



FRIENDS OF LESOTHO

METSOALLE ea LESOTHO

Third Quarter 2022
Newsletter

A Word From Our President

Lumelang Metsoalle,

I would like to thank our members who continue to support our work and the board members for all the hours they have put in. I am pleased to report that FOL continues to fulfill its mission to promote positive change and to assist the people of Lesotho.

I would like to share two pieces of news. First, Peace Corps Lesotho will resume this September with the arrival of 20 volunteers. I am sure we all remember the excitement leading up to arriving in country. From all of FOL I want to wish baithoapi-ba-bacha the best of luck in the Mountain Kingdom. 10 of the volunteers will be doing primary education (PCL is no longer doing secondary education) and the other 10 will be in health.

The second piece of news that I would like to share is that in July Lesotho's new ambassador to the United States arrived. So, please join me in welcoming Ambassador Tumisang Mosotho to the United States. I was lucky enough to have a video conference with him in July in which I was able to introduce him to FOL and what we do as an organization. He is already looking forward to joining us at our next Annual Meeting in March of 2023.

I was also lucky enough to visit Lesotho for a second time this year! This time I was accompanied by 20 volunteers (including my roommate from Peace Corps training, Mel Ruth and his daughter), for a three week-service learning trip. It was an amazing experience to be back in Lesotho with Mel over 30 years after our COS. In fact, we had not seen each other in 22 years! In addition to working with us, Mel had the chance to go back to his site in Butha-Buthe and catch up with family and friends.

If any of you are interested in becoming more involved or even serving on the Board, please reach out to me at rosenberg@wittenberg.edu. 🏠



Sincerely,
Dr. Scott Rosenberg
President, FOL
Honorary Consul, Kingdom of Lesotho

Newsletter Features Clickable Links!!
Download the newsletter from the FOL website www.friendsoflesotho.org and you will be able to click on all the website addresses.



Photo courtesy Nicole Potsane, RPCV

Inside this issue:	
	Click title to go to page
President's Letter	1
Organizational News	2
Climate-Smart AG	3
Wittenberg Trip	4
PC Lesotho Update	5
In Memoriam	6
A Counterpart's Story	7
Kenneth Tucceri	8
News From Lesotho	9-10
Black Panther	11
Amazon Smile	12
Ways to Support FOL	13
FOL Membership	14
Treasurer's Report	15



FOL Organizational News

Social Media/Website

Our website is still under construction. We hope you find the redesigned website both informative and appealing. Thank you for your patience while we continue to add new content and useful forms and links. Let us know if you have any suggestions for what you would like to see on our website.

Send us any posts or news you'd like to see on our Facebook page. Current events, nostalgia, development opportunities- share them with us!

Visit our [website](#) that's being worked on every week! Contact Meghan White and Ali Kukovich at white.meghan0@gmail.com and ali.kukovich@gmail.com.

Fundraising Committee

Watch for notification of our end-of-the-year fundraising appeal to be sent out in the next couple of months. FOL depends on your generous financial support to be able to fund locally initiated projects in Lesotho. For more information on how to get involved with the fundraising committee, please contact Richard Rowan at qhomaki@mac.com.

Nominations Committee


The December newsletter will have information on how to apply for a Board position for the 2023-2024 terms of service. Please consider applying for a Board position or committee assignment at that time. For more information, you can contact any of the Board members listed in the newsletter or contact Scott Rosenberg, President, at srosenberg@wittenberg.edu.

Donations Committee Report

• Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) \$1,000

Four scholarships were approved by the Board for students FOL has previously supported. These include deserving students in Grade 8 at St. Joseph School, grades 8 and 9 in Rasetimela Government High School, and grade 8 in St. Paul High School.

• Sechaba Community Initiatives Organization - \$2,200


Funding for this project will support the construction of a tree nursery with poles and shade nets to raise peaches, apples, and apricots. The project team will be supervised by agricultural experts of tree production from the Ministry of Forestry. The organisation will create income through the fruits produced by those trees which will be sold to local businesses and reduce imports from South Africa. As trees produce fruits every year, the organisation will receive income every year. Profits will be used to invest in other income generating projects. 



Expanding Our Circle of Friends

FOL wishes to extend opportunities for its Committee membership by recruiting RPCVs and individuals who may not have served as PCVs in Lesotho but share our goals in "promoting friendship between the peoples of Lesotho and North America." The Board believes that by expanding our pool of Committee members, we will also increase our talent base and organizational effectiveness.

If you are interested or know of someone interested in serving on one of FOL's Committees, please feel free to contact any of the Board members listed on the back page or contact Scott Rosenberg, President, at srosenberg@wittenberg.edu.

