



TANZANIA PRISONERS HOPE FOUNDATION

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT -2024

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

In Tanzania, prisoners are facing a number of challenges including inadequate health care services, spiritual immorality, inadequate counseling services, limited clothing materials, inadequate legal aid while the ex-prisoners' challenges are mainly related Economic Marginalization, Social Stigma, Limited Education and Skills and High Risk of Recidivism. These issues are compounded by systemic gender inequalities, inadequate access to credit, and a lack of social safety nets, creating a pressing need for targeted interventions. The Government alone cannot solve all these challenges without involvement of individuals, community, NGOs and other actors. The TANZANIA PRISONERS HOPE FOUNDATION (TPHF) was established and registered in 19th April 2022, with registration number ooNGO/R/3102 to fill this gap, by mobilizing funds and materials from individuals, private and public agencies within and outside Tanzania. Since its establishment, TPHF implemented three service oriented projects to prisoners and ex-prisoners in Dar es Salaam region consistent with its objectives, vision and mission. Our vision, mission and objectives are as follows;

Vision: To be an organization that endeavors to transform the prisoners' and ex-prisoners' lives, socially, morally and materially for their self-reliance.

Mission: To Promote and Rehabilitate the Welfare of prisoners and ex-prisoners in Tanzania.

Objectives

- (i) To conduct counseling services to prisoners and ex-prisoners to be good citizens
- (ii) To distribute spiritual and other reading materials for knowledge change.
- (iii) To provide health care and sanitation services to complement government's efforts in providing prisons' welfare services.
- (iv) To establish and promote the library services in some prisons
- (v) To assist the reintegration of the ex-prisoners into the society particularly providing them with small capital for establishment of small scale enterprises such as farming, bricks making, gardening, carpentry, building, etc. depending on the knowledge gained while in prisons.
- (vi) To facilitate the prisoners with the necessary body clothing materials, tooth paste, mattresses and other necessary requirements.
- (vii) To provide justice and legal assistance particularly to children, women and people with special needs.
- (viii) To design and implement projects that will enable prisoners and ex-prisoners to improve their living standards.
- (ix) To facilitate resources mobilization to support prisoners and ex-prisoners.

(x) To liaise with other organizations and foundations in promoting and effecting the objectives of the Foundations.

2.0 PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION AND ACHIEVEMENTS DURING 2024

In its Board and Annual General meetings held on 16th December 2023, the members approved two projects to be implemented during 2024 among other resolutions. The approved projects were as follows;

- 1. Prisoners life empowerment Project in Dar es Salaam region**
- 2. Ex-prisoners Empowerment Project in Dar es Salaam, Coast and Morogoro Regions**

This report highlights the performance of the projects, activities performed and challenges that were encountered during the year 2024. The report also proposes the projects and activities to be implemented during 2025 for Board's and Members' approval.

2.1 PROJECTS IMPLEMENTATION AND ACHIEVEMENTS

2.1 1 Prisoners life empowerment Project in Dar es Salaam region

TPHF implemented two activities under this project.

(a) Education Empowerment at Ukonga Prison

As part of its ongoing commitment to supporting incarcerated individuals, the Tanzania Prisoners Hope Foundation (TPHF) fulfilled its responsibility by providing essential educational materials to secondary school students at Ukonga prison in February 2024. Led by Mr. Lucas Mwimo, Chairman of TPHF, the organization ensured the delivery of Form three and four textbooks, exercise books, pens, and pencils, addressing the inmates' educational needs. This vital assistance underscores TPHF's dedication to its mission of aiding prisoners and was made possible through the collective efforts of the organization and its supporters. We extend our sincere appreciation to all involved for their contributions to enhancing the educational opportunities for these students (Picture no. 1)

Picture No. 1: TPHF CEO, Lucas Mwimo handing over educational Materials to Ukonga Prison Representative.



(b) Provision of Mats

TPHF provided executive soft mats to Ukonga prison on 6th September 2024 to be used by condemned unit inmates during their worship sessions as they strictly prohibited to use chairs, consistent with the prisons regulations.

Picture No. 2: TPHF CEO is handing over the mats to Ukonga prisons' leaders.



