



Newsletter Upendo Daima December 2014

Our street children project in Mwanza, Tanzania

For all our donors and interested persons, who do not follow us via our website or Face book, we send this yearly newsletter.

It looks like the world is on fire, with large problems in the Middle East, Ukraine, South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Children are often the victims of wars and unrests. Often they have to live with very unpleasant experiences for the rest of their lives. This is also the case for the street children in Mwanza. Fortunately there is no political instability or a war in Tanzania. But as a consequence of the economical crisis and the rising costs of food, children of the poor families get the brunt of it. They are often not properly raised, ill treated and do not go to school because their parents are extremely poor, addicted to alcohol, are in jail or have passed away. They try their luck in the big city. And this turns out to be difficult since there is no work, no food and the Police are chasing them.

Regrettably our work in Mwanza, the street work, looking after the children in the Back Home House and the permanent care in Malimbe Family has to continue at full strength. Regrettably since we would prefer to see a development that would make our work unnecessary. But when our street teams go on the street twice a week, either during the day or the night, they only meet more and more children and also younger children. In case they can convince them to come to the Back Home House, there comes possibly an end to their misery.

In the BHH the process of care and counselling starts and the children get used to a more structured life. The counselling team talks with the children to form a clear picture of the background and problems and to help them cope with their traumas of their childhood. We try to find the families and investigate if re-unification is possible. If we consider this feasible we work towards it.

Once the child is back with his family we maintain contact and try to assist the family with the education of the child. If required we assist them financially, e.g. with support for the schooling costs. Sometimes we help the families with some money to start growing vegetables or give them small business training. We do this to minimize the risk that the child will return to the street.

The BHH has a capacity for 30 children. Each month on average some 17 children come from the street and are registered. Some of them are collected by their families. Thanks to our involvement, every month some 3 to 4 children return home and 2 to 3 have to be brought to Malimbe Family because there is no home. Some boys find a job and try to start a new live. Regrettably a few boys return to the street or move to other cities like Dar es Salaam.



If re-unification turns out to be impossible we bring the children (temporarily) to Malimbe Family. This facility, with a capacity for 50 to 55 children is set up as a 'family house' and focuses on care, education and last but not least provides love and shelter. Ultimately we want to offer these former street children a chance to become respected citizens, who can look after themselves.

Water problems in the Back Home House

Not only Holland but also Tanzania has to cope with heavy rain showers and rather dry periods. Not unusual at all, but the unpredictability and severity increases due to climate changes. Not only climate roughness but also the fast growing urban areas with more and more houses and covering of the soil on the top of the hill close to the BHH, lead regularly to flooding, as was the case early this year. This is very worrying for the BHH with 30 children and very unhygienic. As a result of the flooding the walls of the building get wet and the paint comes off the wall and fungus is encroaching.



In June two water specialists from Holland have advised us how to tackle this problem. An important advice is to regularly clean the drain, adjacent to the BHH, which fills up with sand, plastic and other rubbish after heavy rains. This is a municipal task that is now being carried out by the boys.



It has been proposed to make a small dyke to keep the flowing water off our premises. To tackle the wet walls it has been decided to install a system on the compound so that the rainwater can be drained more

rapidly. The walls will be repaired and 'ventilating' wood panels will be installed.

The Paardenstal from Berkel en Rodenrijs and the Johannes Foundation have promised to help financing the costs for the repairs and the protection system so that we can complete the works in 2015.

Sometimes we have too much water but it also happens that we have a water shortage when the water supply company fails to supply any water. In such cases, living close to a river has an advantage since the water well at our compound can provide water for many people living in our neighbourhood. This also enables our neighbours to have a look at our compound and in this way we develop some support for our activities and boys.

Malimbe Family

Graduation at our primary school

Mid October there was a festive graduation ceremony for 98 children of the Nyamalango primary school. There were 6 children from Malimbe Family in this group. It was a big party with all the pupils, the teachers, invited guests, representatives of neighbouring quarters, journalists and of course the staff of Upendo Daima.

Computers for the Study Centre

In November a container, of the water supply organization Dunea in The Hague, arrived with equipment for their drinking water project. But it contained also 8 computers for our project. The children were really excited, wanted to touch everything and already saw themselves as computer specialists with a good job in an office. We have a plan how to use these computers to enrich the education of our children.



Chicken on Malimbe Family

In November we started a new chicken project. The purpose of this project is to train the children and staff and also the neighbouring people in keeping chicken. The children are responsible to keep the henhouse clean, feed the chicken and ensure there is always water. Maybe some of the children will be able to become in the future a chicken farmer.

Recently our vegetable garden is being used to teach the families of children of the BHH who return home, how to cultivate vegetables.