Please assist FOL by forwarding the end-of-the-year fundraising appeal email to family and friends to help increase our revenues. 



Scaling Up Climate-Smart Agriculture in Lesotho



Efforts to diversify produce in Lesotho have begun with initiatives in high-value fruit farming. Lesotho exports apples to South Africa. Photo: Elita Banda/World Bank. Read more at <https://blogs.worldbank.org/african/scaling-climate-smart-agriculture-lesotho>



HOLO Motivational and Educational Club (MEC Club) \$2,200

Heal Our Land Organisation (HOLO) is a registered Non-Government Organisation working to promote and protect education, human dignity, gender equality and public health through training, advocacy and social mobilization and empowerment strategies, and improve the culture in Lesotho as a whole. HOLO is located in Matsieng in the neighborhood of Morija. The area around Matsieng has been affected by gang fighting.

FOL funds will be used to help complete a classroom building used to host a Motivational and Educational Club to help young people (boys and girls who have dropped out of school, orphans, shepherds, people living with HIV) who have social issues like anger, aggression, depression, theft, with Mental Wellbeing Sessions. HOLO is working closely with parents and local schools to receive referrals of students with social issues. HOLO has groups of 40 students coming to sessions on Saturdays and is in great need to have a facility to accommodate these classes.



Progress made in building two classrooms.

Submissions wanted!!

Help us create our awesome newsletter! We are looking for photographs, articles, news from the front, creative writing, reflections from your volunteer experience, travel essays, and anything else Lesotho-related.

Please send your submissions for the next FOL Newsletter to Kevin Freer, kfreer49@gmail.com.

The next deadline is November 15, 2022



Wittenberg University Summer Service Trip

Scott Rosenberg, Wittenberg University

Since 2003 I have been bringing groups of Wittenberg University students to Lesotho to spend three weeks doing service projects. This summer was our first time back since 2019 because of COVID.

On June 16th 24 of us arrived in Lesotho, 15 students, my family and fellow RPCV Mel Ruth and his daughter Olivia. We were also joined by 5 Wittenberg Alumni who had previously participated on the trip (two are actually currently living in Mokhotlong).

During our first week at Ramabanta, we worked with Habitat for Humanity to build a house for a family in need. Additionally while in Ramabanta the group helped prepare a building to be used as a community center and library for local students. The building was painted, shelving built and donated books organized and placed on shelves. Lastly, a playground built on our 2017 trip received some repairs including new swings, a slide, and repairing of the bridge. All of the projects in Ramabanta were done in conjunction with the Lesotho Youth Workcamps.

The next ten days saw us work on three projects in Setibing. The first item that the community asked for was a new kindergarten building as the existing one was not useable. Students and team members spent a week working with community members to build a new one-room cinderblock building which would serve as the new kindergarten. The building was also brightly painted. The second project was to fulfill a request to renovate a dilapidated building to be used by local weavers and pony trekking. Students repaired and plastered the inside walls, helped install windows and doors and brightly painted the outside with messages to let travelers know what items could be purchased at the location. This was done to help support local entrepreneurs.

Our last project involved the painting of 3 classrooms at Setibing Primary School. After patching the walls and applying a fresh base coat, each of the rooms were decorated with educational painting based on the lesson plan for each grade. These ranged from letters and numbers to geography and science. In addition to our service, we hiked Thaba-Bosiu, had lunch with the Royal Family in Matsieng, visited the Morija Museum and Archives (and hiked to the Dinosaur footprints there) and made a trip to see Mohale Dam.





Peace Corps Lesotho Update

PC Lesotho is expecting 10 Health and 10 Education (primary school level for literacy, numeracy and life skills) PCTs at the end of September. The preparation for their return has been very exciting and also extremely thorough, so everyone has been busy. I'm attaching a copy of our Dream Statement and a recent photo of Staff including LCFs and external ICDEIA facilitators taking during our Off Site All Staff SUMMIT. We are working with SolarSPELL – the solar powered digital learning library, and there might be opportunities for collaboration on that front.



Randa Wilkinson

Country Director

Peace Corps / Lesotho



Peace Corps Dream Statement



Peace Corps Lesotho is a mosaic of passionate and committed staff, Volunteers, and stakeholders.

We create a culture that continuously embraces and nurtures talent and diversity.

We pride ourselves in providing appropriate support and a conducive environment where work and family life thrive together.

Like our mighty waterfalls made up of many tributaries, our respect and care for each other is our strength in building the Basotho capacity to improve our lives.

We are the ambassadors of Peace and Friendship.

