



School & Project News



September 2026



A SEASON OF GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY

Immanuel Integrated Christian School - Kenya



Teacher training

The Immanuel Integrated Christian School was honoured to host sub-county teacher training sessions, welcoming more than 400 teachers for a two-day re-tooling seminar. Teachers attended professional development sessions on curriculum implementation, assessment, child protection, and effective teaching practices to enhance instructional quality.

IICS also had the privilege of hosting the sub-county Book Fair in recognition of the school's exemplary reading culture, which was initiated by Professor Kathi Kitao. The Ministry of Education generously donated books to the school library.

Students continue to participate in co-curricular activities such as music, drama, debate, art, and the environmental club, developing their creativity, confidence, and teamwork. The cooking classes were a hit! Have you ever imagined baking cakes using traditional cooking methods without an oven? By using only cooking pots, a stove, and coal, they made delicious treats—even our beloved Professor Kathi loved them!



Delicious cake

The school farm remains an important part of the curriculum. Students participated in crop and livestock management, and the farm's produce supported the school's feeding program. During the second quarter, Kenya experienced a severe dry



season with no rain, so the school saw a minimal harvest due to the prolonged drought. Nevertheless, students were able to harvest beans, collard greens, and onions to be cooked in the school kitchen.

In the second quarter, students took part in football, volleyball, athletics, and scouting activities, developing leadership skills, discipline, teamwork, and physical fitness. They will soon be participating in the Regional Ball Games.

Parents participated in meetings and academic consultations, which continue to strengthen collaboration between home and school in support of the students' education.



Student excellence

Our heartfelt sympathies go out to IICS as they mourn the loss of one of their students, Emily, who passed away from diabetes. The school community held an emotional send-off.

MYANMAR

Muir School for the Deaf is grateful to DMI and DA supporters for their donations of rice and oil, which have significantly eased the school's burden. The school is also grateful to DMI for enabling teachers from the school to attend the DMI conference at Cebu, Philippines. They were so very happy about being able to meet their DMI friends – many of whom they hadn't seen for years – and see many examples of the works in DMI fields around the world.



A total of 35 students are returning to the Muir School for the new academic year.

The school is also grateful to the Chairo Christian School – Drouin East (VIC) for supporting the construction of two new undercover clotheslines through a special fundraising event. The boys' covered clothesline is 20' x 15' and the girls' is 7' x 26' and these will keep the students' clothes nice and dry during the rainy season.



Chairo students wore bright-coloured shirts and made gold coin donations after learning that many students at our Myanmar school have only two sets of clothes. Moved by this, they enthusiastically embraced the opportunity to make a practical difference.

Thank you for your generosity and care!

Perhaps your school, church, or community group could hold a similar fundraiser. We'd love to help! For ideas and resources, contact us at info@deafmin.org.

DR CONGO

On 12th April, our Beni school's Deaf football team took on a team of hearing students from a local secondary school. We lost 0-1. But on 10th May, undaunted and keen for redemption, the students returned for another game against the same team. This time, we won the match 1-0! Well done, Beni boys!

The Rotary Club of Beni kindly donated 35 desks to our Beni School. We are extremely grateful for their support.

Female hygiene kits were distributed, and training was provided to help students manage menstruation, maintain hygiene, and protect against sexually transmitted diseases.

Beni School for the Deaf also celebrated National Education Day on 30th April, with support from Deaf Child Hope (DCH). DCH also funded regular lunches for the students. Amaranth harvested from the school's own garden was served to the students.

PHILIPPINES

Bicol Deaf Action

A mission team from the Garden Church in Los Angeles blessed the school with a visit. They shared their talents in art, dance choreography, and baking, while also providing the school with new sports equipment and art supplies. They encouraged the teachers by sharing God's Word and personal testimonies during daily devotions. Additionally, they painted the school canteen and the farm guardhouse, provided barrels to store water for irrigation, and bonded with



Bread tasting

the students by taking them to a water park and treating them with ice creams after school. They even treated the staff and teachers to dinner at



Jollibee treat!

Jollibee! We are also grateful to the Garden Church Mission Team for donating funds to replace the

roof on Antoinette's classroom. The construction will begin in December after the students are on Christmas break.

A farmhouse is currently being built to provide teacher Antoinette, her husband Arnel, and their family



with a place to live. They are deeply grateful to everyone sponsoring the construction of their home.

Chili production is going exceptionally well and has already yielded a large harvest. BDA used the chilies to make chili garlic oil, which will be sold to support self-sustainability initiatives. Rice was also harvested in May, and the fields have been replanted for the next cycle.



BDA 5 year Transition Plan

DMI International and the Australian board have approved a five-year plan to transition BDA in the Philippines from a K-12 school into an adult education centre and seminary for the Deaf.

Student numbers have fallen from over 100 ten years ago to just over 40, mainly because more Deaf students can now attend public special education programs. With most current students in the middle and senior schools, numbers are expected to fall further, leaving the school without students within five years.

This creates an opportunity for a new direction. BDA will offer Deaf adults signing courses and vocational training in areas such as baking, hairdressing, sewing, massage, hospitality and technology.