(c) Plastic Chairs, Counselling books and clothing materials assistance at Segerea Prison

On June 26th, 2024, the Tanzania Prisoners Hope Foundation (TPHF) continued its mission to enhance the living conditions of inmates by making a significant donation to Segerea Prison in Dar es Salaam. This initiative underscores TPHF's commitment to the welfare and rehabilitation of prisoners across Tanzania.

TPHF donated plastic chairs to Segerea Prison. We extend our sincere gratitude to Jambo Plastics for their generous assistance in delivering the chairs directly to the prison, thus saving on transportation costs. These chairs will provide much-needed seating for various activities within the prison, improving the daily lives of inmates.

A collection of spiritual counseling books was also donated, generously contributed by our TPHF counselor and advisor. These books are intended to offer guidance and support the inmates, helping them find solace and direction. By addressing their spiritual needs, we aim to foster a sense of hope and resilience among the prisoners.

Various clothing items were provided and distributed to prisoners who were nearing the completion of their sentences or those attending court hearings. These clothes were intended to help inmates transition back into society with dignity, ensuring they have suitable attire for their new beginnings. When delivering the items, TPHF CEO, emphasized the profound impact that such contributions have on the lives of inmates. "Providing essential items like chairs, books, and clothing is more than just a charitable act; it's about restoring dignity and hope to individuals who are striving to rebuild their lives. Our goal is to create an environment that supports rehabilitation and reintegration, ultimately reducing recidivism and contributing to safer communities."

Mr. Mwimo also highlighted the importance of community involvement in supporting these efforts. "We are deeply grateful to our members and partners for their unwavering support. Your contributions make a tangible difference in the lives of those who need it most. We encourage other individuals and organizations to join us in this vital mission. Together, we can foster a society that values second chances and supports the reintegration of former prisoners."

On behalf of the TPHF leadership, we extend our heartfelt thanks to all members for the continuous support and contributions. Your dedication and generosity are the driving forces behind our ability to make a positive impact to prisoners and ex-prisoners.

Picture No. 3: TPHF CEO is handing over Plastic Chairs and Counselling books to Segerea Prison Representative



2.1.2 Ex-prisoners Empowerment Project in Dar es Salaam, Coast and Morogoro Regions

During 2024, TPHF received a grant assistance from Women Fund Tanzania Trust (WFT-T) to implement a project known as **“Women Ex-Prisoners Empowerment Project in Dar es Salaam, Coast and Morogoro Regions”**. This project was implemented by conducting two seminars where the women ex-prisoners were empowered with various skills and knowledge as detailed below. Another activity under this project was a lobbying meeting with Prison officials to discuss formation of Re-Integration Policy in Tanzania.

(a) Capacity-building seminar on Women ex-prisoners wellness of the body, mind, soul and their rights

A transformative Wellness seminar was held on 21/08/2024 at Nendiwe Feminist Wellness and Coaching Centre in Mbweni JKT, Dar es Salaam. The seminar which was facilitated by Mary Rusimbi—a renowned activist, researcher, and consultant for gender and development issues—focused on promoting the wellness of the body, mind, and soul. This session was not merely about physical health but delved deeply into the emotional and psychological well-being of the participants. Through discussions grounded in feminist principles, the women gained valuable insights into the concept of wellness, care, and the healing of the heart. These teachings were designed to help them apply this understanding both in their personal lives and within their communities. Organized by TPHF, this event marked a significant milestone in our ongoing mission to empower female ex-prisoners by addressing the profound challenges they face as they reintegrate into their communities. A key part of the seminar was dedicated to enlightening the participants on essential human rights, with a particular emphasis on women’s rights. The session addressed how knowledge of these rights can be a powerful tool in navigating societal challenges and advocating for themselves. Furthermore, the discussions highlighted the damaging effects of gender stereotyping and how it contributes to the inequality of accessing basic rights between men and women. The participants explored how societal norms have historically suppressed their opportunities, often exacerbating the difficulties they face after incarceration.

