



# PRECIOUS PROJECT



Our vision is to eradicate poverty and illiteracy in the Tanzanian village of Nshupu. We will accomplish this by nurturing, educating and empowering its youth so they can become the future leaders and productive members of their village and country. Our efforts meaningfully enhance gender equity, economic self-sufficiency and environmental sustainability.



# Letter from the Chairman of the Board



It has been an honor to serve as Board Chair of the Precious Project during 2018. What we have accomplished is far beyond anything we dared to dream was possible! Now that they are free from the worries of food insecurity and lack of clean water, our students are becoming the creative thinkers that we hoped they would grow to be. We have continued to advance innovative, creative learning using modern technology. For example, our

students use iPads which are integrated into the curriculum and powered by the PV Solar panels that adorn our campus. All of this in a village that just eight years ago had no supply of electricity!

As a Board we have decided to continue the journey that we have started and voted to build a secondary school. Our own Precious Secondary School will encourage our graduates to continue the development of values learned at Precious Primary School.



Thank you for your support and inspiration. Without it none of our progress would be possible!



## **Precious Board Members & Officers**

Elliot Kronstein, Chairman of the Board

Gil Williams, President and Co-founder

Matthew Gardner, Treasurer

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Susie Rheault, Co-founder

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Rachael Harris, Director of Finance and Operations

## **Precious Contractors**

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Beckwith and Brown, Accountants

Choate, Hall & Stewart, LLP, Attorneys

Smith, Sullivan and Brown, Auditors

## **Precious Volunteers**

Allan Andersen

Laurence Binney

Ina Ghaznavi





# Founders



*Sarah and William Modest*

Teachers by training, Sarah and William Modest opened the Precious Orphans Children's Home (POCH) in 2010 with the desire to help many orphans and abandoned children in Sarah's hometown of Nshupu. In 2011, Susie Rheault and Gil Williams met Sarah and William and were taken with their mission and plight. In order to help POCH, Susie and Gil returned to the U.S. and formed Precious Project, Inc. as a 501c3 organization. The first project was to build a larger, new residential home for the orphans. Three years later, the Precious Primary School followed as the founders agreed with Nelson Mandela that a good education is the best way out of poverty. Slowly the campus developed and the rest is Precious history!



*Gil Williams and Susie Rheault*



# Precious Orphans Children's Home

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Our residential home added two new children in 2018 for a total of 21 children who now have a safe and nurturing place to live. Supportive “mama’s” care for them, ensuring that they are fed three meals a day, do their homework and have all that they need. Some children are orphaned, and others are rescued from neglectful and abusive situations.

One of the new resident children was rescued from a mentally ill mother after she had confined him to his room with no food or water and burned his clothes and school items. The Precious Primary School’s social worker and administrators intervened and had him legally placed in the Home. He is thriving both at home and at school.



*Resident children pose in front of their home before heading off to school.*





# Precious Farm



Two hundred additional chickens were added to the farm during 2018. The new total of 300 chickens produces up to 7-8 trays of eggs a day, which are sold at local hotels and lodges to build revenue.



William purchased a half-acre parcel of land adjacent to our existing farm to expand farming operations to a full acre. Two farmhands planted a greater variety of vegetables to include spinach, Chinese cabbage, kale, lettuce and eggplant. A drip water irrigation system was installed in order to stave off drought. Since the land is on the Precious Campus, the school children cared for some of the plants and learned basic farming skills in the process.



# Precious Music Program

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Thanks to a single donor's generosity, the Precious Primary School has a musical program complete with instruments and a dynamic sound system! The sound system has been used at the graduation ceremony, during other festivities as well as during music classes. Children sing

through microphones and learn electric piano, drums and acoustic guitar! It has been an exciting addition to their regular academics and we are cultivating the natural musical aptitude of talented students.



