

In Memory of Timon Bondo (1936 -2020)

As the close of 2020 quickly approaches, we at the Rabondo Community Project USA, Inc. are taking the time to reflect on the many accomplishments and challenges of this past year. We wish to thank all of our community partners, long-time supporters, and new friends that have made this a successful year of work for RCPUSA and the people we serve.

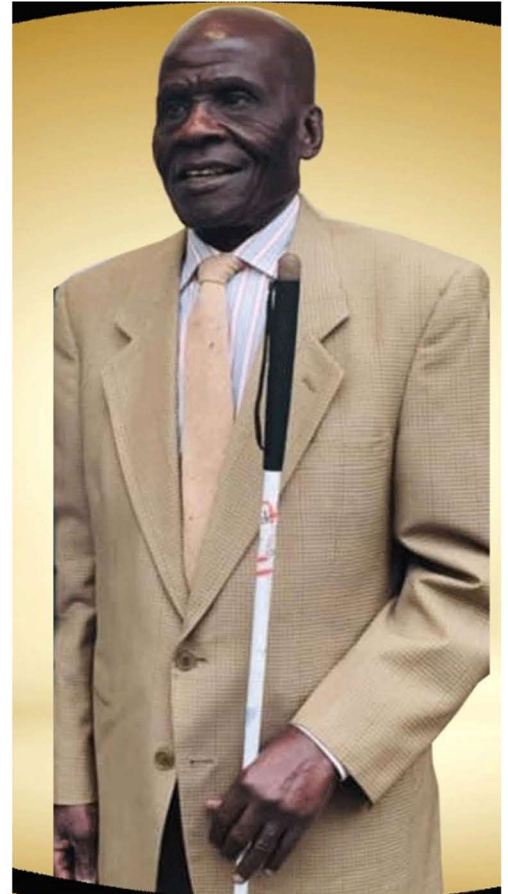
Our organization's founder and leader, Timon Bondo passed away on September 1 while on a work visit to Kenya. He was laid to rest in his birthplace in Rabondo Village, Kenya. In 1998, Timon founded the RCPUSA a nonprofit organization through which he transformed lives in his community and beyond.

In Kenya, Timon mobilized the community and especially the youth, to be of service to one another and inspired the spirit of volunteerism and giving back to the community. Through educational scholarships, RCPUSA offered hope and unlocked opportunities to those lacking in resources to help themselves. Many at his virtual memorial held in Minneapolis, MN on October 24 spoke of the ways in which the work of RCPUSA changed the lives of many families, and helped strengthen education, healthcare, and community development around Rabondo village.

Timon leaves behind a legacy of dedication to community, service to humanity, and unparalleled selflessness. Speaking at his virtual memorial service, Kevin Oyoo, one of the beneficiaries of scholarships and financial assistance from RCPUSA, reflecting on the legacy of Timon, stated that: "Timon was our hero, he was our legend, and his spirit is going to live with us forever".

Timon's love for the children of Rabondo and beyond was profound. While we will miss him tremendously, we at RCPUSA are doing everything we can to sustain and build from it. But we need your help. As a nonprofit organization, we rely on the continued support from partners and friends like you.

Please do consider making a year-end contribution to continue the efforts of RCPUSA far into the future. You can click the Donate link on our website www.rcpusa.org or use the enclosed self-addressed envelope.



The Impact of RCPUSA

Education

Thanks to your continued support, over 1,000 individuals have passed through Rabondo's high school since the first student was enrolled in 2003, with many of them joining universities and colleges across the country.

35 children and young adults were able to access education through educational scholarships offered by RCPUSA in 2020. Scholarships for tuition, food, medicine, and shelter will continue to be provided for underprivileged students and orphans in the community.



Currently, over 800 students are enrolled in the primary school. RCPUSA provides financial support by supplementing salaries for PTA-hired teachers. The support helps the school retain teachers and maintain optimum student to teacher ratios.

Sheillah is in College!



Sheillah graduated magna cum laude from Holy Family Catholic High School in Victoria, MN in May 2019. At 16 years old, Sheillah was the youngest person to have ever graduated in the history of Holy Family. Sheillah is not only the first student from Kenya to have graduated from Holy Family, she is the first student from the African continent. She enrolled at Normandale Community College in the fall of 2019 and finished her freshman year there. This fall, Sheillah was accepted at Grand Canyon University in Phoenix AZ and is in her sophomore year in college. Congratulations Sheillah! Many thanks to Sheillah's host family who has supported her financially and enabled her to continue her education in the US.

Health

The medical clinic built by RCPUSA in 2011 continues to provide access to medical care to the people of Rabondo and the surrounding communities. No longer do women and children have to walk for miles to find the nearest health center. With support from our partners in Minnesota, we received donated lab equipment that has enhanced testing capabilities.



Sustainability & Ongoing Needs

Poultry Project

Since 2018, RCPUSA has focused on ways to create self-sustainable programs that will have lasting and sustainable impact. RCPUSA supported a poultry farming project initiated by graduates of Rabondo schools who live in the community. The poultry project is an example of economic activity that leads to self-reliance and provides life skills and jobs to the youth. We need \$3,000 to continue to support self-sustainable projects within the Rabondo community.



Scholarships

We provide scholarships to 35 children and young adults ranging from 2nd grade to university. In the coming year, we will need \$45,000 to meet tuition, books, medical and boarding expenses.

Computers for Virtual Learning

Schools in Kenya have been closed since March due to COVID-19 but students in graduating classes have been allowed back for in-person learning. The rest of the students are required to continue with virtual learning.

Many of the students we support cannot afford laptop computers. We are appealing for donations of laptop computers or money to purchase laptop computers or tablets for online learning. We need to purchase 25 laptops at an estimated cost of \$8,750.



Girls Dormitories

The leadership of St. Timon's Rabondo Secondary School has requested assistance in building dormitories for female students. Female students face a wide variety of challenges learning at Rabondo. They need their own dormitory where they can safely and confidently attend school and gain an education. The estimated cost of one dormitory is \$18,000.

Water Distribution System

The Rabondo community has made great strides in bringing safe water to its citizens, but access to clean water is still a challenge. In 2010, RCPUSA completed the drilling of a 130-foot water well, giving residents access to clean water. Now we need to build a water tower, and complete the distribution phase to make the water available to local residents, schools, clinics and residence halls. The estimated cost for this project is \$66,846.

Please Help RCPUSA Continue Timon's Legacy

You have touched the lives of many families in the Rabondo community of Kenya in the past year. These miracles we see every day in Rabondo are made possible by you, your generosity and the dedication of our volunteers in Kenya and here in the US. We invite you to grow your impact with us. Please consider joining the board of RCPUSA as a volunteer or advisor to the board.



Ways to donate:

By Mail:

To give a monetary donation submit checks to:

Rabondo Community Project, USA
PO Box 27954
Minneapolis, MN 55427

Online Donation:

1. Go to RCPUSA.org
2. Click "Donate"
3. Follow the on-screen instruction

In Person:

To volunteer, please contact us at 651-402-5499 for more information, or email us at info@rcpusa.org.

All donations are tax deductible!

