

## Support Vocational Training and Educational Programs for Orphans of the AIDS Pandemic in Tanzania

"Amani" is the Swahili word for peace and it is the name chosen for the Amani Children's Home in Moshi, Tanzania which is a centre dedicated to the protection of Tanzania's most vulnerable population: street-children and AIDS orphans.

Since its founding by local Tanzanians in 2001, the Amani Children's Home has rescued over 290 children from the perils of life on the streets, where children face a high risk of HIV transmission and malnutrition.

Due to one of the world's poorest economies, weakening family ties, and HIV/AIDS, the problem of street-children in Tanzania is growing daily. Amani tries to help these affected children by offering them a safe home, attempting to reunite them with their families, and offering them a variety of educational opportunities.

Change for Children - in conjunction with **Hands Across Africa**, a local community group in Edmonton, Alberta, supports Amani's Vocational Training Program which provides orphan children living at Amani Children's home with local employment opportunities. Children who complete their Standard 7 education and are unable to continue in secondary school, are provided with training opportunities that will enable them to develop the skills and knowledge necessary to obtain jobs and become self-sustaining adults in Tanzania's increasingly global economy.



The goals of the project are:

- to provide children who have graduated from primary school and have been unable to earn a place in secondary school the opportunity to train at local Vocational Training Centres;
- facilitate the work of Amani social workers who speak with the children leaving primary school about their future goals and specific interests;
- facilitate research by social workers to seek out programs that suit individual students;
- fund 2 year training programs in mechanics, carpentry, electrical and traditional drumming and art performance;
- facilitate visits by Amani social workers to the children at regular intervals throughout the program to ensure the children are learning relevant skills and happy in their programs;
- facilitate the return of the children to the Amani children's home on holidays and breaks from the vocational centres.

The expected results of this program are for students to become viable applicants for jobs in the Kilimanjaro region, for students to develop the appropriate skills and training that will allow them to act as self-sustaining adults, and to break the cycle of poverty that traps undereducated homeless children. Students involved in the program will gain skills and training that will better enable them to find employment, provide for themselves and their families and live a productive and happy life.



### Human Dignity, Healthy Communities, Global Justice

Change for Children is an Edmonton-based charitable organization with a 32 year history of supporting sustainable grassroots community development in Latin America and Africa. In Canada, CFCFA provides an award-winning Global Education program that engages the public in a process of awareness raising, analysis and action on issues of global justice.