*The children have fun dancing traditional African dances.  
A teacher, not shown in photo, is playing the drums.*





# Precious English Medium Primary School



*(Tanzanian National Exams: Mary Clay, Top performing fourth-grade student and Nora Ephraim, Top performing seventh-grade student)*

The Precious English Medium Primary School had 220 students in attendance in 2018, having grown from 180 in 2017. The ten-room school now ranks as one of the top private primary schools in Tanzania after only being open for two years. This ranking comes from our students' National Exams test scores, as they have consistently had the highest grades in the district. In 2018, Precious boasted the top 25 performers on the National Exams in the district.



On October 6, 2018, we held our first graduation ceremony. The turnout was enormous, and it was a festive occasion, complete with performances by the children. All of our seventh-grade students received their diplomas and are now enrolled in secondary boarding schools.

*The Class of 2018:  
Three boys and six girls.*

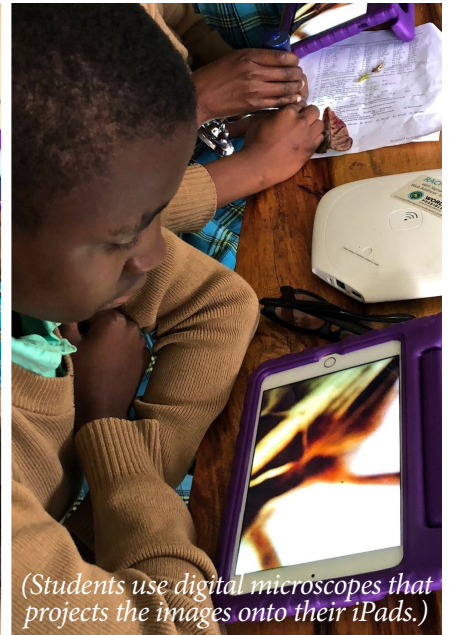
## QUICK FACTS ABOUT PRECIOUS PRIMARY SCHOOL IN 2018

- Provided 71 school scholarships in 2018
- 50% of the students are girls
- Served two nutritious meals daily to all 220 students
- Employed 38 Tanzanian staff members



# STEAM Program

A large part of the success of the school is the volunteer-led STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) program developed and implemented by Ina Ghaznavi and Allan Andersen. These dedicated volunteers, who have been involved with the Children's Home since before Precious Project was formed, travel to Tanzania twice a year to spend weeks training teachers on the latest educational technology that can be used in the classrooms. The technology is integrated to support all grades and major subject areas, and they work with students and teachers to beta test new programs.



*(Students use digital microscopes that projects the images onto their iPads.)*

Ina and Allan are actively engaged in the implementation of tablets (iPads) and WiFi-enabled servers in classes, providing educational software, e-books, coding and productivity programs, video lessons and quizzes. They are designed to improve student performance and develop independent discovery and thinking skills. This year, 22 mini-iPad 4s and two Rachel servers were added to support more students simultaneously participating in the digital learning programs.

Science equipment was also added to support student studies in human biology, botany, and electronics. Among the practical lab materials provided were digital microscopes, which allows students to present their micro-findings on other students iPads to collaborate in their discoveries. Students were also provided hands-on learning in drone technology.



# Capital Improvements in 2018

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The Precious Campus exclusively uses solar energy now, saving us \$2,000 a year on electrical bills. The government-run electric company is not always reliable, so the teachers and students are thrilled with the dependable supply of electricity. All the energy needs of the buildings on the campus are supplied by this source. The system is rated to produce 5120 watts of DC power,

which charges the DC battery bank. One donor, David Trice, spear-headed the solar initiative, challenging Precious Project to find other donors by offering to match their gifts.

This project began when David Trice and Gary Johnson visited the campus and spoke with Gil Williams. David volunteered to match any donations we received until we could get the solar panels. We quickly raised the needed funds from the following generous donors: **Larry Downes, Gary Johnson, Paul Lundquist, Trammel and Ann Newton in honor of Grey Fairchild, and Michael Richter.**



Dormitories were built for our fourth and seventh-grade students so they could receive extra tutoring six months prior to the Tanzanian National Exams. For the seventh-grade students, these exams are used to determine whether they will be allowed to continue their education. The dormitories were hand-built out of brick and cement over a three month period. One section is for boys and one is for girls. Boarding students enjoy three meals a day, and there is always time for music, football (soccer) and socializing so that school isn't all work and no fun.



