



Bwoga Elementary
LIBRARY
Serving the Community

GIVING EVERY CHILD IN BWOGA AN OPPORTUNITY
To Read Wide and Dream Big



BWOGA ELEMENTARY LIBRARY (BEL) INITIATIVE 2023
THIRD QUARTER REPORT

Executive Summary

As we almost reach the end of the BEL library construction, the Bwoga Elementary Library (BEL) team extends its heartfelt gratitude to you for your support of BEL's mission of helping transform Bwoga through education. Your contributions have already begun to yield remarkable results within the Bwoga community. Currently, we have 14 Bwoga kids benefitting from the BEL scholarship fund, with 6 of them attending high school and the other 8 attending elementary school. Furthermore, because of your generous support, we are on track to complete the library construction by mid next month, with plans for an official opening in December.

Once again, we would like to reiterate our profound appreciation for your invaluable support, which is making a transformative and lasting impact on the lives of Bwoga kids and the entire Bwoga community. Your dedication to our cause is truly commendable, and we look forward to the many positive changes that your continued support will bring in the days ahead.

Library Structure

The library construction is close to completion, with exciting developments since our last update:

- a. **Landscaping:** We have finished landscaping the compound around the library
- b. **Grass and Trees:** have planted trees and grass, which are now beautifully growing.
- c. **Chain Link fence:** We have installed a chain link fence around the library for security.
- d. **Water fountain:** We have constructed a small water fountain by an existing pond in front of the library.
- e. **Electricity installation:** We are currently installing electricity.

Looking ahead: The remaining phases of construction are painting of the library's interior and exterior parts, and the installation of window glasses. We anticipate wrapping up all construction activities by mid-November 2023, to pave way for an official launch of the library in December 2023. Figures 1 and 2 below highlight the progress of library construction to date.



Figure 1. Bwoga Library with security fence around its compound.



Figure 2. A simple water fountain constructed near an existing pond in front of the library

BEL Scholarship

On September 23, 2023, Bwoga kids on BEL scholarship returned to school (following a short holiday break) for their last term of the academic year. We are pleased to report that despite weak academic backgrounds, these kids' academic performances have steadily improved since their first term at the new boarding school. This improvement is also attributed to your generous support, which has enabled us to provide the kids with school fees and essential school supplies. However, we note a persisting challenge: Many of the kids lag in English (reading and writing skills). This lag can be easily traced to their educational backgrounds before BEL came into their lives. We are hopeful and excited that with the educational resources available to them, the kids' reading and writing skills will improve over time.

It is also encouraging to see some kids discovering latent talents that might have otherwise remained untapped. For instance, we have kids who are now engaged in debating clubs and athletics in their new schools. A notable example is Witness Turyasiima, a sixth grader at Masheruka Primary School, who qualified to represent her school at the district level (equivalent to state level in the US) in track and field. BEL aspires to nurture these talents by creating opportunities for their development. This goal aligns well with BEL's mission of establishing a resourceful environment where the children of Bwoga can access educational materials and other opportunities to enhance their life skills.



Figure 3. BEL Kids praying before setting off for school for their last academic term (Sept. 23, 2023).



Figure 4. *Witness Turyasiima* (6th grade) recently represented her school at district level in track and field.

Fundraising

At the start of the year, our fundraising goal was \$30,000. To date, we have raised \$16,300. A larger part of this sum came from our BEL Louisville fundraiser, which brought in \$12,000. We are committed to sustaining our fundraising efforts throughout the remainder of the year, including a BEL virtual fundraiser scheduled for November.

The collected funds play a pivotal role in supporting BEL's mission including completing library construction and some of the library's operations (e.g., security, summer reading programs, BEL fund, etc.).

Your generosity and support have been essential in making BEL's work possible. We express our heartfelt gratitude for your contributions, recognizing that they will have a lasting and profound impact on Bwoga kids, and the Bwoga community. Again, if you would like to contribute, donations can be made through our [GoFundMe](#) page or directly on our [website](#).

Furthermore, we invite you to stay informed about BEL's initiatives by subscribing to our newsletter through the following link: News Form. Together, we can effect meaningful change and leave a positive impact on the lives of those we serve.



Figure 5. BEL Annual Fundraising Event, Louisville Ky., July 14th, 2023

Thank you,
BEL Team