(b) Capacity-building seminar on creating a coalition for Women ex-prisoners

On November 12, 2024 the second seminar was held at Nendiwe Centre and was facilitated by Mary Rusimbi and TPHF CEO –Lucas Mwimo. The seminar focused on creating a coalition to address the systemic challenges faced by formerly imprisoned women, including discrimination, lack of social support, and reintegration hurdles. Facilitated by Mary Rusimbi, this session emphasized the role of a coalition in providing a platform to advocate for their rights, amplify their voices, and serve as a support network. During the seminar the ex-prisoners were also taught by Mr. Lucas Mwimo about the principles of achieving their personal economic success and rebuild their lives with resilience and financial independence.

The seminar was concluded by forming an official women ex-prisoner platform and election of platform leaders. The platform is known as "**JUKWAA LA WANAWAKE WALIOTOKA MAGEREZANI TANZANIA (JUWAMATA)**". The group will be operating under the custodianship of Tanzania Prisoners Hope Foundation until it gets experience and funds.

Both seminars were covered and reported by Newspapers and social media platforms to raise public awareness about the rights and needs of women ex-prisoners in the country.

Picture No. 4 &5: The pictures below indicate Mary Rusimbi and Mr. Mwimo facilitating one of the seminars.





(c) Meeting with Prison Head Office Officials

On 14th November, 2024 TPHF organized a lobbying Meeting with Tanzania Prison at its Head Office in Dodoma to discuss the need for ex-prisoners Re-Integration Policy in Tanzania. TPHF was informed that the Government is currently reviewing Chapter 58 of the Prison Act, 1968, revised on 2002 to incorporate the Ex-Prisoners Re-integration issues to the society. The revised Act is planned to be passed by the Parliament before end-June 2025. This will set a platform to formulate the Re-Integration Policy and Regulations in the country. During the meeting it was agreed that TPHF should continue to implement some ex-prisoners' re-integration issues that are indicated in its constitution. However, the Prison Authorities advised TPHF to draft MOU to be signed by the both parties. The MOU will allow TPHF to implement some of the re-integration issues such as Counselling of Prisoners inside of selected prisons, ex-prisoners, provision of legal aid to prisoners and ex-prisoners and link some of ex-prisoners with Vocational training centers such as VETA.

3.0 ENGAGEMENT WITH STAKEHOLDERS

Tanzania Prisoners Hope Foundation engaged with various stakeholders during 2024 to share experiences and learn more on issues related to human rights, prisoners and ex-prisoners' life empowerment in Tanzania. We engaged with the following stakeholders during the year under review;

- i. Collaborated with the National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR) and its collaborators (MoH Department of Maternal, Sexual and Reproductive Health, Médecins du Monde, Tanzania Office and International Collaborators from Canada) to apply for a research grant on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) among youth and underserved men and women in Tanzania prisons.
- ii. Engaged with Women Fund Tanzania Trust consultant on October 2024 to provide comments for improving WFT-T Strategic Plan in the coming 5 years.
- iii. Attended the preparatory meeting organized by Women in Law and Development in Africa (WiLDAF) on 13/11/2024 for 11th Planning of the 16 days of Activism Campaign Against Gender –Based Violence.
- iv. Engaged with Nendiwe Feminist Wellness and Coaching Centre – Dar es Salaam on August 2024 and November 2024 for discussion and preparations of the two seminars.
- v. Engaged with WOMEN AID & CRIMINAL JUSTICE (WACJ) who invited TPHF to participate to Stakeholders workshop on Movements towards abolition of the death Penalty in Tanzania. The workshop was hosted by WACJ on 10th October 2024 at Holiday Inn hotel in DSM.
- vi. Attended a meeting organized by WFT-T, WiLDAF and TGNP on 12/07/2024 to collect information on the Women contribution towards the country's 2050 Development Vision.

- vii. Engaged with Tanzania Prison Head Office Authorities in Dodoma on 14th November, 2024 to discuss introduction of the Ex-prisoners Re-integration Laws, Regulations and Policy in Tanzania.
- viii. Engaged with the Guardian Limited under **IPP MEDIA Group of Companies** who attended our two seminars and published the seminar deliberations on the Guardian Newspapers dated 29th August 2024 and 27th November 2024 for public awareness.

