



Newsletter

08 - 12 - 2016

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We bring street children Back Home

The last few months we made enormous efforts to get as many children from the street and to trace their families. Every time our street team, at day time or at night, is strolling the streets, they meet new boys and girls and they are getting younger. For what reasons they ended up on the street? Parents died due to HIV or alcoholism, divorce, sometimes due to the economic crisis and high food prices. But luck is either not found on the street. Life is hard with fighting, stealing and begging to survive. We recently discovered that gangs roam the streets, trying to sell marijuana to children to get them addicted to the drugs. Our aim is to reunite the children with their family after we brought them to the Back Home House. But we do not always manage to reunite them. Once it is clear during the intake conversations that it is our intention to reunite the children, some of them go unfortunately back to the street.

Last year our street team went 110 times into town, made 162 home visits and we managed to bring 48 children home, in addition to the 22 children from our partners.

A short story of Karimu Msunga

On June 23, we found Karimu at the bus station in the city. We had seen him before, but now we managed to win his trust and to get him with us. He was in a bad condition.

Once in the Back Home House he told us his story. He came from a small village, 60 km from Mwanza. His father was an alcoholic and had HIV, he died in 2012. His mother married again, but unfortunately again with the wrong. He abused the children and was not able to feed them. Karimu fled to the street and began to steal to survive. But that was not accepted in the village and he was chased away. He decided to go to the big city to try to survive there.

He was picked up by Upendo Daima. It was not easy to get Karimu a bit in line, the traumatic experiences were too intense. We immediately started to trace his mother, who still lived in the village. In the meanwhile she separated from the stepfather. After several conversations, we started a program to help the mother with a small business, selling food in the village. She is now almost able to live with Karimu again. We think that with some help from our side it will succeed permanently. Beginning in 2017 we will make that step together.



A child trying to survive in Mwanza



Farewell to the Primary School



As everywhere, graduation from the primary school is an important moment for our boys. Especially since it also means the departure from Malimby Family. After all, if they pass the national exam, they go to secondary school and are living outside, either with relatives or at a boarding school. And now it was the turn of these 14 boys. We have celebrated it with music, dancing, acrobatics and fine food.

Back to Kenya

In March 2016, we found Paulo, 10 years old, at the traffic lights in Mwanza. We could easily win his confidence, because he was desperate, and took him to the Back Home House. It was long before the story became clear. He said he came from Nairobi, Kenya. His mother deceased and his father remarried. His step-mother mistreated him and so he decided to walk away. He had been in two centres in Kenya but run away every time. Eventually he arrived in Mwanza. He said he would like to go to his grandmother in Kisumu.

A child reintegration to another country is not so simple. Many conversations with Social Welfare and Immigration followed. Immigration told us that to reintegrate the child is only possible if they had enough children to return to Kenya. However, we knew that Immigration should return each child immediately.

In the meantime Paulo had to stay in the Back Home House, for us no problem. Meanwhile we had been visited by our colleagues from Child Rescue Kenya (CRK) and presented them this story. They declared readiness to take over the reintegration in Kenya. Then our partners Railway Children Africa and CRK came to an agreement for the transfer of the boy. One of our social workers went along with someone from the Immigration Department to the border and there Paulo was handed over to our friends from Child Rescue Kenya.



New Director starts mid December

Marga van Barschot stated a few years ago that she will step back soon and wants to concentrate to take care for the contact with the Dutch donors and to spend also more time on personal contact with the children on Malimbe Family. And that seems to be reasonable when you past the age of 70 . The recruitment process for her successor resulted two years ago in a candidate. Unfortunately after several months he proved to be unsuitable. And then we were back to square one. Early this year we got in contact through our network with Laurent Sabini, a good friend of the director of sister organization Shalom and familiar with the work. A new procedure started and he was selected out of a group of 4 candidates. He starts full-time on December 15th with us.

Last year there were trainings and workshops such as the two-day workshop at Railway Children Africa. Together with our partners Kivuko and Coet, we were learning and sharing best practices, methods and ideas for the future.

Profile of Laurent Sabini

Laurent Sabini 42 years old, is married, his wife is a nurse and they have three children together. He was born in the village Kwimba, about 80 kilometres south east of Mwanza. He has a university degree in mathematics and chemistry. He also has an MBA degree, which for running Upendo Daima could be very useful.

Laurent has a lot of sense to start with us by mid-December and intends to build on the success of Upendo Daima.



We learned also to make road-maps to implement all those beautiful ideas.

In June there was a course for the staff and a customized course for the children of Malimbe Family. The course was provided by medical students from the US studying at Mercer University. The topics were ao. first aid and how to deal with HIV-infected children. There was also attention for the basic principles of good hygiene.