Lebotho la Baithaopi Lesotho ke kopano ea boitlamo ea basebetsi 'moho, baithaopi le batho bohle ba chang ba tšola, ba nang le thahasello le maikemisetsa a ho bopa le ho holisa meetlo, lineo le litalenta tsa mefuta e fapaneng ea batho ba teng kahare ho lefapha lena la tšebetso.

Re ikhantša ka ho fana ka tšehetso e hlokahalang ho baithaopi le basebetsi 'moho bohle ele ho netefatsa sebaka se mofuthu sa tšebetso moo re lekang ho baballa bophelo ba malapa le mosebetsi.

Joaloka liphororo tse ntle tsa naha ea Lesotho tse nang le melatsoana e mengata, re khabile ka ho hlomphana le ho utloelana bohloko tseleng ea rona ea ho haha le ho koetlisa Basotho le ho ba fa malebela a bophelo a tla ba thusa ho ntlafatsa maphelo a bona le bokamoso ba bona.





In Memoriam

Mary Margaret Wagner 1946 - 2022



Mary Wagner, the wife of board member Bill Moore, passed away in July. She raised two strong women, Lebohang and Nora and loved them and her husband Bill.

Among many other contributions in her career, Mary taught English and organized the library at Paul VI High School in Lesotho. She received Fulbright grants for work at the National University of Lesotho and the University of Zambia.

Bill and Mary have been long time supporters and volunteers for FOL. Mary spent many hours over the years volunteering for FOL. For many years Bill and Richard got the paper newsletter and Annual Appeal letters mailed out. Bill, Mary, and Richard's wife, Tlotlisang would spend hours sitting around one of their kitchen tables collating, folding, labeling, stamping and stuffing envelopes to get FOL mailings out. Mary often helped Bill with other board tasks. She made many contributions toward helping to keep FOL running. Friends of Lesotho owes Mary a great deal of thanks.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/twincities/name/mary-wagner-obituary?id=35771385> 



Spring Morning in Lesotho <https://www.bing.com/images/>



Makhobalo High School, Peace Corps, Peace Corps Volunteers, and Counterparts: My Personal Experience as the Counterpart

Makhobalo High School is situated in the rural areas of the Leribe District in Pela Ts'oeu, alongside the road to Tsehanyane National Park/Maliba Lodge. Makhobalo High School is presently a medium school in size with around 560 students, 22 teachers and 5 non-teaching staff members. These numbers to my best knowledge grew tremendously after the arrival of Peace Corps in Makhobalo High School back in 2013.

The first PCV here was Kyle Oney (*Kabelo-* or *KB*). By then I was not yet the counterpart, but my relationship with KB was so close I learnt a thing or two from him about PC and the US community and developed an interest to work with PCVs.


KB was followed by my Ntate Moholo Thomas Linder (*Ntate Ntsasa*). Likewise, with him was first the personal connection. The age difference and culture did not stop us from chatting and laughing. In most lessons he came after me in our Form D1 class in 2015. And after his class we would always have some discussions from what he found on the board (My Development Studies presentation). I learnt he had interest in my subject, content and the teaching style. He was somehow struggling with his Sesotho until I forced him to have an assignment every day to tell me at least one Sesotho word every day and its meaning. It was fun. Very funny! Some colleagues could not understand. One day he had to go to a workshop in Maseru and for that whole week I felt his absence. I missed him. I then realised how valuable he was to us. When he came back, I told him to never leave when he was going to these workshops. We laughed and he told me another one was coming and that if interested he would like me to go with him. And I was like, "what? I can't miss it! Actually just give me the time, date and place, you will find me there in case you change your mind or tell me you were joking"



Grass Roots Soccer Refresher Training at
Molengoane Lodge in March 2022

We attended that workshop together as his counterpart. It was awesome! I learnt a lot for my personal and professional growth. Cross cultural differences, project management all came in a package that contributed a lot to the person I am today. I can now easily successfully manage the students' social clubs (the Prince Mohato Award Programme-PMAP under the International Award of Edinburg, and the Grassroots Soccer-GRS under Peace Corps Lesotho). I was introduced to GRS through Ntate Tom's successor Karina Garrero whom I did not only become the counterpart to but also a close friend. I remain thankful that she took me to the GRS training.

All the skills I gathered from my experience as a counterpart have been useful even afterwards. I have been successfully working with the students' extracurricular activities. We are a member of the Royal Lesotho Lifesaving Association and won the schools competition the first time we attended in 2020. We had a forced break from everything due to Covid 19 and resumed this year, and still managed to retain the trophy. Just recently I attended the GRS refresher training and have resumed doing what I love most -working with the youth towards providing them with skills on their social and health issues and always providing a save space for them whenever they need me. The interaction during the interventions that included dealing with GBV, gender equality, and women empowerment always gives me hope that one day Lesotho will be a better place. There is a serious need for Transforming Education (TE) and for that to be a success the process should be inclusive of all stake holders, students included, and their suggestions taken into consideration.

