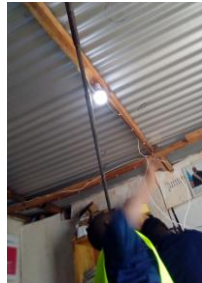


## THANK YOU SO MUCH!

Thanks to all of you, our #GivingTuesday fundraiser to provide solar panels for Community Charity School (CCS) was a great success! Students will soon be able to study computer science & write to their friends at Community Middle School (CMS).



Left: CCS kids are delighted to see the new solar panels which will give them electricity. Below left panels going up onto the roof. Right: we have real light, indoors!



We need gently used laptops so more than one student can work in the lab at a time. Any ideas? Please contact Cheryl at cciaranca@gmail.com

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## Grover Middle School

Congratulations, Grover School HAW! Teacher Diane Chiocca explains the many fundraisers: 1) helping hand (write your name on a paper hand to display in the school building 1\$); 2) making & selling jaguar mascot paw stickers; 3) "claw" game to pull a prize out of a jar for 1\$; 4) clothing drive; & 5) finally a cookie sale..."we had to take orders & deliver the cookies to homerooms...lots of work because we made quite a bit of sales." The total? \$737. Grover, you rock!

## Community Middle School



Hands Across the Water (HAW) at CMS held an art contest to support Community Charity School. This is one of the outstanding pictures. Soon we hope to have "matching" artwork from CCS.

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## LIFE and DEATH in Congo

**LIFE:** Safari Promesse's surgery was successful! A long road of treatment & recovery ahead so please continue GoFundMe, but we give thanks for a miracle of new life. Details next time.

**LIFE & DEATH:** This month FEBA has lost a cherished member, Maman Mbiya Therèse. Sadly, her story is not unusual. Some years ago this mother of five was abandoned by her husband, who moved to Angola & remarried, leaving her to manage however she could. Like many of FEBA's (virtual) widows, Maman Mbiya cared for her children, contributed to the community & her church, but when she became very ill she had few resources, & could not pay for treatment. FEBA always helps, but its means are limited.

Maman Monique took the lead, FEBA & church members prayed & collected funds. Maman Mbiya needed many tests, & had to move from one hospital to another. Her sister cared for her (nursing staff don't have time, so family members wait on patients). Meanwhile storms tore the roof off the family's home. Then Maman Mbiya's heart gave out. Amid the grief, money must be found to pay hospital bills & funeral expenses; proper burial is a very important religious & familial duty. FEBA will help, as always. This is how life & death are in Congo.

## A TRACTOR TALE!

FINALLY, after months of effort & much more money than originally predicted, celebrate with us the tale of A Birthday Present for FEBA's Farm: tractor & plow & wagon will start work next week!

Getting to this point has been a sobering experience. After the purchase in Dubai, COVID caused the transport costs to double. Congo's endemic poverty & creative practices of corruption brought to light many unanticipated "hoops" at the import formalities, & one always pays for hoops.

Generous year-end gifts made it possible to bring the tractor home! **THANK YOU, DEAR FRIENDS!** Your generosity will put food on the table for many people.



Maman Monique welcomes the tractor at the farm!!!

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## CONTRIBUTE OR GET INVOLVED

Contribute: Donate securely via PayPal at <https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/1233641>, on our website or on FEBA, Inc., on Facebook.

Please designate "Sewing School" or "Goma School" or "Micro-loan Program" or "Farm Needs," or "Sustaining Gift" to support ongoing work.

Checks payable to Woman, Cradle of Abundance can be mailed to the treasurer at:

Woman, Cradle of Abundance  
attn: John McGlaughlin, Treasurer  
115 Maine Ave.  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

Does your company match donations? Consider nominating Woman, Cradle of Abundance. Shopping on Amazon? Name us: Amazon Smile.

Volunteer: Contact Cheryl Ciaranca, Community Outreach Coordinator, at [cciaranca@gmail.com](mailto:cciaranca@gmail.com) or 215.292.3290 to discuss ways to partner with Woman Cradle of Abundance.

In the interests of transparency, it may be said that the tractor still cost less in dollars than buying in Kinshasa, but it cost a great deal more in time & energy. Maman Monique's son-in-law Mr. Lyn Massamba negotiated the purchase in Dubai & sea freight from India. Her son Mr. Eddie Lukusa & FEBA's legal counsel Mr. Pierre Ntambue & other friends helped her with all the many hoops.

Eddie then personally took charge of getting the tractor from the port to Kinshasa. Above right he helps the special driver FEBA hired to run the machine, as they unload the cargo container in Matadi, Congo's Atlantic port. A lot of sweat equity!



Right: the new plow arrives at the farm.