



## Newsletter Tanzania November 2010

**It is becoming winter and snow is falling. You receive from us, in between all the Sinterklaas and Christmas mail, some news from a sunny Tanzania! We have been working very hard to take care for our street children last months and try to re-unify them with their families. We were happy to receive quite a number of visitors this year. Sometimes it rained cats and dogs, but the flooding of the courtyard of the Back Home House has been resolved. Because we have presented every month daily news on our website, we only issue one newsletter this year.**

### Mwanza Town.

Mwanza is getting busier every day. Each day several hundred busses from neighboring villages come to Mwanza. Isabella, our Finance and Administration Manager, travels every day at least 1,5 hours to reach the office and again 1,5 hours to go home, in such a small crowded minibus. Mr. Paulo Lughali from Malimbe Family often visits the schools of our boys to discuss the progress and possible issues. This takes quite a bit of time because of the busy traffic in town. We are therefore very happy with the new motorbike, "piki piki" in Kiswahili, which we received. He is now able to cross the town despite the traffic jams.



### Back Home House

The new dormitory is now in use and the official opening is planned. Most of the furnish has been bought, thanks to all the generous contributions from Holland and from other benefactors. With six new bunk beds, mattresses, mosquito nets, blankets and sheets we are now able to accommodate about 30 children.

The drainage system of the courtyard has been completed in the meantime, thanks to Leo Nijland, Ally and Christina Kappler. This was really necessary because the enormous rain showers, like you recently had in Holland, which are quite common here in the rainy season. We received the money for the drainage system from the Fides Foundation and Achmea.

The Bach home House (BHH) becomes more widely known in the neighborhood and the children are regularly invited by the local church communities. Afterwards they tell the stories about the nice food and the quantities they have been eating.

As from May an American lay missionary from Society of African Missions has joined us to assist with the education in the Back Home House. Because of her lessons it will be a bit easier for the children, - who have often not gone to school for many months and as a result have fallen behind with the education program, -to return to the primary school. This teacher can stay for two years or possibly longer.

A German volunteer arrived in July and she will stay until February 2011 to give English lessons to the children. We are very happy with her, because the children will be able to get more personal attention. They proudly use sometimes English words in their conversations.



Both volunteers also help with other activities, and this gives us more capacity and flexibility. There are quite a number of children coming in and going out of the BHH and this requires a lot of flexibility in the type of support that needs to be provided.

Of course our aim remains to re-unify the children with their parents. The re-unification process is started during the home visits before we bring the child back home. During the home visits we encounter many problem situations like e.g. parents who do not want to cooperate or rather see their child leave again.



Most of the time we have good contacts with the local municipalities and the village elders, so that we are not solely dependent on the parents and the family. Through the contact persons we are able to keep an eye on the situation and can we follow the children with problematic parents a bit better. During follow-up visits we really take the time to talk with the children about their experiences at home. The large distances which we have to travel to places without public transport, does not make the work easier.

Unfortunately it is not always possible to re-unify the children. A few of them have gone back to the street. We continue to follow these children however. A number of children have been accommodated in Malimbe Family because we have not yet been able to find a good solution for them. We will continue to help these children and send them to school as well, till they are able to take care of themselves. In the mean time we try to maintain contact with the family, so that we can re-unify the children when the opportunity arises.

**Malimbe Family**

We started 2010 well. We celebrated the beginning of the New Year during a nice party with the neighbors. It is important for us to create a good understanding of what we are doing among the people in our neighborhood. Very close to Malimbe Family is a university. The students of the university visit us on Saturdays to assist the larger boys with all kind of jobs but also to play with the smaller ones or play football with all of them.

During the spring holiday we renovated our "dining hall", using the money which was sponsored by Maarten Zilverberg. It is now a multifunctional building where we also have been able to watch the most important football matches. And you can be assured that it was a full house when Holland lost the Finals from Spain during the World Cup in South Africa. All children are aware of the fact that there are close ties with Holland.



At the moment there are 45 children in Malimbe Family. We made many efforts to find a suitable place for the older boys, either at home or at a boarding school. The result was tremendous: 10 boys have been placed at various boarding schools in Mwanza and 5 boys are back home with their families. They all still receive psycho-social and financial support from Upendo Daima.

These boys have to get used to the new situation where the ties with Upendo Daima have changed. They cannot just drop in for a chat. It is a learning process for them as well as for us. It is difficult for them to be "independent", but they are aware that education offers chances for a better future, and they take the opportunity with both hands. They also know that they have to work hard to achieve this.