4.0 SUCCESS STORIES/CASE STUDIES DURING 2024

At the Tanzania Prisoners Hope Foundation (TPHF), we are driven by a commitment to empower and transform the lives of formerly incarcerated women. Through tailored programs supported by dedicated stakeholders, including Women Fund Tanzania-Trust (WFT-T), TPHF has enabled these women to rebuild their lives with dignity, strength, and purpose.

Pre-Program Engagement: Understanding the Needs

Before launching the initiatives, TPHF conducted extensive field visits to collect baseline data for the new released women ex-prisoners and the former ones. These visits provided critical insights into their unique challenges, including stigma, financial instability, and limited access to resources. Our team built trust, encouraged participation, and paved the way for two life-changing programs.

Program 1: Wellness of the body, mind and soul, care and healing of the heart

Date: August 21, 2024

Location: Nendiwe Feminist Wellness and Coaching Centre, Dar es Salaam

Participants: 29 former women prisoners

This seminar focused on promoting the wellness of the body, mind, and soul. This session was not merely about physical health but delved deeply into the emotional and psychological well-being of the participants. This seminar was crucial in helping these women heal from their inner wounds, rebuild their confidence, and rediscover their place in a society that may not fully accept them.

Key Components:

1. A Holistic Approach to Wellness

- Through discussions that were grounded in feminist principles, the women gained valuable insights into the concept of wellness, care, and the healing of the heart. These teachings were designed to help them apply this understanding both in their personal lives and within their communities.

2. Human Rights Education

- Sessions focused on educating women about their fundamental rights, empowering them to advocate for their dignity and welfare in their communities.

- Facilitators highlighted gender equality principles and strategies for overcoming stereotypes.

3. **Counseling and Emotional Support**

- Professional counseling sessions provided a safe space for women to process past traumas and build emotional resilience.
- **Testimonial:** “I’ve carried pain for years. Today, I feel lighter and ready to face life with courage.”—Rehema, Workshop Participant said.



Above picture: A group picture during the seminar on the wellness of the body, mind, and soul.

Program 2: Coalition-Building Seminar

Date: November 12, 2024

Location: Nendiwe Feminist Wellness and Coaching Centre

Participants: 31 formerly incarcerated women

This seminar focused on empowering women to form an official coalition group for collective advocacy and support.

Key Sessions

1. Coalition Basics and Governance

- Participants learned about forming coalitions, creating governance structures, and building sustainable networks.
- Success stories from global and local coalitions were shared as inspiration.

2. Advocacy and Strategy Development

- Training on policy advocacy, storytelling, and lobbying helped participants develop actionable strategies to engage policymakers and other stakeholders.
- **Testimonial:** “The seminar taught me how to tell my story in a way that moves others to action.”—Magdalena Uhwelo, Seminar Participant said.

3. Economic Empowerment Session

- Led by Mr. Lucas Mwimo, this session emphasized financial planning, visionary thinking, and collaborative entrepreneurship.
- Participants worked on personal financial goals and discussed ways to integrate these into coalition activities.
- **Testimonial:** “This training gave me hope and skills to start a “Maandazi and Chapati” business. Now, I have a way to provide for my children.”—Janeth Shilla, a seminar participant said.

4. Wellness and Resilience

- Mental health practices and collective care strategies were emphasized to prevent burnout and foster sustainability.

5. Formation of an official women ex-prisoners' platform

The official formation of “JUKWAA LA WANAWAKE WALIOTOKA MAGEREZANI TANZANIA (JUWAMATA) on 12nd November, 2024 is an historic event in Tanzania to be recognized, supported and nursed by WFT-T and other stakeholders, including TPHF. The formation of a coalition amplifies their collective voice, providing a platform to push for systemic reforms.

6. These programs underscore the transformative power of support, education, and resilience. Through TPHF's initiatives, women like Magdalena, Janeth, Mwahamisi and many more are no longer defined by their past but empowered to create brighter futures for themselves and their families.

7. Impact of these Programs

- **Economic Independence:** Some Women ex-prisoners are now pursuing small-scale businesses after receiving business skills and seminar allowances funded by WFT-T during the first seminar in August 2024.
- **Advocacy: Healing and Resilience:** Participants demonstrated increased confidence, emotional well-being, and readiness to contribute to their communities.

