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Annual Report Lwengo Kids Foundation 2024

January

In January 2024, we were again faced with the challenge of asking the sponsors of all children who went to Primary 7 to pay the higher sponsorship amount for Primary 7. All Primary 7 children will be boarded. They have slightly different school times and it is important that they can concentrate well and have enough time to work towards the exams that should give them access to the Secondary School. In the same email, the sponsors are also asked: whether they want to sponsor their sponsor children in the following year at secondary school. Most sponsors agreed. We have searched and found new sponsors for two children. This way we were able to start the year with 248 sponsor children.

In January we will adjust the policy plan and there will be a step-by-step plan at the back of the information booklet that new sponsors receive. The step-by-step plan covers the entire school period of a sponsor child of Baby Class until the moment that they can provide for their own livelihood through schooling. The step-by-step plan has also been sent in an email to all sponsor parents.

February

Three children will not return to school after the big holidays, but soon we can register new children so that the number remains the same.



The expansion of the Health Center is a fact and is officially put into use in the presence of Pieter.

He is there, among other things, to monitor the progress of all projects that are currently being carried out. These projects are the result of a very generous donation from an equity fund.

All floors in the classrooms will be provided with a sustainable Terrazzo floor; paving for the entire schoolyard; bookcases in the classrooms; the ICT room is built and furnished; there will be lightning rods at the school and there will be a tightly closing gate at the main entrance; tables and chairs for the kindergarden classes and new school books are purchased.



Plants will be planted around the now beautiful schoolyard.



The construction of the Family Home starts. This house will serve as a home for the children who also have to stay at school during the holidays due to poor conditions at home or have no home at all. Construction is progressing well and the aim is to be able to use the house in December.



It is great what can be realized. It has become a valuable location where many children like to go to school.

LEWERUDES0 Primary School is developing well and that is noticed by the environment. More houses are being built in the vicinity of the school because people would like to send their children to this school.

The construction of two new classrooms elsewhere in Lwengo will also be started as an annex for Primary 6 and Primary 7. The vacant classrooms in the main building will be used for our deaf children. In this way, the deaf children integrate well between the hearing children and the oldest children (P6 and P7) can complete their last years at Primary School in peace.



March

Our board is expanded with Arenda Vermeulen. She will take over Marga's PR tasks, such as publications on social media, maintaining the website, publicity for pub quiz and oliebollen action and other common activities.

April

In April, Pieter and Marga travel to Lwengo to monitor 253 children and control the projects. 220 sponsors gave a greeting for their sponsor child(ren). The projects are going well and the children look good and healthy. Because we think that the children get a very one-sided diet (beans and cornmeal), we decide, in consultation with Anthony, to expand the diet with an egg every week and the beans are supplemented with dried, small fish.



It is a beautiful sight how all the children are queuing up to pick up their egg and when it is their turn, they hold up two hands to receive the egg, how precious can it be.

At one of the secondary schools, we are told by the young people that there are too few teachers and that there is a lot of noise pollution.

After monitoring our students, we have a meeting with the management of the school. However, they deny. When we are back in October, the problems are solved and we find a cheerful group of sponsor children. Our conversation in April apparently paid off after all.

At the last minute we have a conversation with Florence, she wants to go to Dubai to earn money for the family. We can stop her and when it turns out that she is pregnant, we decide to help financially. The sponsor is also cooperating. Florence will stay in Lwengo, have her baby and in 2025 she will train as a seamstress, so that she can support herself afterwards.

We are visiting Fred's father who has to live in miserable conditions. There too, we can contribute financially together with the sponsor to make it a little easier for him and Fred.

It remains good to monitor the children and projects, as it turns out.

October/November

Our second work trip goes completely different than planned, because Marga got food poisoning and pneumonia on top of that. The children were visited, but not spoken to them personally. The greeting of the sponsor has been given as well as the small gift that was organized by Jesca for the first time this year. Jesca is a former sponsor child, who is now a teacher at Lwerudeso Primary School and also manages a shop with office and school supplies. Nowadays we buy the presents from her.

At the end of our trip we visit a few secondary schools. As described above, everything turned out to be going well there.



December

We say goodbye to our board member Harry Hoorn. He has worked with us for 6 years on fundraising.

It is a big concern to find new volunteers. In the meantime, we have met Sandra Timmer and Ronald van Veen who are considering joining our board.

Throughout the year:

Several presentations were given. Most presentations provide a nice amount, one or two sponsors and brand awareness.

We are in contact with Niels and Annelou, an enthusiastic young couple who want to go to Uganda for 5 months in 2025. They can support the organization there and also supervise a number of projects.

Lwengo Kids Foundation becomes a member of the Putten Business Circle.

Christelijk College Groevenbeek has organized a number of activities during the 2024/2025 school year. The proceeds were more than 29,000 euros.

The Velp-Rozendaal deaconry has supported us with the collection proceeds for the past two years. They have chosen a different project for the coming year.

Twice a year we organize a Pub Quiz. For this we can use the auditorium of Christelijk College Groevenbeek and we receive just under 100 participants there.

2 newsletters will be issued, namely in March and September. Due to circumstances, the December newsletter has been replaced by a single Christmas greeting.

The maximum number of children (250) has been slightly exceeded. Sometimes children drop out and young people graduate at the top. We are not actively looking for sponsors, but never say "no".

Finding new sponsors is and remains important, but is becoming increasingly difficult and many sponsors are currently no longer being added.

The search for usable funds to generate money for various projects continues unabated.

Finally

We close this year with 260 sponsor children. We had to say goodbye to a number of children because they went to live somewhere else where we can no longer monitor them. We have been able to fill their places again largely with young sponsor children.

In the current situation, we are a healthy Foundation that looks to the future with great confidence.

for the report: Marga Streefkerk