This year 11 boys will complete the primary school, and we are already very busy looking for possibilities for further education. During the school holidays in June they stayed with us and have followed extra lessons so that they will have a bigger chance to be accepted for the secondary schooling.



At the moment 14 boys from Malimbe Family go to the secondary school. The prognosis is that another 11 boys will follow in 2011, and the year thereafter another 12. Therefore we need to generate money for the education of these boys. We want to try to find sponsors who are prepared to pay for the study of a child for a period of four years. This will enable a child to complete the secondary school or learn a real profession. On average some € 600 is needed per child per year.

## Visitors

We received many visitors in Mwanza and that is important for the moral and practical support. Just have a look at the list of the last 11 months:

- In March our member of the Dutch board Hetty Bloemen visited us to meet all the staff of the project. She took the opportunity to introduce the new website and to invite the Tanzanian staff to participate in the writing of website articles;



- Carien Kalmeijer was in Mwanza together with Hetty; as psychologist she studied the psychological problems which the staff encounter with the children. She will periodically visit Mwanza to share her experiences;
- Tanja Brok (People 4 Change) and Paul Wabike paid a visit in May. We jointly discussed the idea to send several of our boys to a vocational training in Mwanza (boarding) because the secondary school would not be possible for all boys. Together we had a look at the school and we see some possibilities;
- In July we were visited by a group of students from Germany, organized by Michael Stolz;
- During their visit, Bea van den Bosch and John Miltenburg organised a workshop with all staff about the improvement opportunities in our organisation and the importance of labour unions. As a present they gave a piki piki to Malimbe Family, which is very handy during the traffic jams and all the trips to the schools of our children;
- Kees Feenstra was here early October, a friend of the first hour;
- Jan van der Meulen (formerly SINTAN) visited us with a group, also in October;
- Jakob Binder, student at the Vechta University in Germany, works with us as a trainee till February next year, as part of his activities at the St. Augustin University close to Malimbe Family.

Yes, there is a lot of interest in our work which pleases us very much, and we possibly have even forgotten a few visitors. Fortunately they pay all travel and accommodation costs themselves. Even better, they always bring something to support the project.

## Work visit to the Netherlands

In June and July 2010 Marga and Isabella visited the Netherlands. Isabella is the Finance and Administration Manager of the project. The purpose of the visit was for Isabella to meet with Upendo Daima Nederland and the sponsors and organizations which cooperate with UDN. Isabella also attended a Personal Management Skills course at the MDF (Management for Development Foundation).



During their stay they met a large number of people. Many individual sponsors, schools, churches, organizations like Cordaid, Hoedje van Papier and the secondhand bookshop "De Boekenlegger". But also people who visited Upendo Daima in Mwanza last year. Of course they took the opportunity to exchange views with the management team of Upendo Daima Nederland about the social and organizational aspects of the project.



It was the first time that Isabella visited the Netherlands. During these weeks she has obtained an enormous amount of information and met many people and organizations. After four busy weeks they returned to Mwanza, a bit tired but happy, to start their work again full of energy.

## Administration

As from 1 August we have a new administrative staff. Gerard Bahebe has completed his study Accountancy at the university and was already familiar with the work of UD. Gerard will mainly be involved in financial and administrative matters under supervision of Isabella. She will then be able to devote more time to management tasks. Yes it is quite an organization with 3 locations and 23 staff!!

## Networking

The creation of a network with partner organizations is now taking shape. People are enthusiastic and realize that they can learn from each other. A memorandum of understanding has been signed with six partners. The government starts seeing the added value of such a cooperation.

**Finally I would like to thank everybody for the fantastic support to our beautiful project. Without your help we would never have been able to give a better future to so many children.**

**Assante Sana**

**For the coming festive season and especially for the coming year we, Marga, Hoja and the whole team, wish you peace and prosperity.**



## Newsletter the Netherlands November 2010

### Activities and sponsor actions

During the past several months we succeeded again in organizing various actions to obtain financial support for the activities in Mwanza. Cordaid, our biggest sponsor, has given us also a substantial amount this year. We hope that they will be able to be equally generous next year. As we all know the Dutch politicians have made substantial reductions in the "left wing hobbies". As if the support for street children is a hobby and not a moral obligation. In case the support would be reduced next year, we know what to do and change gears even further!

