

# GRACE *IMPACT*

## Welcome to Grace Impact's First Newsletter



Dear Friends and Supporters of Grace Impact,

We sincerely appreciate your interest in our projects and initiatives and are grateful when you can take a little time out of your busy day to read our newsletter. This newsletter highlights recent developments at our small non-profit company on selected projects.

We hope that you, your family and loved ones are healthy and we urge you to stay safe by following all the recommended precautions during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Warmest regards,  
Dinese

## Iris Hannewald joins Grace Impact as new co-CEO

I am over-joyed and honored to have Iris join the Grace Impact Team.

With Iris' commitment and dedication, I have a local friend and family member here in Munich to brainstorm with as we explore the next development phase at Grace Impact.

Iris and I became friends years before I married her brother, my beloved husband Jens, and this symbolizes the true depth and sincerity of our long-term friendship.

Iris brings not only her hands-on experience and expertise with architecture and construction but also her passion to support and help others who are less fortunate.

Together with board members Darlene and Peter, we plan to explore community and school building projects to be implemented on site using local building materials and employing local workers.

Our aim is to contribute and exchange technology, know-how and ideas on improving schools and housing that is both environmentally friendly yet affordable for the local population.

Welcome to the team, Iris!

A big hug and love, Dinese



## Letter from Iris Hannewald

Our new co-CEO

Dear Friends and Supporters of Grace Impact,

When my brother passed away a few years ago, long before his time, my life changed completely. I am now much closer to my sister-in-law, Dinese Hannewald, and have gradually been learning more about her philanthropic and social impact commitment. I have increasingly found myself awed at the professionalism and passion with which Dinese addresses social impact projects in Germany such as Plant-a-Talent gGmbH / Arrival Aid UG and Schlau Schule as well as initiatives in Africa and other regions of the world. I eventually summoned the courage to approach Dinese and ask whether I could come on board at Grace Impact. It's a lovely feeling to be welcomed with such open arms by an idol like Dinese. I am very excited about the new tasks and challenges that are now on the horizon and am ready to take them on.

I lived in Brazil for 10 years and was involved in various social projects there, so I am familiar with the world of philanthropy. The need to help has always been and continues to be very important for me. In Brazil and all over the world, teaching and skills training together with further education provide the greatest opportunity to improving the living conditions of individuals.

These two factors are key to escaping poverty and maintaining a sustainable better future without the reliance on charity. One can achieve far better results when engaged and willing to help on a day-to-day basis. Over the medium- or long-term, working together step by step, proves to be far more effective. Parachuting in money with a scattergun approach has been shown to be inefficient and rarely effective since such tactics are not coordinated with existing activities led by local experts in the field.

As an architect, I have always endeavored to link my work to social issues and bring them into harmony. A dignified life is not only a matter of a person's living situation; it is also about the public places where people meet with one another. This is exactly where Grace Impact has been effective in the past, by focusing on skills training, schools for all girls and boys and job creation. As an example, if a school does not proper restroom facilities, this can be a real obstacle to young girls, who simply cannot go to school when they have their menstrual cycle.

I would like to contribute to projects in the WASH sector as clean water, sanitation along with hygiene have a very positive and preventive impact on one's health. As an architect, this is where I can make a real contribution to Grace Impact, but I also feel that, as an individual, I have arrived emotionally. I always see Dinese and Grace Impact as inextricably linked to my brother Jens, and I want to ensure that his memory lives on through our joint projects. He was taken from us far too soon and was a truly special person. Jens was humble and would give generously for his fellow human beings. He made them feel as though they were all that mattered in the here and now. "We're all just human beings," he would say, if something was not going exactly to plan. Dinese is in the process of official dedicating the **Waithaka Library** (an Amref Health Africa project located in Dagoretti/Nairobi) to Jens, so that his values and generosity will never be forgotten. Dinese is part of my brother Jens' life, and I am delighted to be able to invest my time and money with her and to try to achieve a better and more dignified life for a great many people.

Kindest regards,  
Iris Hannewald

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## Newsletter-Highlights

In this newsletter we would like to tell you about the following exciting news:

**Our educational project: Waithaka library in Dagoretti, Nairobi, Kenya**

**Plant-a-Talent and ArrivalAid merger**

**Workshops for HIV/AIDS prevention in Kenya**

**Clean drinking water - SolarWave in Uganda**

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### • **Our educational project: Waithaka library in Dagoretti, Nairobi, Kenya**

Grace Impact would like to thank Dr. med. Ronald Beyer of Munich, Germany for his very generous donation in 2019 to Grace Impact and for making this first step in supporting the Waithaka Library as a friend of Grace Impact. We hope to attract additional donations from family and friends:

- to furnish the library with the necessary school books for the local school children who cannot afford their own school books;
- to purchase additional computers & laptops;
- to build a new WASH facility at the library; and
- to finance the salaries of the librarian and his assistant librarian.

In early 2021, the Waithaka Community Library will be formally dedicated to my late loving husband Jens Hannewald. This is a very important philanthropic project for Dagoretti since it can empower the local community in many ways.