# Women's Empowerment & Community Programs

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*(Spora Mtali, Nkoranga Agricultural Officer, leading a group of women on how to run a chicken feed business.)*



*(A woman raises free-range chickens and sells them at the market.)*

Precious Project enabled the women's empowerment group to start a company that makes chicken feed. This Savings and Loan Group consists of 45 women. Trainers held a hands-on workshop to teach the women how to manufacture chicken feed. Many people in the village raise chickens so this built-in customer base should assure success in this business endeavor. The women

pool their money and vote on which member should receive a loan. The chosen woman starts her business and pays back the loan to the group in installments, which then goes to fund another women's business. They meet weekly to share business challenges, as well as lessons learned.



Parent meetings are held in the community center/dining hall. Ninety-seven percent of the parents attend which provides us the opportunity to share vital educational information. This year, we brought in a health officer from the Tanzanian Department of Health, who gave a presentation on best practices such as hand washing,

and explained malaria, cholera and typhoid vaccinations. There was a Question and Answer session that truly engaged the parents in attendance, who walked away with a lot of helpful health information.



# Donor List for 2018

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# Donor List for 2018

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# Donor List for 2018

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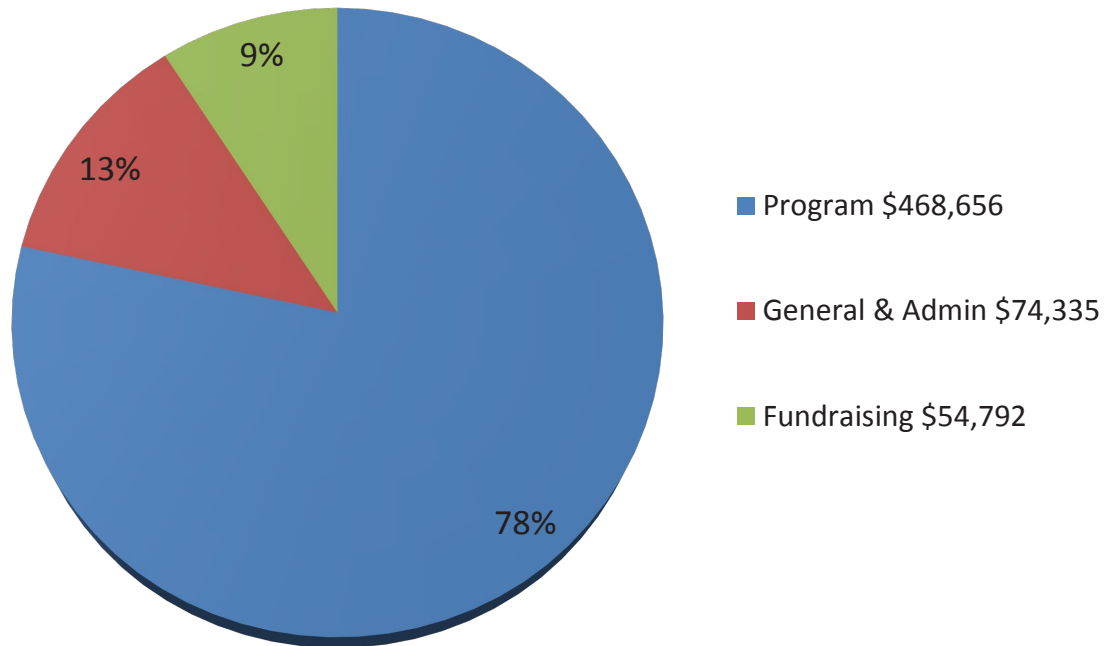
# Donor List for 2018