Renovation and maintenance

Maintenance and repairs are always necessary when you have a group of enthusiastic boys from the street. Thanks to the support of Kids Aid Tanzania we could renovate Malimbe Family during the school holidays. All sleeping houses have been painted; the covered meeting area, the Kibanda where the children eat and where we receive visitors, as well as the kitchen have been tiled. An old sleeping house has been converted to First Aid facility. The solar system has been upgraded and expanded so that we not only save money but also can use our computers and light when there is a power cut.

Our team in Mwanza

Despite the fact that Marga van Barschot has passed the pension age, she still leads the team in Mwanza. But her successor, Benson Nyasebwa has already taken over a considerable number of tasks and will lead the team as from 2015 onwards. Marga will then become a Special Advisor and have more time for the children.



Patricia Paul Buswage has further structured her work as Financial Officer and ensures that all the donor money and project expenses are properly documented. Mara Le Mahieu, a SMA lay missionary, has started with pedagogic support of the children after completion of her induction training. She also takes care of public relations, provides pictures for the website and also looks since two months after the Face book page. Mara provided most of the pictures in this newsletter.

On 30 July we had a farewell party for Sr. Monica. She has worked for Upendo Daima as from 2000. During all these years she has counselled and guided many boys. She has been appointed as Regional Superior of the congregation "The Little Sisters of Jesus". Because of this promotion she has gone to Italy for further studies. Once she has commenced her work as Superior she will surely still provide support to us. In the mean time Sr. Angela of the same congregation has taken over her job.



News from our donor organisations and sponsors.

This year we received more than € 22.000 from private donations and parishes. This excludes the contributions of the Tanzanian donors.

Cordaid was also this year an important and valued donor with a contribution for the BHH activities. Not only financially they provide support but they also give us substantive assistance. We now make good use of the movie about Upendo Daima, which was made with Cordaid support. On the homepage of our website you can see the film; www.upendodaima.nl

The second-hand bookshop “De Boekenlegger” in Tiel has up till the end of November transferred € 14.000 to our account. The move to a new building worked out very well. Early November our new team member Ite van Aardenne has, jointly with our chairman André van Strijp, given a presentation to all volunteers of De Boekenlegger. This is important since this continues to motivate the volunteers and they have a better understanding of the project that benefits from all their work.

For the fourth year in a row, Maartje Calis organised a benefit concert for Upendo Daima. “Terwijde for Tanzania” is a benefit concert where children make music and sing. Every year this is a great success and more than 100 people attend. The entrance fee is 5 euro per person and all the revenue goes to Upendo Daima. Also this year all went very well and the level of the performances increases continuously! From Father Jacob till Bach.

There are many gifts from private sponsors, parishes and other organisations, which feel a responsibility to offer street children a new future. All in all the expenditure this year was substantial and on a yearly basis some € 100.000 is required to feed all the children, to pay the schooling costs and the salaries of the team of 22 staff as well as all other project costs.

Upendo Daima Netherlands

Recently the team of UDN has changed. Monique Pietermaat has after 7 years stopped her activities as

secretary. We said farewell in a befitting way and are very grateful for all she has done for our project. Ite van Aardenne succeeds her. In 2012 she has worked a full year as a volunteer and is therefore very familiar with the project. Led by our chairman André we have tried our best to provide information and maintain the contacts with our donors and sponsor organisations, and sent out new requests for financial support to a number of organisations and of course provided full financial overview of the project.

As you have probably noticed that the website has been renewed and there are more pictures and a video film and shorter news messages. We have also made a link to a web shop where you can buy presents to support our project. Our brochure has also been renewed.

All costs for the activities in Holland are borne by the management team of Upendo Daima Netherlands, including travels to Mwanza.

For up to date information about our work, the web shop and the video movie you can log on to www.upendodaima.nl and via Face book on [upendodaimastraatkinderen](http://www.upendodaima.nl) . The annual reports, newsletters and pictures give an impression how we have used the money to help street children to live a normal live. Since we are an ANBI foundation, the Dutch donors can offset their gifts as tax deductions.

A year-end contribution to the project

Are you prepared to support the street children and the team of Upendo Daima particularly during this December month then you find here our details:

Bank account number NL55RABO 0102227365 of the Stichting Upendo Daima Nederland.

We guarantee you that 100% of the money will be used very well, possibly for a very small Christmas present for the children, but mainly for the care, the food and the education of these less fortunate world citizen.

***We wish you and your family and friends a
pleasant Christmas time and
all the very best for the New Year***

The staff and the
children of Upendo
Daima wish you a
Merry Christmas and
healthy and loving
2015.