5.0 GOOD GOVERNANCE

For the NGOs to prosper in executing its mandate, the good governance is needed. It was from this backdrop that, the TPHF general meeting approved the team of eight 8 experienced and dedicated Board Members with high academic qualifications to oversee and protect the image of the organization among other functions as stipulated in **Article 19** of the constitution. Out of 8 Board members, 5 of them have Master's degree in different fields and worked/working in different public and private institutions. This enabled them to advise the organization prudently to execute its mandate to attain the stipulated objectives. The eight board members with their brief CVs are attached as **appendix II**. The organization has been conducting its Board and General meetings during the year as required by the Register of NGOs in the country as per Article 18, 22 and 23 of the TPHF constitution.



Picture No.6: Members of the Board, deliberating some agenda during their annual Board Meeting held on 21/12/2024 at Msasani Club, DSM. The Board Meeting was followed by the General Meeting held at the same venue. The picture below indicates some of the General Meeting members poses for the picture at Msasani Club after their meeting.



5.0 CHALLENGES AND HOW THEY WERE ADDRESSED

The TPHF encountered the following challenges during the course of implementing its project;

- (i) Inadequate funds. The organization received a grant from Women Fund Tanzania –Trust for implementation of one project, despite applying to various sources. The funds from WFT-T was inadequate to cover women ex-prisoners from Morogoro region. TPHF Members contributions and fees also helped the organization to implement two projects. The demand for prisoners and ex-prisoners' requirements is extremely high compared to the funds availability.

The TPHF used the following ways to address the challenges for improvement and widening the scope of its operations;

- (i) The organization continued to sensitize other stakeholders to support it through physical visits, telephone calls and use of social media like TPHF website <https://tphf.or.tz> and Facebook platforms. The organization will continue to request members to pay their annual fees timely.
- (ii) The TPHF management team continued to engage with other stakeholders during 2024 with a view of learning, experience sharing and seeking for financial and technical assistance. During 2025 we expect more engagements and this may increase the flow of funds from domestic and foreign grants.

6.0 THE WAY FORWARD

During short and medium terms, TPHF is committed to expand its initiatives by Scaling up economic empowerment programs, strengthening coalition advocacy efforts and Building partnerships with women's rights organizations and policymakers. In its Board and Annual General meetings held on 21st December 2024, the members approved two projects to be implemented during 2025 among other resolutions. The projects to be implemented includes;

- 1. Empowering Formerly Incarcerated Women Platform known as “JUKWAA LA WANAWAKE WALIOTOKA MAGEREZANI TANZANIA (JUWAMATA)” with sustainable economic, social and advocacy engagements.**
- 2. Prisoners life empowerment Project in Dar es Salaam region**

Following the gained experience from implementation of four projects and engagement with various stakeholders since our establishment in April 2022, the proposed projects will be implemented smoothly

during 2025 upon availability of funds. The TPHF will allow domestic and foreign volunteers to work with us to minimize operational costs and share experiences and impart more knowledge to our staff.

7.0 CONCLUSION

During 2024, the TPHF minimized some of challenges facing Ukonga and Segerea Prisoners and Ex-prisoners' requirements in DSM and Coast regions albert the limited financial resources. During 2025 TPHF is committed to address some of challenges facing Prisoners and ex-prisoners in DSM region upon mobilization of funds and materials from individuals, private and public agencies within and outside Tanzania. In Tanzania there are very few NGOs which are dedicated to support the prisoners and ex-prisoners in the country. TPHF was established to fill that gap and is committed to expand its services to other prisons and ex-prisoners outside Dar-es-Salaam region in the medium and long terms upon availability of funds.

APPENDIX 1: Summary of Projects Achievements

OUTCOMES	IMPACTS
Availability of secondary school textbooks at Ukonga prison	Increased knowledge and number of Ordinary Level graduates.
Formation of an official women ex-prisoners platform	Increased public awareness about the rights and needs of women ex-prisoners into the society.
Skills acquisition on principles of micro-economic success, self-employment and financial discipline.	Elimination or reduction of recidivism among women ex-prisoners.
Skills acquisition on women rights, wellness, care, and the healing of the heart	Minimized stress among ex-prisoners, confidence creation and mental health restoration.

