## African Great Lakes Peace Trust

We are a UK-based charity supporting peace-building work in Burundi, DRC, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.

We make grants for peace-building initiatives and for travel in support of them, working closely with our partners in the Great Lakes region.

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All our funding comes from donations, and contributions to support this work are very welcom
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Trustees: Elizabeth Cave, Ann Floyd, Philip Hellen, Margot Lunnon, Dorothy Nelson, Andrew Rendle



# AFRICAN GREAT LAKES PEACE TRUST ANNUAL REPORT SEP 2018 - SEP 2019

### Our Achievements 2018 - 2019

- We raised £11,005.52, including personal donations, Gift Aid and a grant from the Edith Ellis Trust
- We spent £4,000 on HROC workshops in Kakuma and Kalobeiyi refugee camps in Kenya
- We gave £1950 to Quaker Congo Partnership for vital work to develop peace building skills
- We gave £773 to Bududa Learning Center in the Mt Elgon region of NW Uganda

## Challenges of the past year

The work we support is small-scale and slow to bear fruit. Sometimes it is hard explain in a few sentences why it is so important. There are many claims on people's charity and we have to work to make our voices heard.

### Bududa Vocational Center

Bududa run courses in practical vocational skills as well as general education. We support the general running costs at Bududa and have set aside a sum of money for a nurse to run contraception classes both at the centre and in surrounding villages.



#### TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES FOR SOCIAL CHANGE



We supported HROC Workshops in Kalobeiyi refugee camp in Eastern Kenya for 24 women from South Sudan, Congo, Somalia and Burundi.

#### Testimonies

"My trauma isolated me from my family and friends, with hatred of other nationality but this group has re-created a sense of belonging."

"For seven years I have been shamed and stigmatized for being a refugee. This is the first time I am sitting with a Somali woman. I am glad we share the same pain. I am happy they have all listened to me." "We women have been degraded, dehumanized and faulted in many ways. We have been victims of very many bad things, this training is restoring our humanity."

In the second phase of this project, we are supporting sewing classes for these women so that they can earn enough to be independent of humanitarian aid.



#### QUAKER CONGO PARTNERSHIP

We contributed to the work of the Centre for Education, Peace and Psychological Support (CEPAP). They have set up Peace Committees in the High Plateau in South Kivu, near the border with Rwanda. 81 facilitators and peace activists have been trained in the techniques of the Alternatives to Violence Programme, promoting peacekeeping attitudes and behaviours and mediating in disputes. Two Quaker groups (INEREC and CEEACO) trained and supported 25 election observers in

December 2018. Properly conducted elections are an important contribution to peace.

#### FUTURE PLANS

- FUNDRAISING
  - Tom Robinson, of BBC Radio 6 Music and the Tom Robinson Band has kindly offered to play a charity concert as a fundraiser in St Austell. This will take place on 5 February 2021 at St Austell Arts Centre, with other artists in support.
- FAMILY PLANNING
  - Bududa Vocational Centre has managed a Family Planning Session with out help and hopes to do more. Barbara Wybar writes about the 40 girls she chatted with at the first session:
  - "I really was overwhelmed by the responses I received from these 40 girls. They were so open and seemed so grateful to have this opportunity to learn, to discuss, to open up and then to be able to get contraception without needing to pay. It amazed me that they said they got little instruction from their parents or at school."
- HROC AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING
  - We are beginning to find that much of the work we support concentrates on improving the employment prospects of women. In Kakuma Refugee camp, we have sponsored HROC training for women and the tailoring training we hope to support when the lockdown eases will also be for women.
- VOCATIONAL TRAINING AS PEACE BUILDING

  Vocational training is of increasing importance in peace building. This is partly because young people facing no job, no money and no future are easy prey for militia recruitment. If more people can find occupation in their own communities, those communities are strengthened and have more interest in promoting peace.
- HEALING AND REBUILDING OUR COMMUNITIES

  HROC really does work in bringing conflicting groups together to recognise and start to

heal from trauma. We hope to send trainees from Kakuma refugee camp to Rwanda to train as HROC facilitators. They should then be able to train more people in the camp.