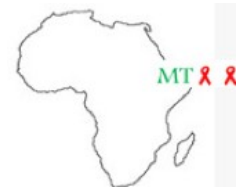


### • **Plant-a-Talent and ArrivalAid merger**

After three years of running [Plant-a-Talent gGmbH](#) in Munich, I realized that with fewer new refugees arriving in Germany, it was time to find a new home for our expertise and services.

During Fall 2019 David Offenwanger and David Prochnow, both CEOs at [ArrivalAid](#) and I decided to merge both companies. It is a win-win solution for both companies given our respective complementary activities. Plant-a-Talent's very talented and highly skillful Ines Šašić, who is also PAT's longest serving employee, joined the ArrivalAid team.





## • Workshops for HIV/AIDS prevention in Kenya

[Men and Traditions Against Aids \(MTAA\)](#) holds its first set of workshops this year at their new resource center.

As you can see in the photo above, MTAA has fully complied with the 1.5 meter social distancing requirements. Held at their newly built resource center, two workshops were held concurrently and a total of 35 participants attended the sessions.



These critical workshops are carried out by MTAA to its members who include adolescents with their respective caregivers, young couples, widows, HIV discordant couples and old men. They are essential since they help MTAA closely monitor all participants to improve their drug adherence and academic performance. These very important and effective workshops have yielded a significant drop in HIV/AIDS infections since their inception.

MTAA is one of our favorite projects since it Programs Coordinator, Ms. Teresa Owino, delivers detailed budgets with supporting information and meets all milestones on time, if not earlier than expected.

Please be on the lookout for more good news from MTAA this Fall.



## • Clean drinking water - SolarWave in Uganda

Grace Impact's grant to SolarWave Uganda Limited will be used to help pay salaries and wages as well as social security and taxes for all current employees in good standing as well as the security guards working at the Kampala based company.

"We are focused on the health and safety of employees, families and the communities during this global pandemic. We fully empathize with SolarWave's employees during the Covid-19 crisis and wish to help them and their families during this critical time." commented Dinese Hannewald, CEO & Founder of Grace Impact gGmbH.

Since 2015, we have supported SolarWave Uganda Limited with two Good Water Projects; one in Uganda in 2017 and one in Tanzania in 2015. Grace Impact looks forward to working with SolarWave Uganda again in the near future.

*"Solarwave Uganda thanks Grace Impact for their support during these hard times. The support from Grace Impact means that we can continue to focus on our hard work, enabling clean water for everyone with our of grid solutions. We are truly thankful."*

Said Abdu, CEO of Solarwave Uganda



## Grace Impacts stands in Solidarity with Black Lives Matter

Grace Impact is dedicated to improving people's lives, especially those who have been marginalized in society, building healthier communities, and creating long-term sustainable change. **Toward a model of change, we recognize, acknowledge, and stand firm that Black lives matter.**

Grace Impact's vision is a world where marginalized and disenfranchised communities across the globe can improve and thrive. We understand that for communities to be sustainable, they must have the infrastructure and resources to survive and be empowered to regenerate health, wellness, and economic empowerment. **We target disenfranchised communities by focusing on connecting them to resources that support long-term health and wellness. These communities can live in a society that is just, inclusive, anti-racist, and acknowledges their humanity.**

We will continue to work to build, support, and partner with communities towards empowerment and restoration - recognizing change occurs over time. Still, with each small step, we can make the world a better place. **It is what we Do that matters, not just what we say.**

In solidarity,  
Dinese Hannewald,  
Founder and CEO of Grace Impact gGmbH

## About Grace Impact

The Sustainable Development Goals are the blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. These 17 SDGs were adopted in 2015 to be reached in 2030.

[Grace Impact](#) focuses its support and investment on the following SDGs:

- “Clean Water and Sanitation (6)”
- “Good Health and Wellbeing” (3)
- “Quality Education” (4)

Our regional focus: Africa, Europe and North America.

We offer financial and hands-on support.

We provide:

- grants
- loans
- direct equity investments

[Grace Impact](#) remains informed on the company’s or project’s development and ensures that its milestones are met according to the agreed timetable.

We are an active participant in all of our projects either as a member of management, board member or advisor.



## How can you support Grace Impact? Your donation is greatly appreciated !

### Our Bank Information

Grace Impact gGmbH  
Hypovereinsbank Munich  
IBAN: DE21 7002 0270 0015 2862 84  
BIC: HYVEDEMMXXX

Please be sure to include your full name and address on the bank transfer so we can issue you a donation receipt. Thank you!

### Donate with AmazonSmile



amazonSmile is a way for customers to support their favorite charitable organization every time they shop with Amazon. When you shop on AmazonSmile, the **AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price** of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice.

There are no extra costs for you!

**We kindly request that you select Grace Impact gGmbH as your favorite charitable organization. Thank you.**

<https://smile.amazon.com>

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### We have been validated by Haus des Stiftens



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I would like to thank Dr. Ayoka Wiles-Abel (my cousin who drafted the Black Lives Matter statement), Iris Hannewald and Jasmin Nowak for their contribution and support in publishing our first Grace Impact Newsletter.

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#### IMPRESSUM

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