

THE PIPELINE

HOPE ACADEMY

*How a School
of 30 Students
grew to 600*





A Letter from Pastor Samuel Mwangi

Founder & Executive Director, PIPES International

Welcome to the first edition of THE PIPELINE, a proverbial aqueduct flowing between the smallest hands of poverty and the helping hands and feet of Jesus. This newsletter will inspire you every month with amazing stories of transformation taking place in Africa, Asia, and the United States. We want this newsletter to be valuable for you with regular updates not only about the amazing stories of the pygmies in Africa but also the state of affairs in the mission front around the world.

THE PIPELINE will ensure that PIPES Partners receive in-depth information on the impact of their support and prayers. Each month you'll get informative articles and updates on the programs, missions, and the progress with children and the families we serve. Each newsletter will be posted on our website, Facebook, and other social media outlets.

Maybe you have a family member, a friend, or a pastor who may benefit from the information in our e-newsletter - please share!

This month, you'll find information about the Hope school in DR Congo with over 600 children.

I hope you will be excited to follow our posts and see the lifelong difference an organization can make in the lives of thousands of people for God's glory.

Later in the year, we hope to start THE PIPELINE podcast, an online tool where we will discuss various topics, including current affairs. We feel it's essential to address issues like the impact of the rise of China on world evangelization, how terrorist activities hinder missionary work in the frontier, and many more.

For now, prepare to dive into an exciting story about an amazing miracle of God!

-Pastor Samuel

ANNUAL PARTNER'S BANQUET

2300 MCKELVEY RD,
MARYLAND HEIGHTS, MO 63043
MARYLAND HEIGHTS COMMUNITY CENTER
MILLENNIUM ROOM A

APRIL 17, 2020; 6:00PM

\$25/PERSON - \$200/TABLE(8 SEATS)

Hope Academy

How a School of 30 Students grew to 600



Origins

Hope Academy is a school where indigenous children feel the peace of God and grow as followers of Christ and citizens who make a positive impact on their communities.

Students in Congo attend schools in increments that closely mirror that of the United States education system: 1st-6th grade, 7th-10th, and 11th-12th. In 6th grade, students have to sit for an exam, which allows them to move on to 7th grade. A recent study showed that 44% of students drop out of school at this point and cease attending any kind of formal education.

The statistics for indigenous peoples are even more alarming. Pygmies are five times more likely to drop out than non-indigenous peoples, and twice as likely to have no education at all.

In 2007, four years before the starting of PIPES International, Pastor Samuel was prompted by the Lord to find a way to provide free education for the indigenous peoples of Congo. "The desire to start Hope Academy was to give hope and opportunity to the local children; thus the name "Hope Academy," says Samuel.

Due to lack of resources, the idea was shelved until 2011, when PIPES International was founded, and partners began to make online donations to build the school.

At that point, a group of 30 students met under a shade outside Goma town and began their studies. PIPES employed one teacher and eventually a second one.

At the start of the fall semester of 2012, 156 students were enrolled at the school. Excitement was very high in the local community, and many parents were able to take their children to school for the very first time. This sparked a flame of hope in the hearts of the indigenous people and it began to spread.

For the first three years of the school's existence, the structure was mostly composed of a waterproof canvas material, supported by timber poles on the sides. Inside were four separate classrooms, separated by the canvas, where grades 1-4 met to study.

Each day students were served with *uji*, which means "porridge." This further encouraged parents to bring their children to school because the students didn't have anything to eat at home.

All the while, property was being acquired to begin construction on a more permanent structure that would house many more students.

God's Favor

In 2014, construction to expand the size of the school began. Major fundraising efforts took place on the home-front in the US to provide every dollar that was needed for the completion of this project. In about ten months, the Lord provided the funds, and the construction was completed in October of 2014.

Within one year of the completion of the building project, more than 200 new students enrolled to begin their studies at Hope Academy. With this large increase in the student population, the need for a greater number of teachers grew.

Teachers Who Love

From the beginning, PIPES established that any educator employed by Hope Academy needed to be a strong believer and passionate about their faith.

As the school grew, and the need for more teachers along with it, interviews were held for both men and women in the local community. One challenge was finding qualified female teachers because of the lack of education among women in DRC. Trust was placed in the Lord, knowing that He would provide exactly the right number of teachers to instruct the growing student population. By 2015, we had nine full-time teachers and two subordinate staff.

"Our teachers are very passionate, and they are committed to our students for the long-haul. They are hard-working and very good at their jobs. The school director, Nathalie, is a very strong, God-fearing woman who is committed to the mission of the school and the development of each and every student. Our longest standing teacher, Musemi, has been with the school since its inception in 2011. At the moment, PIPES is sponsoring his bachelor's degree in education.