Kea leboha Ntate Moholo for giving me this opportunity! I'm forever grateful
From 'M'e SEPANYA (Matsepo Molefi) 



From left to right: Lindsay Wieland, DPT PC
Lesotho, M'e' Sepanya, Carol Spahn, PC CEO, and
Maria Brewer, US Ambassador



Kenneth Tucceri

Dear FOL Members,

I am so happy to have the opportunity to support the people of Lesotho after completing my Peace Corps service in Thaba Tseka from 2017-2019. During my service, I focused on teaching English at Makoko Primary School as well as getting to know and love my community—specifically the small village of Ha Nkune where I lived (and remain synonymous with marshmallow parties).

You can classify me as one of the volunteers that first heard about Lesotho when receiving an invite from the Peace Corps! Due to unforeseen circumstances, my original country assignment was changed. During a subsequent phone call with my recruiter, she asked me if I would be interested in serving in Lesotho. After asking this question, the short pause she heard on the phone was me hastily Googling ‘Lesotho,’ seeing “The Mountain Kingdom” moniker pop up on my screen and saying, “Yes, I love Lesotho!” in, now I can gladly admit, a prescient utterance.

And what a fortuitous (and mountainous) path this naïve remark led me on. I classify my Peace Corps service as some of the absolute best days of my life. From walking to school with my students learning the names of the insects, birds (oh look, a *mamolopelope!*), and lizards of the Maloti Mountains to gathering in the camp town of Thaba Tseka for a long-anticipated braai feast, I will forever cherish the memories and friendships I created in Lesotho.

With that said, I can unequivocally state that leaving Lesotho was the hardest thing I have ever done. It hurt; but life went on. Since concluding my Peace Corps Service, I have been spending my time as a full-time soldier in the Army National Guard (now, most recently, as an archivist with the National Park Service).

A few months after departing Lesotho, I deployed to the Middle East with the U.S. Army. It was there that I bragged to everyone about my time in Lesotho. This excessive bragging inspired me to start a fundraiser to build a kindergarten in Ha Makoko, where I taught. Raising more than \$15,000, I sent the funds to my host-brother, who recently finished his degree in Lesotho, studying architecture. With great efficiency, he and the community completed the building. The project was a huge success and left me wanting more.

Apropos of this yearning, a friend, fellow Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, and board member of FOL asked if I had interest in joining the organization. Without hesitation, much like my initial conversation I had with my Peace Corps recruiter, I said, “Yes, I love Lesotho!”

It is a great honor to be part of FOL and join in on the great legacy of projects and initiatives that have been completed in Lesotho throughout the years. I hope my skills and experience can help with the mission and purpose of FOL, and I am excited to be a part of this wonderful journey with all of you.

Kea Leboha!

Kenneth (Neo Nkune) Tucceri 



Departing in style. I had a going away party to commemorate the conclusion of my service. A bittersweet celebration that was full of dancing, singing, and food in true Basotho style, and me attempting to ride a horse to everyone's entertainment.



After my service, I conducted a fundraiser to build a reception school at the school I was an English teacher at. The construction was completed earlier this year.



Litaba tsa Lesotho (News from Lesotho) Compiled by Ella Kwisnek

Elections Date Set

The Lesotho general elections are scheduled for October 7, 2022. When His Majesty, King Letsie III, announced the election date, the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC)'s director of elections, Mpaiphele Maqutu, stated that the country was now officially in the election period, which will run from July 19 to October 8, 2022. Lesotho now has 65 parties, and it is not clear if they will all field candidates. Read more at <https://lestimes.com/elections-date-set/>

Charges against Thabane withdrawn

The Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) Hlalefang Motinyane withdrew murder charges against former Prime Minister Thomas Thabane and his wife, 'Maesaiah due to the unavailability of a witness. The two were accused of the June 14, 2017, murder of Thabane's ex-wife. See <https://lestimes.com/breaking-dpp-withdraws-murder-charges-against-thabane-maesaiah/> and <https://www.news24.com/news24/southafrica/news/murder-charges-dropped-against-lesothos-former-prime-minister-tom-thabane-and-wife-20220726>

Snow

A blanket of snow covered the eastern parts of Lesotho and the southern Drakensberg or north-eastern high ground of the Eastern Cape. See <https://www.news24.com/news24/southafrica/news/snow-blankets-parts-of-lesotho-eastern-cape-20220724>

Lesotho police under fire for allegedly shooting, killing university students during protest

On June 16, the Lesotho Mounted Police Service allegedly shot and killed two students who were protesting a reduction in student stipends at the National University of Lesotho. Many other students were injured and arrested. Read more at <https://www.news24.com/news24/africa/news/lesotho-police-under-fire-for-allegedly-shooting-killing-university-students-during-protest-20220621>

US Upgrades Lesotho's Human Trafficking Ranking

The United States upgraded Lesotho to Tier 2 on its human trafficking index report for 2022 in recognition of "significant efforts" by the government to combat trafficking in the past year. However the U.S. said that Lesotho has still failed to meet "minimum standards in several key areas," including the failure to prosecute government officials implicated in the trafficking of victims.

