continuing Education, Dr. Harieth Hellar said the graduates should use the skills they have acquired for career development and personal goals. "As you may all be aware that this program aimed at enhancing the capacity of girls who are from difficult backgrounds, hence as graduates from that particular background you should focus on your goals and not otherwise," said Harrieth.

The coordinator of short courses from VETA, Mr. Mashaka Kassara urged the graduated to adhere to ethical codes of conducts taught to them in class. "What we taught you in class should practically be done in real life situations. For example, I do not expect you to behave in bad manner when you leave from here", remarked Kassara. "I also expect you to be creative and be the ambassadors of OUT and VETA wherever you go."

The NOS society of Canada signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the OUT and its counterpart VETA to start offering the hairstyling and beauty program in Tanzania. Its main objective was to support the young unprivileged women in Tanzania. This year's graduation marks the second where as the first batch graduated in 2014. There have been 50 graduates since the program started.

Nafasi Opportunity Society
Statement of Financial Position
as at December 31, 2017

	2017	2016
Current Assets		
Cash	\$18,360.83	\$13,324.03
Accounts Receivable	\$ 417.08	\$6.58
Prepaid Expenses		
Open University of Tanzania	\$ -	\$6,895.00
Contractor Advance	\$ -	\$ -
Total Assets	<u>\$18,777.91</u>	<u>\$20,225.61</u>
Current Liabilities		
Liabilities	\$ -	\$0.00
Open University of Tanzania	<u>\$3,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 3,000.00</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 3,000.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
Net Assets	<u>\$15,777.91</u>	<u>\$20,225.61</u>
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	\$ (3,037.09)	\$12,050.61
Restricted - Govt of AB CIP Grant	<u>\$18,815.00</u>	<u>\$ 8,175.00</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>\$15,777.91</u>	<u>\$20,225.61</u>

NAFASI Opportunity Society
Statement of Operations
for the year ended December 31, 2017

	2017	2016
Revenues		
Charitable Donations	\$ 1,520.00	\$ 665.00
Rec'd at Fundraiser	<u>\$ 1,320.00</u>	<u>\$3,017.50</u>
Contributions in Kind	\$ 1,885.46	\$ 1,837.43
Fundraising Revenue	\$ 11,905.00	\$ 16,115.80
Memberships	\$ 160.00	\$ 300.00
Grants Received	\$ 28,815.00	\$ -
Interest Earned	<u>\$ 0.97</u>	<u>\$ 2.55</u>
	<u>\$ 45,606.43</u>	<u>\$ 21,938.28</u>
Expenditures		
Pilot Project - Contractor Fees	\$ 7,917.12	\$2,990.67
Pilot Project - Expenses	<u>\$33,362.43</u>	<u>\$4,000.00</u>
Fundraising Costs	\$ 7,737.38	\$ 9,670.14
Office Expenses and Supplies Canada	\$ 1,050.77	\$ 607.95
GST	\$ (13.57)	\$ 315.34
	<u>\$ 50,054.13</u>	<u>\$ 17,584.10</u>
Excess of Revenue over Expenditures	<u>\$ (4,447.70)</u>	<u>\$ 4,354.18</u>

NAFASI Opportunity Society
Statement of Changes in Net Assets
For the year ended December 31, 2017

	2017	2016
Balance at the beginning of the year	\$20,225.61	\$15,871.43
Surplus of Revenue over Expenditures	\$ (4,447.70)	\$ 4,354.18
Balance at the end of the year	<u>\$15,777.91</u>	<u>\$20,225.61</u>