Further professionalization of the team is necessary to confront the challenges of the Tanzanian society and the wishes of the donors. The collaboration with Upendo Daima Netherlands, with the Wilde Ganzen and the Railway Children Africa are already on the agenda. So enough challenges for the new Director.

But his number one priority is cooperation with local partners in Mwanza.



EHBO Training





Donors are sponsoring a new pick-up for home visiting

Distances in Tanzania are big. The region, where our children are coming from, is larger than the Netherlands, the roads are bad and public transport is rather poor. It takes the home visiting team sometimes two days to visit a family. Our own vehicles, the Land Rover 20 years old and the Pick-Up more than 10 years old, are too creaky to cover those distances without problems. In June, we decided to submit an application for a new Nissan Pick-Up to MIVA in Den Bosch. And that application was granted on the condition that 50% of the costs would be covered by other donors. And that has recently suc-

ceeded thanks to the Foundation "Pour les Autres" of the Diocese of Rotterdam and two other donors. Now we can easily do the home visits next year and we are better able to reach out to the poor

families in remote villages. The costs for a driver and the operating costs will be covered with our regular incomes. The Landrover went for sale. The old pick-up will stay in town .



Visitors are welcome

Both in the Back Home House and on Malimbe Family we get a lot of visitors, many from Tanzania, but also from the Netherlands and other countries. In October it was particularly busy with Tanzanian visitors, the Team Fitness from Arusha, employees of the CRBD Bank (Saut Branch) and The Lions Club (Valentine) from Mwanza. In November, we received a delegation of the local government together with representatives from Mwanza EV., with whom we have a partnership for years. On 3rd December the Community Service Club from Isamilo International School came to the Back Home House for a Christmas celebration.

All visitors are always welcomed very warmly with performances by our Cultural Troupe. The boys show their traditional dances and acrobatics. The visitors bring us presents such as wheat flour, corn flour, sugar, tea, cooking oil and biscuits. Also notebooks, textbooks and pens are donated. This

year we also received large quantities of fresh fish from the police who delivered it personally to us. The fish came from illegal fishing! We have a lot of meals can cook! All gifts of visitors throughout the year represent a significant local contribution to cover our expenses.





Volunteers get to work

Every year we receive a number of volunteers to work with the children. Last month three German medical students and two Finnish students social work joined us. Along with the many Tanzanian volunteers they enforce our teams and we can hardly do without them. On average, there are four volunteers in the team. It is important that volunteers stay for a while so they can actually add something.



Volunteers in the Back Home House

Christmas greetings from Mwanza

Santa Claus, the children and the team of Upendo Daima wish everyone a peaceful Christmas and above all a healthy, safe and happy New Year





Activities Upendo Daima Netherlands

The board and volunteers of Upendo Daima Netherlands support the work of the Mwanza team through sponsor activities, making proposals for contributions with donor organizations and keep in contact with many private donors. 2016 is the first year without the financial support of Cordaid. We are trying to catch up this loss with a project application with the foundation Wilde Ganzen and it seems that it will be successful starting next year. Fortunately, there were significant contributions from the Conrad N. Hilton Fund, an anonymous donor from Switzerland, from Linxx BV, ParPetro, Biological Solutions BV and of course our major donor the second handbook shop the Boekenlegger from Tiel. Their book stalls at the annual book fair in Zennewijnen resulted into an result of well over € 7000, -. Furthermore there are every year special actions by individuals. Caspar van Strijp, along with his wife Maura didn't ask for the traditional wedding gifts but asked their guests to contribute to our project which resulted

Did you know you can order from the Boekenlegger second hand books through their web shop. They have 3,000 books in stock. And all benefits go to our project. So this winter, watch less TV, read and then buy the used books in Tiel.
www.boekenleggertiel.nl/



in the fantastic amount of € 3000.

Another fantastic action was the weight watchers race of the family Satijn. All together, 12 people, decided to lose altogether a total of 75 kilos of weight. Everyone selected his target weight with the understanding that for each kilogram, which was not lost, an amount of € 20, - would be paid to our project. The balance day is Christmas day. But it is already clear that the yield will be at least a few hundred euro's.

In addition to recruiting donors and maintaining contacts, a lot of energy is also paid by us to the Public Relations, the newsletter and supporting the team in Mwanza. The chairman of our board was early January this year in Mwanza (of course at their own expenses) to talk about a new director, finances, contacts with Railway Children Africa and the professionalism of the team.

And he again plans to go in early 2017 to, inter alia, to help our new director during his probation period.

Keep on supporting our work

We hope that this year you will again support the street children by making a donation to our bank account NL55RABO 010.22.27.365 in the name of Stichting Upendo Daima Nederland.

Do also have a look at our website www.upendodaima.nl and on Facebook Upendo Daima because there you will find the latest news .