Hope Academy's primary mission, which coincides with PIPES International's mission is to partner with indigenous people groups to make disciples and end abject poverty. Education plays a primary role in ending poverty and is necessary for the economic development of a community.

The teachers at Hope Academy love the Lord and they love their students. Their passion for educating, and making disciples is clear in the ways they mentor the students.





What's Next?

PIPES International is excited to announce that this July (2020) Hope Academy will be holding its first official Commencement Ceremony with an expected graduating class of 62 students!

We praise the Lord for this exciting time in Hope Academy. God has proved His faithfulness to us time and time again over the past nine years and we give Him all the glory. Everything that we have accomplished has been a direct result of His provision and careful attention to the progress of the school.

The next step for growth in PIPES' education initiative is to construct two more schools, one in Congo and another in Kenya. In addition to these two schools, we plan to establish a vocational training school.

"I have seen the need to form a vocational training school for students who are interested in furthering their education but cannot afford or do not qualify to go to a university or college," says Samuel.

As partners who are dedicated to long-term relationships with the indigenous peoples of Africa, it is important for us to invest time and energy into continued education for those students who are seeking to make careers that will sustain themselves and their families throughout the course of their lives.

We continue to trust the Lord for the provision of finances and resources to build and maintain our schools.

Today, Hope academy educates more than 600 students and continues to grow with each new term! The need for continued support is greater than ever. There are many ways to support Hope Academy and the building of more schools through PIPES International. To learn more about how to get involved, visit pipesinternational.org

Article written by Stuart Isaac Harrier, Editor of THE PIPELINE.



ARE YOU A PRAYER WARRIOR?

Sign up online to become a PIPES Prayer Partner and receive weekly prayer list updates from our team in the field.

pipesinternational.org/pray

Economic Development in Rwanda

Missionary Jane presents a Rabbit hutch with two rabbits to Maria (right) and her family. As the rabbits multiply, Maria will have food for her family and can sell some for her healthcare needs. With only \$50, PIPES donates a hutch and several rabbits to each family.

You can help a hardworking family to start, grow, and sustain their small business. Rabbit farming doesn't require a lot of start-up capital. It takes less space and provides manure for crop farming. At only six months, rabbits start producing kits- up to 12 kits at a time.

Looking Back on 2019

God has been gracious to PIPES International in 2019. We have reached more than 15, 000 people with the good news of Jesus Christ in 12 countries, including the Philippines, South Korea, Turkey, Tunisia, Kenya, DR Congo, Rwanda, Burundi, Ethiopia, Uganda, Tanzania, and Mexico. Over 1,000 have come to Jesus Christ, and hundreds more renewed their faith in God.

We trained pastors, local leaders, and initiated several income-generating projects. Among them are the rabbit farming and sewing business.

We are happy to report that weekly Bible study groups are meeting in the countries we serve. The bible study meetings are aiding new believers to grow deeper in their faith in Christ. Finally, we continue to educate and feed close to 1,000 orphans and vulnerable children. Over Christmas 2019, we fed children in Congo, Rwanda, Kenya, and Mexico.



See What's Coming in 2020

PIPES DISCIPLESHIP BOOKLET:

We are publishing a discipleship workbook that will be used among the people we serve. The workbook will help Christians to grow in faith and be ambassadors of Christ.

PIPES DOCUMENTARY:

In July, we will shoot a documentary featuring the indigenous pygmies in Africa. The documentary will help create greater awareness of unreached indigenous people groups and challenge Christians to focus more on areas of greatest need.

MARCH 2020 MISSION TRIP:

Please pray for Pastor Samuel as he travels to Africa for a month of mission. He will visit four countries, namely Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi, and Congo.

JULY 2020 MISSION TRIP:

We expect about 20 people to travel for the annual mission trip to Africa. Pray for God's presence.

ISSUE 1 | MARCH 2020

THE PIPELINE

Want to know how you can partner with us?

- Join our PIPES Partners Family by giving at least a dollar a day, or \$30 per month.
- Become a PIPES Prayer Partner
- Join us for a life-changing trip to Africa or Asia
- Spread the word

Learn more at:
pipesinternational.org/getinvolved

PIPES International is a global organization that partners with indigenous people groups to make disciples for Jesus Christ and end poverty. PIPES advocates for the basic human rights all peoples deserve.



636.219.1101
904 Altavia Dr. Hazelwood, MO 63042
Kenya Phone: +254 742 071 444

THE PIPELINE is the official monthly newsletter of PIPES International, a 501(c)(3) organization based out of St. Louis, Missouri.

pipesinternational.org