Countries in Tier 3, the lowest level, usually automatically lose US development assistance. Those on the Tier 2 still have to increase their efforts to deal with human trafficking to be eligible for various forms of US aid.

Lesotho achieved Tier 2 status by launching a national action plan and allocating funding for implementation which included guidelines for victim identification and referral to care and increased its anti-trafficking training for law enforcement, diplomats and the public. The Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act was amended to include penalties of up to 25 years' imprisonment for the trafficking of adults and up to life imprisonment for the trafficking of children.

Read the full story at <https://lestimes.com/us-upgrades-lesothos-human-trafficking-ranking/>

New Law Begins August 1

On August 1, 2022, a new law reserving certain businesses for "indigenous" Basotho will go into effect. The Business Licensing and Registration Act of 2019 lists 47 business activities that can only be conducted by indigenous Basotho. According to the regulations, an indigenous citizen is a person whose ancestry can be traced back to at least three generations in Lesotho. Naturalised citizens and foreigners can only participate in the 47 activities as minority shareholders with a maximum 49 percent stake in the companies.

Among the 47 activities reserved for indigenous Basotho are transport, cleaning, repairing and retail motors sales, growing and selling fruits and vegetables, pharmaceutical wholesaling and retailing, real estate, retail of animal feeds, supply of fuel, retail of hardware, and raising animals such as sheep and poultry.

Naturalized citizens and foreigners who currently operate in the reserved sectors have one year to wind down their businesses and their licenses will not be renewed.

Read the article for a full list of reserved business activities reserved for Basotho. <https://lestimes.com/controversial-indigenisation-law-kicks-in/>

5-year sentence for copper wire theft

A Mosotho was recently sentenced to five years in prison for stealing Econet Telecom Lesotho (ETL) copper cables. The man had the option to pay a M20,000 fine; however being unable to do so, he was imprisoned. In May, two men were sentenced to six years in prison for stealing ETL's overhead copper cables. In addition to copper cable, poles and optic fibre equipment are also stolen. Such vandalism has cost ETL approximately M3,248,700 in the last fiscal year. Read more at <https://lestimes.com/peka-man-jailed-for-stealing-etl-copper-cables/>



News from Lesotho (continued from page 9)

Ag Market Hub

The Tsikoane Fresh Produce Market, trading as Northern Agri Hub, recently launched in Leribe. The goal of such markets is to encourage entrepreneurship among local farmers. The overall purpose of development of such markets is to improve the quality of life among rural households by improving food security and providing a broader base of rural agricultural production. Read more at <https://publiceyenews.com/market-hub-to-boost-commercial-agriculture/>

Omnibus bill fails to pass

On July 13, King Letsie III disbanded Parliament without them having passed the 11th Amendment to the Constitution Bill 2022, commonly known as Omnibus Bill. The Bill sought to address some constitutional problems believed to be the cause of the country's lingering instability such as the excessive powers of the prime minister, a judiciary that is controlled by the executive, politicized security agencies, and a weak parliament.

Law and Justice Minister, Lekhetho Rakuoane, indicated the government may advise King Letsie III to declare a state of emergency so parliament can be recalled to address the reform bill. One of the key amendments in the Bill relates to the introduction of term limits for a prime minister to two terms and another provides for removal of the prime minister by the King "by way of impeachment, on the advice of the Council of State and following the recommendations of parliament." The bill also includes a proposal that limits floor crossing; for example, an MP representing a constituency will only be allowed to cross the floor to join another party "at the end of three years after the beginning of a term of parliament."

The constitutional reforms are part of much wider reforms recommended by SADC in 2016.

See <https://lestimes.com/govt-finalising-preps-for-parly-recall-rakuoane/>, <https://publiceyenews.com/omnibus-bill-continues-to-divide-political-leaders/>, and <https://publiceyenews.com/us-envoy-speaks-on-reforms-bill/>

Bid for airport upgrade

South African businessman Thulani Majola, who is well connected to politicians, won a M35 million bid to supervise upgrades of Maseru's airport. The being awarded the bid is considered controversial because In February 2021, five companies were invited to compete against Airports Company of SA (ACSA) in a bid process that was confined to invitees; however the bid was awarded to LTE Consulting despite them allegedly not having been one of the five invitees.