APPENDIX II: LIST OF BOARD MEMBERS AND THEIR BRIEF CVs

1. Mr. Odemari Nitunga Rushita- He is the first chairman of the TPHF Board of Directors since its establishment in April, 2022. He is an experienced leader and currently works at Roads Fund Board from July 2023 to-date as a Principal Accountant. He is a Certified Public Accountant -CPA (T). Before joining the Roads Fund Board, he worked at Engineers Registration Board from 2008 to June 2023 as Director of Finance, CCT –WAMA, Christian Council of Tanzania as a Finance and Administrative Manager from 2000 to 2008. He holds MBA degree from ESAMI and Maastricht School of Management (MsM) Nairobi, Kenya Campus and Advanced Diploma in Accountancy (ADA) from the Institute of Finance Management, Dar-es-Salaam Tanzania.
2. Lucas Mwimo- CEO and Secretary to the Board. Prior to TPHF, he worked with the Bank of Tanzania as an Economist for 32 years and 7 months and he retired as a Director-BOT Mtwara Branch in February 2022. While working with the Bank of Tanzania, he was seconded to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) – Office of the Resident Representative in Tanzania for 2 years (July 1997 to June 1999) as a Research Assistant charged with the implementation of IMF-supported programs in Tanzania. He holds a M.Sc. (Macro-economic Policy and Planning in Developing Countries) from the University of Bradford, United Kingdom and a B.A. (Economics) from the University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Mr. Mwimo is also a preacher of gospel and Councilor at Segerea, Keko and Ukonga prisons where inmates get the opportunity to hear the word of God every Sunday. The word of God has greatly helped some prisoners and detainees to shape their bad habits and immorality.

2. Mohamed Majengo Athuman- General Secretary –TPHF. Currently works as a School Quality Assurer - Ministry of Education Science and Technology (Kinondoni Municipality Division). He holds Master of Education in Administration, Planning and Policy Studies (MED - APPS) from OPEN UNIVERSITY OF TANZANIA (OUT).
3. Gloria Athuman Kitiku – She is a Treasurer- TPHF and an experienced business woman with a certificate in Agriculture and Livestock development. As a Treasurer, she works closely with the Chief Accountant, Mariagoreth Joseph Ndibalema who holds Master's degree in Finance and accounts from Institute of Finance Management (IFM) and she is a Certified Public Accountant -CPA (T). Thus financial management, reconciliation and reports are properly prepared.
4. Nuru Lamek Mtema- – He holds BA in Theology and Community development and he is currently a PROJECT COORDINATOR – ZANZIBAR AND MAFIA Fida International community development program.
5. Shida Athuman Kitiku- She currently works with NMB and she graduated at University of Dodoma (UDOM) and was awarded Bachelor degree of Commerce in Accounting.
6. Justine Lucas Mwimo – He holds Master's Degree in Project Management from Institute of Accountancy Arusha. He is currently a Director of a tourism firm in Kilimanjaro region.
7. Eng. Joseph Jingu Kijeruda- He holds a Master of Science in Textile Engineering from China. He worked at Tambaza High School as a Teacher and Second Master (1989-1990). He worked as Quality Control Manager, Technical Manager, Production & Technical Manager (consecutively) at Urafiki Textile Factory (1991- 2005). He worked with Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) as Principal Tax Management Officer (2006- 2022) and retired in December 2022 after attaining 60 years of age. He has been a Member of Textile Technical Committees of the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) from 1995 to date, and a Chairperson of the same Committees from 2012 to 2023. He was a founder chairperson of WAENDELEE Community Development Organization Board of Directors from Nov.2015 to 2022. WAENDELEE is a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) based in Singida DC engaged in assisting in Education, Health, Water and Environmental protection activities -in collaboration with the Government). Currently he is a Board Chairperson of Temboni Government Secondary School (March 2022 to date). He was a Council Secretary General of Manzese Catholic Parish in DSM (2001-2006), Vice-Chairperson of Temboni Parish (2013-2016) and a Chairperson of Msingwa Outstation of St.Augustine Parish-Temboni (2010- 2019).