

Updated grant application with additional information 3/4/22

Here is an update on our request for a Montessori grant to help finish the goal of a Montessori School for the children of a small village located in the southwest part of Tanzania. The closest big city is called Songea. This has been the dream of Fr Hugo who is from Tanzania and was educated at St Martin in Washington and received a MS in Counseling Psychology and then received a Doctorate of Counselor Education and Supervision from UM-Missoula. Fr Hugo met and became friends with many of his parishioners. He traveled back to Tanzania almost 5 years ago and is helping children and adults in his community. I was able to travel to Tanzania in 2019 and again in 2021.

The community is helping make this school come true through volunteering and donating. Parishioners from Montana, USA are also donating. Today we have a teacher who is ready to start. We are struggling to find the last \$1500 to buy the Montessori school supplies. We would also like to train a local person to teach Montessori. The school in Mtwara, Tanzania is ready to accept her and get her caught up in her training but we will need \$1000 per year. Teacher training takes 2 years. We would like to request the \$1500 for supplies so the school can start right away. We would also request \$2000 for training of the teacher. The school year started for children in January so we are moving as fast as we can get this school going. Montessori is a whole new concept for this village community, who are mostly farmers. If we can't find the necessary funding to finish then the school will have to go to the traditional Tanzania kindergarten. This school will be for all children even though it is a building owned by the Catholic Church. Thank you and I hope to hear from you soon

Thanks S.D. and Fr. Hugo and the children from the village.