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Foundation – Putten

Annual Report Lwengo Kids Foundation 2023

We ended 2022 with the challenge of finding sponsors for Swaibat, Jackline and Derrick. They want to go on to Secondary School and that is not financially feasible for some sponsors due to the significantly higher sponsorship amount (€ 450,-). We made calls through our network to sponsor these young people and in the end we succeeded and we were able to start the new school year with 239 children in sponsorship.

The first two months of this year are dedicated to the anniversary and the arrival of Anthony and Joseph. Due to the Corona pandemic and the fact that both men did not arrange a visa in time, we had to postpone this for a year. In February, the visas are arranged and Anthony and Joseph come to the Netherlands for 3 weeks. This way they can experience the anniversary and visit many acquaintances, but also schools.

We celebrate the anniversary with our sponsors and Anthony and Joseph in the auditorium of Christelijk College Groevenbeek. A large number of sponsors take advantage of the invitation. Two presentations, a stew buffet and finally an auction/raffle of beautiful Ugandan works of art, make the afternoon/evening a great success.



The situation in Lwengo



Slowly but surely, we see the situation in Lwengo improving more and more. We also notice that the visit to the Netherlands has done a lot for Anthony and Joseph. They now understand much better why we think the way we do and this only makes the collaboration better. Various projects are being realized, such as making the water pump electric, expanding the Health Center with hospital wards and consultation rooms for various doctors.

In the spring we are surprised with a large donation from a wealthy family and we are able to realize many projects at the same time.



- There will be a fence around the entire school complex;
- There will be 2 large washing machines
- An ICT room with furnishings and offices is built
- There will be a much better opportunity to cook by means of large stoves
- All floors in the classrooms are provided with durable terrazzo floors
- The sponsor children get new jerseys
- Anthony gets a new, 2nd hand car that is safe on the sometimes impassable roads in the Community
- Tables and chairs for the kindergarten classes
- Etc.



Funds are being sought for two deaf classes and this project will also take shape as soon as the money is raised.

In 2023, the first students will graduate and it is time to say goodbye to Lwengo Kids Foundation. We hope that they have a good foundation and can find a good job.

Marga has developed a "farewell card" for the young people who say goodbye to Lwengo Kids Foundation and have finished their education.

In August of this year, we were confronted with our oldest sponsor student who did not act fairly. From the moment he started "studying" in Kampala, he has done different things than he made Anthony and us believe. The moment we had a physical appointment with him and he called off again, we confronted him with his unfair practices and of course stopped all sponsorship immediately.

There has been a long discussion in the board about how this can be prevented. A number of rules to prevent this have been discussed with Anthony.

This year, the maximum number of children (250) will also be reached. When students graduate at the top, children at the bottom can be taken into sponsorship again.

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

During this year's away day, two organization experts will cooperate. The biggest problem at the moment is that we can't find volunteers to join our board. Only with more hands can we achieve more.

Travel



At the end of February, Pieter travels to Uganda with four young people and two teachers from Christelijk College Groevenbeek. They have a good trip together and visit the Secondary Schools and a number of sponsor youngsters, both at school and at home. Good ambassadors for the future, we hope.

In April/May, Pieter and Marga travel to Uganda to do the necessary work. Board member Harry and his son Tom, travel with them. Harry's conclusion after the trip: it's not right, it's not



wrong, it's different. Seen a lot, poverty, joy. He now understands better what Pieter and Marga are doing and it is good to see how they work in Uganda.

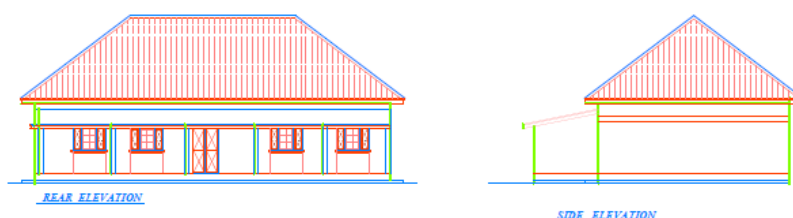
All children will be seen during the visit and some will be visited at home. Christine's family is also visited at home because there are sick children.

Huge chaos is found, but no parents. One of the children is deathly ill in bed. Immediate action is taken and the school-age children are immediately boarded. The sick boy is taken to the Health Center.

During our October trip it turns out that there is a boy from this family who goes to Secondary School. He can't stay there during the holidays as was the case at Lwerudeso. His spot there is now occupied. He can stay with Anthony... But it's already full enough there.

A new project is born: a Family Home, where the children, both from Primary and Secondary, who are internals and cannot go home during the holidays, can still go to a safe home where they are cared for.

This has been discussed with Anthony, Francis and Douglas and has everyone's full approval.



All children have written/signed a greeting for their sponsor parent. Marga has developed a "letter book" for this purpose. For each group there is a different greeting, which the children can make. For example, every year a different, much more personal greeting comes to the sponsor.

Administration

A contribution list is made of the sponsor children, which are checked by Anthony, Marga and Erik. Anthony makes an invoice based on this list and then the school fee is paid in three instalments per year.

A Step-by-Step Plan is being developed from Baby Class to job. It contains exactly the route that a primary school pupil takes to become an employee. And is also the period that falls under the responsibility and sponsorship of Lwengo Kids Foundation. From 2024 onwards, the plan in question will be included in the information booklet that new sponsors will receive. The Step-by-Step Plan will be communicated with the existing sponsors in the next newsletter of 2024.

Administration

The vacancy of PR board member has still not been filled. There have been several attempts, but to no avail. The vacancy is on the website and can be found on the site of "Putten voor elkaar".

Board members 2023: Pieter Streefkerk, chairman; Erik Koster, treasurer; Marga Streefkerk, secretary and Harry Hoorn, fundraising

Activities

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

Christelijk College Groevenbeek has once again chosen us as a charity for 2023/2024, but there will be no travel to Uganda with students this year due to the costs.



In June we are the charity of the Puttense Herring Party. We auction various items and earn more than € 5,000 with this.

In October we will have a stall at the Ossenmarkt in Putten. We sell chrysanthemums. With a nice yield with relatively little effort, we generate brand awareness.

It has become a tradition that we organize the chicken-and-rice action at Christmas, for which we receive many donations from the sponsors. The campaign is again a success.

This year there were two PubQuiz events. In the spring we rented 't Voorhuys from the Andreaskerk and in the autumn we were allowed to use the auditorium of Christelijk College Groevenbeek. Here we could accommodate more people and the costs were much lower. Two successful evenings.

This year, the organization of the oliebolle campaign was in the hands of Judith Koster and Roosmarijn Baas. We sell almost 4,000 oliebolle and more than 1,500 apple fritters. Another successful campaign. The profit was around €3,500,--.

Finally

We close this year with 248 sponsor children. We had to say goodbye to a number of children because they have moved somewhere else where we can no longer monitor them. We have been able to fill most of their places with young sponsor children.

For one of our sponsor children with a disability who became too old for school, a cow was purchased. A barn has been built for it and so he can take care of the cow on sight. With that, he is out of sponsorship.

One of the girls with a disability was supposed to go to Vocational School in Masaka to learn a trade, but she couldn't be maintained there. She is now at home and will do something creative at a hairdresser. For example, making rasta braids. She's very good at that. She is also out of sponsorship with this.

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

Our biggest concern at the moment is how do we fill the vacancies and how do we ensure rejuvenation and succession.

for the report: Marga Streefkerk