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HABARI YA MUFINDI



A quarterly Newsletter designed to inform donors about progress made in the implementation of the Mufindi Highlands Orphans Project in Mufindi District of Tanzania, East Africa.

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2008 HIGHLIGHTS

FOXES COMMUNITY & WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

Annual Report 2008—(Excerpts)

This past year can be described as a 'Work in Progress' year. We started many development construction projects, most of which will be completed in 2009. Good progress was made on all projects despite a major change in Project management. Patrick and Kate Ney returned to Canada after making a considerable contribution in starting up Project activity. Geoff Knight and Jenny Peck seamlessly took over the work started by the Neys and started up several other projects as well.

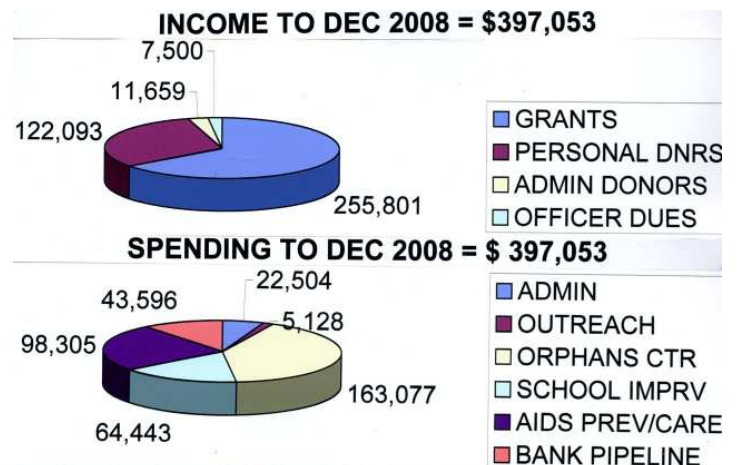
Orphans Village & Outreach Programme

'Happiness' describes the children now living in the Orphans Center. From a previously harsh existence where they had lived in small and leaking mud huts, sleeping on dirty reed mats on the mud floor with only a cotton wrapping for warmth (Mufindi can be so cold!) and with meagre food & clothing, these kids must think they are now in heaven! They have beds, mattresses & bedding, good clothing and enough food. Above all, they are looked after by caring housemothers in a 'home' environment. They regard each other as brothers & sisters and half of them are old enough to attend the excellent Igoda village primary school.

Those families in the villages who are struggling to look after their orphaned relatives qualify for our help. This can be provided in various ways – school uniforms & general clothing, income generating projects, limited food (such as formula milk), etc. Many of these 'qualifiers' are HIV/AIDS + single mothers; others are grandmothers with orphaned grandchildren.

UK volunteers, Rod Gough and Oliver Hester, set up a handicraft workshop which is being used by Jenny and her team of ladies, mainly making income generating batiks. (Continued on Page 2)

PROJECT FUNDS STATUS



NOTES ON FUNDS ALLOCATION:

Funds shown above include only money that has gone through the Project bank accounts. Our financial statements do not include the monetary value of donations-in-kind.



This picture came with the caption "Happy Christmas". Americans might argue that the term is wrong, but all must agree that these kids are indeed happy. These children have been able to rise above the squalor created by the recent, and ongoing, HIV/AIDS epidemic. They now have a chance at a good life thanks to the Village Elders, the FCWCT NGO, and the generous donors, worldwide, who have shared some of their wealth to help kids in a foreign land. Thank you one and all.

Marion Gough—Dec 2008

2008 NGO Annual Report Excerpts—Continued

HIV/AIDS Prevention Seminars

The NGO financed two trained SPW (Students Partnership Worldwide) students who spent several months during 2008 at Luhunga and neighbouring villagers conducting AIDS awareness & prevention seminars. SPW will be continuing with this programme in 2009.

Igoda Primary School

Thanks to the most generous and energetic support from our Canadian friends, Ruth James & Anne Pearson, Igoda primary school has rapidly grown into a school of excellence.

The large new kitchen will provide 'meal in a mug' Uji 4 days a week for for over 500 primary school children who must be away from home (and food) for 12 hours each day. Uji consists of a nutritious mix of cereals & nuts ground into a flour and served warm with sugar as a liquid 'porridge'.

Perhaps the most exciting development has been the installation of a solar electricity system by Solaraid, following a request by Project management.

Luhunga Secondary School

Similarly Solaraid has installed a larger solar electricity system for this new school that we are supporting. This will eventually become extremely useful for Computer Studies, once we have supplied some promised laptops later in 2009.

We are grateful for the donations from the Canadian charity African Schools Book Box Society which has financed all school development projects.

Ibwanzi Primary Care Hospital

This small hospital is now almost complete and will provide important in-patient treatment facilities for some 20,000 people in 8 villages. It is attached to a recently rebuilt government dispensary and provides 30 beds within 10 wards. There is also a treatment room, nurses rest & equipment room, a general store, showers and toilets. The whole building has been plumbed for water and wired for generator powered electricity.

Mdabulo General Hospital

This old Catholic mission 'hospital' (actually only an in-patient dispensary) has largely needed to be rebuilt. Dr Patrick Ney completed a major portion early in 2008, including a functioning maternity unit, doctors consultancy rooms, temporary CTC (AIDS testing & treatment) rooms and an outpatients treatment block - containing injection & dressing rooms, a small pharmacy and a temporary laboratory. Funding permitting, the final phase will renovate all the existing wards - to include a recovery and intensive care ward and improved toilets & showers. This new building will also contain a dental clinic, x-ray room, optical workshop and other examination rooms, store and a patients reception & waiting room.

CTC (AIDS Testing & Treatment Clinic)

Based on the enormous numbers of people suffering and dying from AIDS in the area, there was an urgent need for this fully staffed & equipped clinic. Patrick persuaded a CTC team from Mafinga Hospital to provide outreach visits to Mdabulo hospital every two weeks. Since then the number of patients have burgeoned to put the visiting team and facilities under great strain.

A very generous donor in the USA, Rosaria Haugland, has enabled us to make a start on this most important CTC construction project in 2008. Our fund-raising efforts will now concentrate on finding funds to complete the CTC in 2009.

Geoff Fox—CEO Foxes Community & Wildlife Conservation Trust

Editor's Note: Please consult the Mufindi Orphans website at www.mufindiorphans.com for a full version of the FCWCT 2008 Annual Report.



Doctor Leena Pasanen with one of the orphans she has taken under her wing. Dr. Pasanen hails from Finland, has been working in the health field in remote areas of Tanzania for 27 years, and has recently joined the Project as Volunteer in charge of health services. Leena will train Tanzanian Nationals in the care of HIV/AIDS victims; whether orphans, other children, or adults. She will also oversee the operations of the Mdabulo and Ibwanzi hospitals as well as the new CTC facility. Welcome Leena.



Orphans living with relatives in Igoda Village after receiving blankets from the Project. The kids are hardy, but when temperatures drop below the freezing point during the dry season, blankets are a very welcome item. Marion Gough—Oct 2008

ANNOUNCEMENT :

We now have the capability to donate on-line from our website www.mufindiorphans.com. Should you, or any of your friends, wish to send donations, however large or small, the Donate Now button on the website is a safe and comfortable way to do so. Thanks to John Gent (MOI Voting Member) and Joe Ciofi for setting up the system.