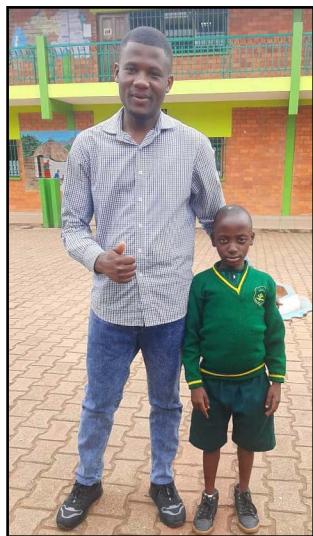
The campus will also host the Asian Deaf Christian College, training Deaf Christians from across Asia for ministry. Graduates will return to their countries to start or strengthen Deaf churches, following the model of the new Africa Deaf Christian College in Rwanda.

BDA staff and director Bing strongly support the change. We hope to train current Deaf staff to lead the new programs and make the centre as self-sustaining as possible through expanded income-generating activities.

The goal is to complete the transition and open the new centre and seminary in 2031.

RWANDA

Fulgence Uwimana, who receives tuition fee support from DMI through Deaf Action Ministry Rwanda, is performing well in his studies at the University of Kigali, pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration and Local Governance.



Tresor with Fulgence

Smaldone following the holiday break.

Tresor Nsengiyumva is doing well. He is currently on school holidays and will return on 7th September 2026 to begin the first term of the 2026-2027 school year. Tresor performed well and successfully passed his Primary One (P1) classes. He will be promoted to Primary Two (P2) at G.S. Institut Filippo

An Internship at BDA

My name is Grace Houghton, and I'm a student at Colorado Christian University. I was honored to have an internship at Bicol Deaf Action for eight weeks through July and August this year.

In that time, I came to learn more about sign language and strengthen my skills, and this school provided just that! The people at the school are all amazing, to put it simply. I was engrossed in the beautiful language, with the Deaf staff and students patiently teaching me along the way. From Monday through Thursday, I was able to sit in on classes and help teach as needed, learning more about the language and how the school functions. On Fridays, I taught my own baking class to 11th- and 12th-graders.

The memories from class time will forever be special to me, as I have truly created bonds with the students and teachers I have worked alongside. I have seen firsthand how this school has an amazing setup that not only educates kids but also helps them build valuable life skills they will continue to use throughout life. The school is a safe space for these Deaf children, where they can communicate and socialize freely without the pressures of home life or the potential challenges they may face with hearing peers, and it also offers employment opportunities to Deaf graduates who wish to apply. This school is an amazing organization that helps Deaf people in the community, and I could not be more grateful to have seen this for myself!



Can you give the
gift of sponsorship?
These students need your support.



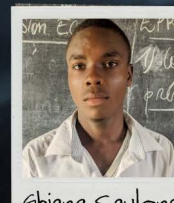
Sheiryn Oriola

(Girl) Grade 12
PHILIPPINES (Ligao)



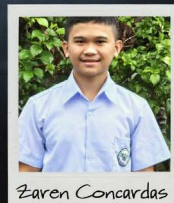
Lal Nun Mawi-i

(Girl) Grade 5
MYANMAR



Gbiana Saulona

(Boy) Grade 4
DR CONGO



Zaren Concardas

(Boy) Grade 8
BACOLOD

To sponsor any of these students, please go to our
website: <https://deafmin.org/student-sponsorship/>
or email: info@deafaction.org.au

FUNDRAISING - AUSTRALIA

TRIVIA NIGHTS IN SYDNEY & MELBOURNE

Recently, we held our two annual trivia night fundraisers—the first in Sydney on July 25th and the second in Melbourne on August 15th. First and most importantly, we want to thank and acknowledge our sponsors and supporters who generously gave their time and donated toward the silent auctions, raffle prizes, and catering. Without them, we wouldn't have been able to raise as much support as we did. We also would like to specifically thank St Marks Anglican Church, Northbridge (Sydney) and Beaconsfield Baptist Church (Melbourne) for hosting those events.

We are thrilled to share that our two trivia fundraisers raised more than AUD 16,000! Every dollar will go toward building the new Burundi Community Centre for the Deaf, set to break ground in the coming months. A huge thank you to the 100+ attendees at each event who brought fantastic energy and donated so generously.

SYDNEY

WINNERS!

MELBOURNE

WINNERS!



www.deafmin.org/deaf-action/

DA DONATIONS:

School, Employment and
Aid Projects

(tax deductible in Australia)



Please make cheques payable to:
Deaf Action



Details for bank Transfer:

BSB: 633-000

Account: 145834263



Credit Card facility available
through PayPal (secure) on our
website.



Deaf Action
P.O.Box 395, Beaconsfield,
Victoria, Australia, 3807



03 5940 5431



(SMS/WhatsApp)
0487 209 881



info@deafaction.org.au



Andrew Miller
International Director



Matthijs Terpstra
International
Development Coordinator



Susi Tjhai
Finance Coordinator



Amy Jack
Communications
Coordinator



Kay van Namen
Sponsorship &
Administration
Coordinator



Sponsorship Coordinator:

Kay van Namen

kay.vannamen@deafmin.org

Thank you for continuing to support our school
students, teachers and self-sustainability projects.

Warm regards,

Kay (Sponsorship Coordinator)



Neville Muir (OAM)
& Lill Muir
DMI & DA Founders