This year we also received several special gifts:

What do you ask for your birthday, what do you get at your wedding reception and what will be given when you work 40 years for the same employer? This is sometimes a difficult question since we often have all we need. Toine Schakenraad had a marvelous idea. She invited all her guests at a reception for her 40 year jubilee with the institute for people who are blind or have a hearing impairment in Brabant, with a request to make a donation to our project. This generated an amount of more than € 1.500,--.

And Kees Feenstra. He was so generous to ask for money for the street children of Upendo Daima rather than presents when he retired as an alderman of the municipality Heerenveen.



Jeannette van den Biggelaar (previously a management team member of UDN) and Luc married on 15 May. For them it was a good opportunity to present a fantastic gift to Upendo Daima. For us there cannot be enough of such marriages of course!

Early October a golf tournament for good purposes was organized at the golf course "De Pettelaar" in Den Bosch. Fourteen teams were participating. Each team selects their own good purpose and when they win, will receive all subscription money and donations for their good purpose. The captain Rien Schakenraad had already twice selected Upendo Daima, but the golf balls did not want to cooperate last year. This year was a success; with a balanced team of Rien, his wife Toine, the nestor of the golf course the 80 years old Mr. Jan de Wit and his son Janus won the first price. And for Upendo Daima € 5.020,--. On behalf of the management of Upendo Daima our congratulations and many thanks.



And what about the birthdays of Jos van Splunder and his daughter, also they asked a donation for UD. The communicantjes of Berkel en Rodenrijs were again donating money.



The Foundation "De Pelgrimshoeve" made a considerable donation, just like the Paulus Church and the Catholic Church in Schalkwijk. And what do you think of "Kicken fur Afrika" with a gift of € 5.000,--.

Do you have grandchildren? Then we have an idea which was generated by Koos and Suzanne Hulleman. After their visit to Mwanza in February they decided, on behalf of each of their five grandchildren, to sponsor the schooling of a child of Malimbe Family for a four year period. There are more sponsors who specifically donate money for the education of a child. Our chairman will visit Upendo Daima in March 2011 to discuss this type of sponsoring with the team. We will come back on this subject in more detail after his visit.

The second hand bookshop in Tiel existed 5 years in May. The objective of "De Boekenlegger" is to give books a second life. With the revenue they support our street children and by doing so also give all this beautiful books "a second life". Their jubilee party generated 3000 euro! But also throughout the year we can count on them. See <http://www.boekenlegger.nl>.

The Foundation Eureka Achmea has enabled us to install a drainage system for the Back Home House. The fence around Malimbe Family could be financed through a donation of € 10.000,-- from the Ziekenfondsode.

As you can see we stay to be active to support the activities in Mwanza. And that remains necessary. Are you celebrating 25 years with a company or retire from your job, why not invite your guests to put an envelope in the basket. Are you getting married or celebrate your 60th birthday and have already almost everything you need, no problem we have a good destination and can provide folders to explain to your guests what will be done with your gift. And there is hardly any overhead, almost 0%, because we pay all additional costs ourselves.

You can transfer money to our bank account number 10.22.27.365 of "Stichting Upendo Daima Nederland", Iban code of the Bank NL55-RABO-0102227365 and Bic Code RABONL2U. We can guarantee you that the money will be well spent properly.

## Management affairs

Maria van Strijp has handed over her interim chairmanship to her husband André in April this year. An optimal handover at the kitchen table, perfect for the continuity and André was very quickly up to speed.



You surely will have noticed that our new website has gone live in March. New colours, many pictures, new subjects and a somewhat different layout and now also in two languages. The Tanzanian staff and sponsors as well as the benefactors outside the Netherlands can now follow the ongoing matters of Upendo Daima. For us this new system is an ideal solution since we can work on the website straight from our PC without the need for assistance by our webmasters.

The website has been made by Rien de Weerd in cooperation with Leon Noordam. Leon lives in the vicinity of Hetty, who is in charge of the PR and Communications. Leon is a real wizz kid in the subject of Joomla, the new web program used for our website. The English translations are being made by André van Strijp. And now a Kiswahili version! Who volunteers?

The management team of UDN wishes all readers already enjoyable December days with Sinterklaas celebrations full of joy and pleasant Christmas days. And although it looks like far ahead of us, we already wish you all the very best for the year to come. We trust that we can also count on your support in 2011.

