

BEL Highlights 2020
Email: belprojects19@gmail.com
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Dear Friends,

The goal of the Bwoga Elementary Library (BEL) project is to build a library in Bwoga, a rural community in western Uganda, and equip it with books, computers, and staff so that Bwoga children may have a resourceful place where they can access books, and other opportunities to help them develop useful life skills.

Thank you so much for your continued support. We are excited about the progress that we made together in 2020, moving closer to making BEL's vision a reality. Here are some highlights from year 2020:

1) **Go fund me fundraiser**

We are encouraged by the success of our ongoing fundraiser. So far, we have raised \$7,445, that is, \$6320 from [The BEL Library Construction Fund, organized by Tristen Moore](#) (a previous fundraiser), and \$1125 from <https://gf.me/u/y8x9vjf> (ongoing fundraiser). We plan on expanding our fundraising efforts in 2021.

2) **New members joining the BEL team**

Keith Lowey: Keith has helped us develop a relationship with the WaWa Project. This relationship will enable us to raise funds under WaWa's charitable status. As an accountant, Keith has offered his expertise to help advise us on laying a solid foundation in our accounting and legal needs. Keith is looking forward to being a financial stakeholder in the project.

Kevin Lowey: Kevin is a doctor and has volunteered to help develop a written documentary of the BEL project for a future e-book. Kevin has offered valuable advice and is looking forward to being a financial stakeholder in the project.

Gene Miller: Gene is a professor at Brandeis University International Business school. She joined the BEL leadership team as a project advisor, and has been helping with asset mapping--connecting BEL with partners and resources for funding.

Hannah Brown: Hannah is a research assistant at the Center for Global Development, a non-profit think tank. She is the BEL project Development and Economic Analyst, responsible for tracking economic and social impact of the project to the community. Hannah will also assist with researching and applying for grants to help promote BEL's mission.

Jeffrey Hadachek: Jeff is a Ph.D. student at UC, Davis. With his role as a Project Development and Economic Analyst, Jeff will be collecting and analyzing data to advise the project's progress. Jeff will also help with writing newsletters and updates on BEL's progress.

3) **Updated Website and social media**

- 4) **Documented inspirational stories of BEL leaders and their vision for the BEL project**
- 5) **Outreach efforts made to other programs with comparable programs in other countries**
- 6) **Plans for discussion and community engagement to acquire feedback and partnership with local leaders in Bwoga**
- 7) **Creation of a local mobilization team**
- 8) **Design of new logos for future review and use**
- 9) **Establishment of both a USA and a Uganda BEL team leadership group**

BEL Members

USA Team

Name	Profession	BEL Role
Peter Agaba	Brandeis University Graduate in Master of Arts in Economics and Finance	Director
Isaac Ahimbisibwe	PhD Student at UC, Davis	Assistant Director/Community Engagement
Sarah Kimeu	Social Entrepreneur, SaSa Samosa Kitchen	Co-founder/Project Treasurer/Member of the board
Joseph Kimeu	Teacher at Eastern HS and PhD student University of Louisville	Co-founder /Communications Director
Lovence Ainembabazi	Teacher at Bullitt Central HS KY	Head of Gender Empowerment/Culture Programs
Ken Lowey	Chiropractor at Newton Center Chiropractic	Chief Operating Officer/Advisor
Kevin Lowey	Chiropractor at Orleans Chiropractic	BEL Documentary
Keith Lowey	Partner at Verdolino & Lowey, P.C.	Chief Finance Officer -Finance Committee
Gene Miller	Professor at Brandeis University (IBS)	Project Advisor
Hannah Brown	Research Assistant - Center for Global Development	Grants, Development and Economic Analyst
John Hagaman	Professor Emeritus in English at WKU	Project Advisor/US Board Member and Informal Writer for the Project News/Updates
Jeffrey Hadachek	PhD Student UC, Davis	Business, Development and Economic Analyst

Uganda Team

Abel Mukama	Data Analyst at Ener Grow Kampala Uganda	Assistant Director- Uganda
Grace/Tefuro Ndabahwerize	Peter's Parents	Local Project Advisors
Osbert Mwijukye	Website Development and Design at Rocket health	Website Designer and Social Media Management
John Kahiigi	Chairman LC-2	Local Project Advisor
David Mwesigye	Principle Bwoga Elementary School	Local Project Advisor
Consolate Kansiime	Village Health Leader	Lead Local Mobilization Team

10. Community Engagement

We had our first community engagement meeting with local leaders on Dec. 28, 2020. The leaders welcomed BEL's idea with great enthusiasm, and agreed to continue mobilizing and introducing the ideal to other members of the Bwoga community.

As we come to the end of 2020, we want to thank you so much for your support. We are looking forward to 2021, excited to see how God guides our steps. Going forward, we will be using the following link for the gofundme fundraiser: <https://gf.me/u/y8x9vj>. You can also learn more about BEL by visiting the project's [website](#). I have included some pictures that provide a general overview of Bwoga.

Pictures from Community Engagement



BEL's Ugandan coordinator explaining the project's mission to local project leaders. The meeting was held at Bwoga Community Health Center grounds on Dec. 2020.



Local leaders discussing how they will organize and engage other community members, Dec. 2020.



Local organization team brainstorming BEL project's slogan, Dec. 2020.



Peter Meeting some students at Bwoga Primary School, Jan. 2018.

Best wishes to you and your loved ones!
Peter Agaba – BEL Director