Further, The bid has been awarded to the South African LTE Consulting Company, which is allegedly being liquidated.

For the full story and a graphic of the bidding process, visit <https://www.news24.com/fin24/companies/amabhungane-sa-businessman-majolas-liquidated-company-wins-disputed-lesotho-airport-tender-20220624>

Government sued over airport contract

Following news reports that LTE was being liquidated and allegations of corruption in awarding the bid for the airport, a group of local construction and mining companies filed an urgent application to overturn the tender award to LTE Consulting. The full story is <https://lestimes.com/govt-sued-over-controversial-airport-tender/>

245 Carat Diamond Found at Letšeng

On June 11, Letšeng Diamond Mine in Mokhotlong announced that they unearthed a 245 carat Type II white diamond. Two 100 plus carat diamonds were found in May.

United Kingdom-based Gem Diamonds holds 70 percent of the shares at the Letšeng Mine while the remaining 30 percent shareholding is held by the Lesotho government. For the period January 1 to March 31, 2022, it sold 28461 carats of diamonds at an average price of \$1,831 per carat.

Read more about their sales at <https://lestimes.com/another-massive-245-carat-diamond-find-at-letseng/>

Quthing sustainable farming

Mphaki Ha Pali, a village in Quthing, has been hard hit by climate change leaving them food insecure. The community has come together and started sustainable projects to improve their food security with assistance from Improving Adaptive Capacity of Vulnerable and Food Insecure Populations in Lesotho (AICOV). The community is now food secure and their land has been rehabilitated. They have livestock, rehabilitated grazing land, wetlands, and controlled soil erosion by planting trees. As a result, the community produces more wool, mohair, and vegetables and has plenty of water. The community is saving the money collected from the project for further sustainable projects that are still in the pipeline. One woman noted that they pooled their funds and purchased chickens, and now members of the community have at least eight layers' at their homes.

To read more about this and other projects, visit <https://publiceyenews.com/climate-smart-options-remote-quthing-nails-it/>

Mounting armed robberies

Large groups of armed robbers are targeting big stores, filling stations, individuals carrying huge amounts of money to and from the banks, and residents of security estates such as Hills View. In the past three months, the security company recorded over 16 incidents that occurred at business premises and townhomes. In May, several families were held at gun point while being robbed in the Letsie Flats area. Read more about the businesses that were robbed at <https://publiceyenews.com/mounting-armed-robberies-put-business-on-edge/> and <https://lestimes.com/violent-crimes-haunt-lesotho/>





Unscramble LESOTHO

LESOTHO unscrambles and makes **144** words!

<https://www.wordunscrambler.net/?word=lesotho>

Black Panther Sequel to be Released in the Fall

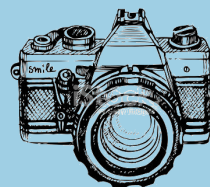
It was confirmed back in May 2021 that the sequel would be called *Black Panther: Wakanda Forever*. After a couple of delays to its original May 2022 release, the sequel is set to hit cinemas in November 2022, and everything seems on track for that. The sequel will continue to explore the world of Wakanda and all the characters introduced in the original 2018 film.



Director Ryan Coogler stated that his depiction of Wakanda was inspired by the southern African kingdom of Lesotho. Basotho blankets also became more known as a result of the film and its basis on Lesotho. View the official trailer at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RIOB3UALvrQ>



Photo courtesy: Nicole Potsane, RPCV 2003-2005



GOT PHOTOS?

Do you have photos from Lesotho?
We would love to feature them in the newsletter!

Send your photos to the editor
kfreer49@gmail.com



Start Your Holiday Shopping Early!!

Turn on AmazonSmile to Support Friends of Lesotho!!

Amazon Smile Is now available on the Amazon website and in the Amazon app!!

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Amazon will donate a small percent of your purchases year round, with no extra charge to you, if you access their site through the AmazonSmile page or turn on AmazonSmile in your mobile app. One extra click by you enables FOL to send hundreds of dollars of donations to Lesotho each year.

