

Building a New Orphanage for the Wajibu Wetu Children

Progress February 2015

In November 2014 we started a campaign to raise funds to complete the building. Many people sent contributions and many forwarded the brochure to friends and family. We received donations from around the world, often from people we had never met before. In total we received USD 24,000 – we thank you all for your fantastic and kind contributions.



George Kithioma, the Wajibu Wetu manager, sent letters to all those that contributed. When you did not receive a letter from him, please let me know as we have found some people never received their letter.

Since November we have 6 staff working on site – one mason and two carpenters with three boys that help them. Using the wood from the old school building we built the roof frame.

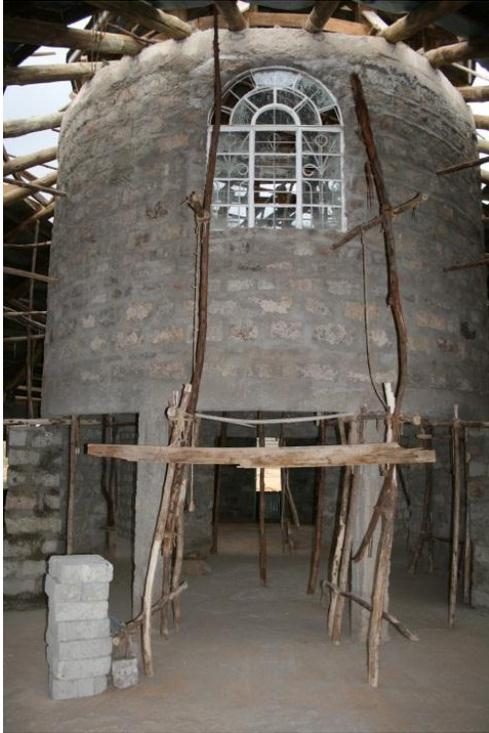
The original school building, which was constructed more than 50 years ago, had the roof covered with wooden planks, with tiles on top. We will use gal sheet covered with tiles. The wood that we save this way will become the wood for the second floor in the building (the original building did not have two floors).

On the steel gal sheets we put the frame for the



tiles.

And we also built the central tower – the room in the top of the central column has great views and will be a place for the children to relax.



To date we have covered the roof for about two-thirds with tiles.

We have also started with the inside – building the inside walls. Two weeks ago finally we were connected to the electricity grid. Water should follow in the coming weeks.

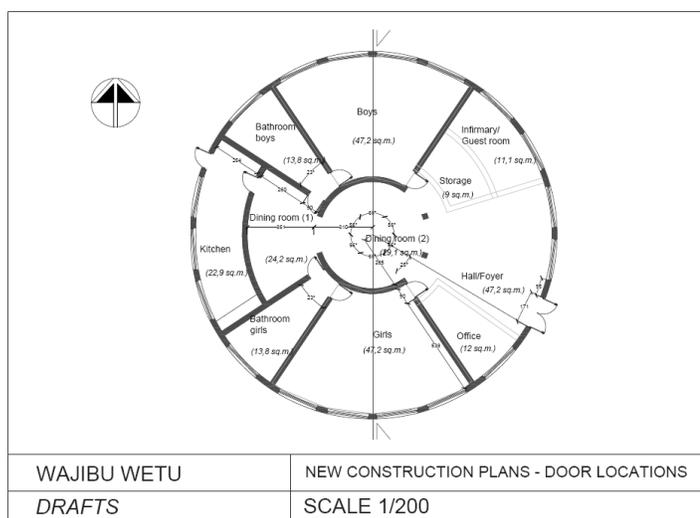


We are now focusing on completing the roof. We are also completing the inside walls. And we have started installing the electrical conduits.

To date we have spent about USD 16,000 from the funds received and have a balance, in the bank, of about USD 8,000.

There is still much work to be done:

- Complete roof tiling
- Complete inside walls
- Fit door frames
- Build wooden floor for second floor
- Build floor in central column for top view room
- Complete inside walls of the second floor
- Install electrical conduits, fit wiring and fittings
- Install plumbing, water, sewage, etc – connect to water
- Inside stairs (3)
- Fit doors
- Plaster walls
- Plaster floor
- Bathrooms: 6 showers, 6 toilets, 6 sinks, 6 taps etc
- Kitchen
- Tile floors and walls
- Paint inside walls
- Lighting
- Fit windows
- Fit security grills for windows and doors
- Ground work around the building



We are also receiving in-kind support – the electrician is working for free, we found a plumber who offered to help for free, and a supplier has offered to provide paint for free. We are looking for more donations - including a kitchen, toilets and showers, sinks, taps and tiles. And we are continuing our fund raising, as we are still about USD 10,000 short. So please do keep sharing the flyer with anybody interested.

Hopefully we will be able to finish the building before September – that is our current plan.



Progress end February

We have now started to collect furniture and other items such as beds, blankets, pillows, chairs, tables, desks, wardrobes, cupboards, books, toys, TV, computers, etc. Everything needed for an orphanage with 40 kids of all ages. So if you have any unused furniture you can donate, we would be happy to collect.

Over the past months we have had the pleasure of some of you coming to have a look at the building, so for anybody interested to have a look, please let me know. On behalf of George and Jane, and all the children, thank you again for your kind support!