Benjamin Sadler	Martha & Eric Stone	Ann & Warren Vose
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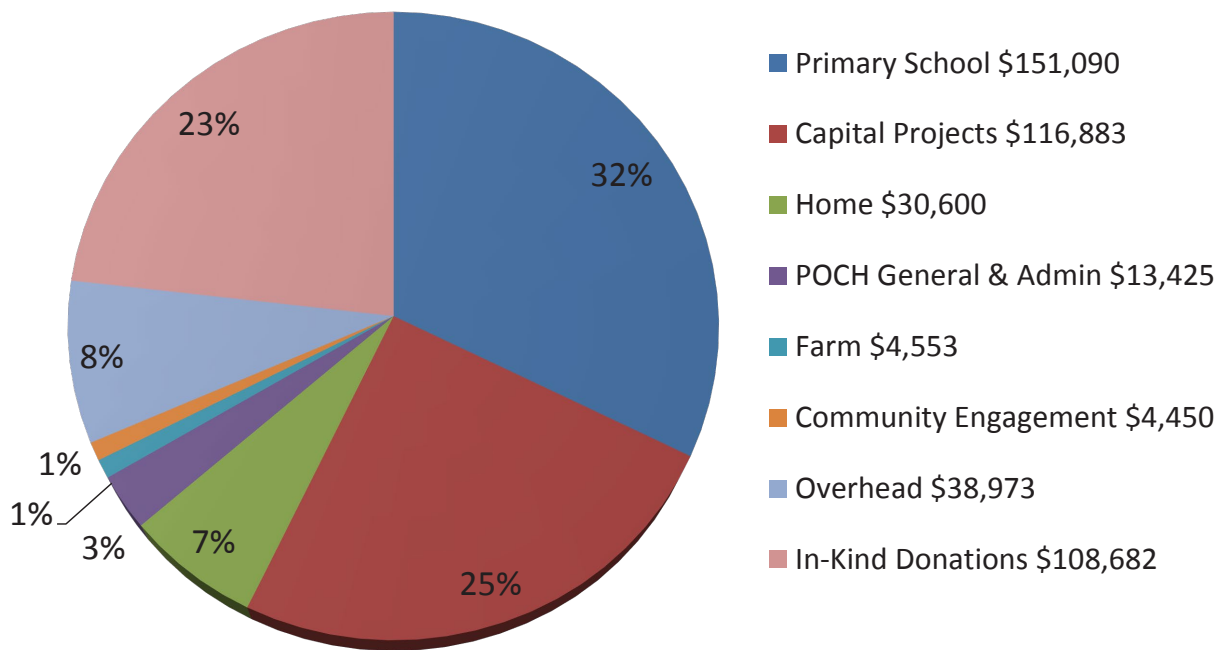


# Financials

**2018 Total Expenses: \$597,783**



**How we spent donations in Tanzania**





# Ways You Can Help Precious Project

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## Join the William & Sarah Society

Precious Project has a special donor recognition society for those donors who have provided a gift in their wills or estate plans. These gifts support the continuation of Precious Project into the future.

Your gift through your will or estate plans will enhance, in perpetuity, the financial ability of Precious Project to sustain itself. Examples of gifts that will qualify membership into this society are bequests, beneficiary designations of retirement plans or life insurance, trusts, and outright gifts to our endowment.

To learn more or have a confidential conversation, please contact **Cyndy Brown** at **401-359-7239** or **[cyndy@preciousproject.org](mailto:cyndy@preciousproject.org)**. Cyndy is qualified as a Chartered Advisor of Philanthropy® and can answer your questions about these plans.

## Make a Tribute Gift

You may direct your friends to **[www.preciousproject.org](http://www.preciousproject.org)** to donate in memory of a loved one. The donation link on our homepage allows one to honor or memorialize a loved one. Precious Project has received donations in lieu of birthday and Christmas gifts, as well as in lieu of flowers for a funeral. We notify the honored person or their family of your gift (without sharing the amount).

## Spread the Word with Peer-to-Peer Fundraising

Besides directing tribute gifts to Precious, you can also participate in a new fundraising initiative called Peer-to-Peer. This is a series of prepared online presentations and solicitations that you can send to your network to encourage them to become Precious Project donors. Your school or church can raise funds this way and even have a friendly competition while helping our cause! To learn more, please contact **Cyndy Brown** at **401-359-7239** or **[cyndy@preciousproject.org](mailto:cyndy@preciousproject.org)**







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