<https://smile.amazon.com/gp/chpf/homepage?orig=%2F>



Windshield Sun Shade



Car Seat Covers



Personalized License Plate Cover



Car Phone Holder



License Plate Frame



Front Windshield Snow Ice Cover



Magnetic Bumper Sticker



Window Hanging Flag



Car Umbrella



Ways to Support FOL

HELP FOL WITH YOUR EXPERTISE AND TIME

Board Service

- ◆ If you've always wondered how you could give a little more to FOL, now is the chance to volunteer your time, special skills, and enthusiasm. The members of the Board of Directors of Friends of Lesotho are elected based on their ability and willingness to contribute to the achievement of the organization's goals and objectives.
- ◆ Directors are members in good standing who are elected on their ability and willingness to support the purpose of FOL
- ◆ Nominations are welcome year round
- ◆ Elections are held at the Annual Meeting in March
- ◆ Directors serve for two-year terms

Committees and Task Forces

FOL members who do not wish to make a long-term commitment to the board are encouraged to:

- ◆ Join standing committees, or
- ◆ Work on special projects which match their skills and interests to the needs of the organization

There are also committees and task forces that help carry out the Board work. These committees include Donation Distribution, Membership, Fundraising and Board Nominations & Development.

Check out the [Board Information](#) page. Also, for a summary of the expected level of commitment see the [Board and Committee description of work](#). If you're interested in application or nomination, please complete the [Nominating Form](#) and email it to the address shown within the form. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any of the committee members.

ATTEND FOL MEETINGS

Board Meetings

- ◆ Zoom meetings are held at 8pm Eastern on the third Sunday of odd numbered months.
- ◆ Meetings are open to all FOL members, please contact Kevin Caughlan (caughlan@earthlink.net) for call-in information.

FOL Annual Meeting

- ◆ Scheduled close to Moshoeshoe Day in March, via Zoom more information to follow on our website. Be on the lookout for your FOL Annual Report posted on our website following the Annual Meeting.





Be an FOL Member for FREE!

Richard Rowan, RPCV Lesotho, qhomaki@mac.com

Hello, Bakhotsi! Your friendly FOL Membership Committee Chair Richard here.

Membership in Friends of Lesotho is free. Friends of Lesotho stopped collecting the mandatory \$15 yearly membership dues starting in January 2017.

[What do FOL's free dues mean for you?](#)

If you're currently a member of Friends of Lesotho:

You don't have to do anything. Your membership automatically renewed.

If you used to be a member but are no longer a member:

Take two minutes to fill out the updated [membership form online](#).

If you've never been a member:

What are you waiting for? There's never been a better time to start getting involved!

With membership fees in the rear view mirror, we need your help more than ever to continue doing the amazing work Friends of Lesotho does in Lesotho.

Amazon will donate money to Friends of Lesotho when you shop. Join Amazon Smile (smile.amazon.com) and add Friends of Lesotho as a beneficiary. Remember to use Amazon Smile when you shop on-line.

Get involved with one of the many committees in FOL.

Donate generously to our many projects, using the [form online](#).

And Remember :

We couldn't do and support the work, have the impact, and save the lives we do without your financial support. Your contributions support our work in:

- ◆ HIV/AIDS
- ◆ Orphanages
- ◆ Tuition Assistance including Memorial Scholarships
- ◆ The Morija Museum
- ◆ Peace Corps Volunteer Projects
- ◆ Community Development Projects
- ◆ Other types of projects as new opportunities arise

We work because you give.

Whether it's \$5 or \$5,000, all donations help us reach further and save more lives and because we're a registered 501(c)3, your donation is tax deductible!

If you'd like to give, please go to: <http://www.friendsoflesotho.org/donate/>

Newsletters Past and Present—The FOL Newsletter, *Metsoalle ea Lesotho* is posted on our website homepage (<http://friendsoflesotho.org>) each quarter of the year. The complete set of newsletters is available on our website from Issue Number One, Summer, 1987 to the present. Go to Newsletters at the bottom of the home page for the archives.

Submit Newsletter Articles—Pass on RPCV updates. Recommend a Mt. Kingdom movie, music, book or Website. Share new or old photos. Been to Lesotho lately? Share it!

Submit articles, photos, or information of interest to our members to: Kevin Freer, FOL Newsletter Coordinator kfreer49@gmail.com



Follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofLesotho>



Share your photos!

Send to the editor at:

kfreer49@gmail.com



Visit our website:

<http://www.friendsoflesotho.org>

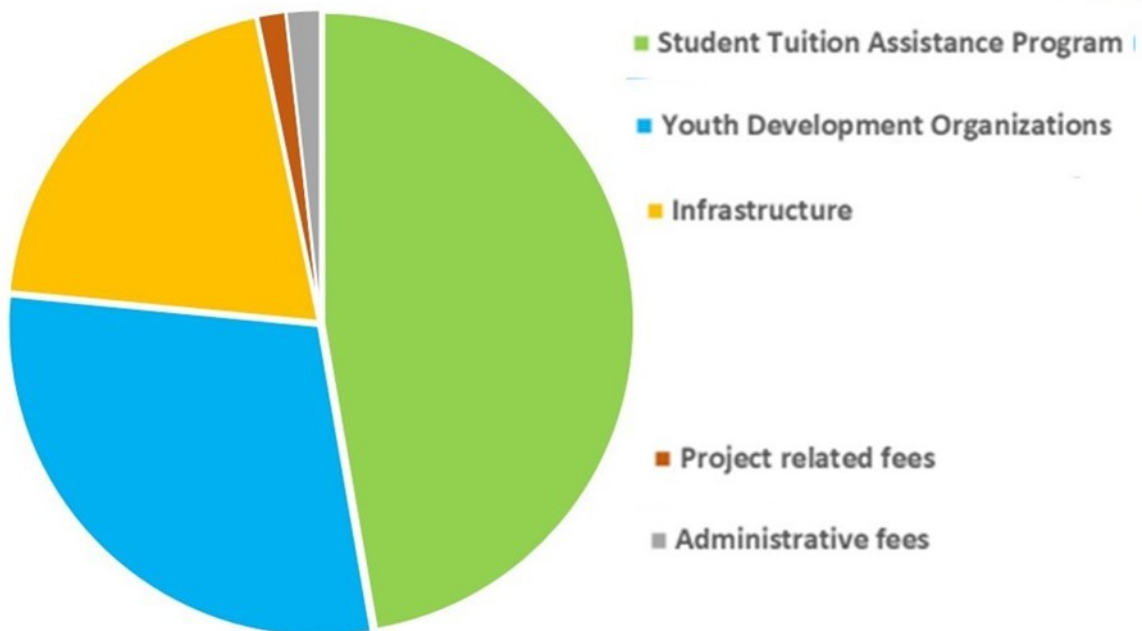




Treasurer's Report

2022 Financial Report		YTD 8/1/2022	
Opening Balance 1/1/2022	\$ 56,380.76		
Revenue		Projects Overview	
<i>Revenue type</i>	Total Revenue	<i>Project Name</i>	Amount
Donations (Checks, Online, Other)	\$ 14,220.48	Malaleng Community	\$ 2,000.00
Interest	\$ 11.90	Matsopa Rotary Club	\$ 4,120.00
Amazon Smile	\$ 179.93	Mohloli Youth Empowerment	\$ 2,000.00
Total	\$ 14,412.31	Monica Letsoha Student Tuition	\$ 1,000.00
Operating Expenses		Rotary Club of Maloti	\$ 3,175.00
<i>Expense type</i>	Total Expense	Rotary Club of Maseru	\$ 5,900.00
Project related fees (e.g. wire transfers)	\$ 470.00	Monica Letsoha Molete Reading Club	\$ 1,000.00
Expenses other	\$ 312.53	Kick4Life	\$ 3,500.00
Tax and Registration	\$ 149.00	Wittenberg Student Project	\$ 3,000.00
Bank Fees	\$ 110.00	Sechaba Community Project	\$ 2,200.00
Total	\$ 1,041.53	Monica Letsoha Student Tuition	\$ 1,000.00
		Heal Our Life Organization	\$ 2,200.00
		Total	\$ 31,095.00
Balance 8/1/2022	\$ 38,656.54		

FOL Total Expenditures 2022 YTD





FRIENDS OF LESOTHO

115 Monteray Avenue
Oakwood, OH 45419



METSOALLE ea LESOTHO

Third Quarter 2022
Newsletter



FRIENDS OF LESOTHO

President: Scott Rosenberg (srosenberg@wittenberg.edu)

Vice President: Bill Moore (litapole@gmail.com)

Secretary: Kevin Caughlan (caughlan@earthlink.net)

Treasurer: Thomas Lindner (lindner.thomas@comcast.net)

Board Members: Cayla Anderson (cayla.a23@gmail.com)
Marisa Ernst (ernst.marisa@gmail.com)
Kevin Freer (kfreer49@gmail.com)
Ali Kukovich (ali.kukovich@gmail.com)
Kathryn Larimore (kathrynlarimore@gmail.com)
Richard Rowan (qhomaki@mac.com)
Danielle Sharp (danielle.m.sharp@gmail.com)
Andrew Steele (andre Steele2@gmail.com)
Kenneth Tucceri (Kenneth.tucceri@gmail.com)
Meghan White (white.meghan0@gmail.com)

Newsletter Team: Kevin Freer, Coordinator (kfreer49@gmail.com)
Nicole Potsane, Graphic Designer
Mary Howard and Deena Lawrence, Copy Editors
Ella Kwisnek, News from Lesotho

Social Media & Website: Ali Kukovich (ali.kukovich@gmail.com)
Meghan White (white.meghan0@gmail.com)