



Mufindi Moments

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Home-based Care Program Conducts 4 Village Visits This Month

February was an exciting month for village outreach! Since the start of 2015, NGO departments have made more of a conscientious effort to dedicate a higher percentage of their monthly budgeting on outreach initiatives. The Health Department is no exception. In the month of February, our Health Team attended every Care and Treatment Day scheduled at Mdadulo Health dispensary, as well as visited four local villages— Kilosa, Nandala, Ludilo, and Ilasa to perform Home-based Care visits to sick villagers in their homes. These trips are lead by Isaac Gwivaha— a trained Nurse who has been working

with Dr. Leena Pasaden and the other health team members since his arrival at the NGO in August. He meets Marco Fueda, leader of the HBC program, and the two



Home-based Care Volunteers meet each month at the Care and Treatment Center to share ideas and challenges.

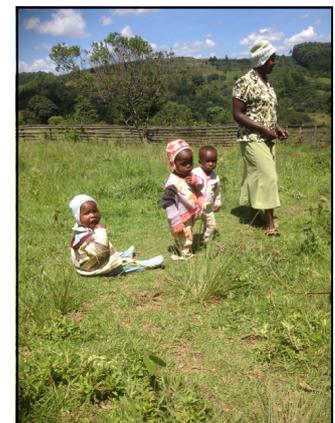
local HBC volunteers from the chosen village to begin their HBC Day. Dr. Leena and any visiting doctors will also lead these trips. The local volun-

teers come prepared with a list of names and neighborhoods for the team to visit. The patients range from small children with Flu symptoms to HIV+ patients with opportunistic infections. The Health Team checks each patient's *daftari*— a small, personal notebook kept by each village resident detailing their medical history, assesses the needs, records their observations in the notebook, and dispenses medicines. Each serious patient is referred to either the NGO clinic, the Mdadulo CTC, or a larger regional hospital. In addition to medical services, each family receives a small donation of sugar, cooking oil, or soap.

Nursery School Classes join Care of the Environment Day

Care of the Environment Day is held every Friday where Kindergarteners and their teachers spend the last hour of their class day helping in the garden, picking up litter, and cleaning their classroom. This day not only promotes environmental awareness but also personal responsibility for the classroom. And now the “walkers” of our youngest class- “The Caterpillars”- join

too! These little ladies (Loveness, Princess, and Mil-len) walk by themselves from Children’s Village House #1 to the Kindergarten to participate with their teacher Christina Kalinga (image to the right). Though they are too young to do any “digging”, lots of singing, dancing, and chatting about the beautiful weather is enough to keep these girls very busy! Pretty soon our oldest Caterpillars will join the “Butterflies”- which hold their class in House Number 3. Pending funding, a



school building with three classrooms will finish construction to house these adorable nursery school students and their hard-working teachers!

Special points of interest:

- New Strawberry baskets built!
- Guardianship Department Conducting visits in the village.
- Celebration of English Progress
- CIEE visits to help strengthen student-volunteer program

Dutch Guests Help to Plant New Strawberry Baskets!

Did you know that February was Strawberry Month in Mufindi? Christ and Joke van Elteren of the Netherlands visited Mufindi last October for the first time. Like many, the van



Elterens found themselves intrigued by the charm and passion of the NGO and its staff. Back in Holland, they are strawberry farmers who have perfected the art of growing strawberries in unseasonal weather through the invention of “strawberry baskets”. These strawberry baskets use tiered planters and a solar-powered water pump to create an energy neutral system of watering the strawberry plants. The group arrived on the February 6th, bringing all their materials with them— including the solar panels, the water pump, water tank, and even the strawberry plants! Over the course of one week-end, our wonderful guests worked side-by-side our staff to construct the strawberry baskets— with the van Elterens teaching our staff how to



properly care for the strawberries and our staff showing off how best to reach the highest plants (as seen above!). Even the 3 large rainstorms of the weekend couldn't keep this project on the ground. And thanks to our new friends we should be enjoying the “fruits” of our labor in just 6 short weeks!

Celebration of English Progress is Indeed a Party!

How do you turn a short three-week English Course into a lasting memory? Throw a party! An English Party, that is. TEFL Volunteer, Sally Christensen, arrived to the NGO in mid-January with a heavy class load (Sewing School Students, Office Staff, and Kindergarten Teachers) and very little time. After a few days spent assessing the needs of her students, Sally decided that the best way to give her class focus would be to hold

a show at the end of classes to present their newly acquired English skills. Each class prepared a set of songs and sketches— specifically chosen for the focus of their respective classes. The Office group performed the song “Michael Finnegan”, and performed a skit about a rising generation of Wahehe Men who now cook for their wives. The Kindergarten Teachers taught a mini-class on color-mixing in English, sang a beautiful song about rainbows, performed a skit to story of the Good Samaritan,

and read stories they wrote themselves. The Sewing Class performed a series of skits set in a clothing shop and sang “Bingo”. After, cake was enjoyed by all. Everyone can't wait for the next English Celebration!



Students, teachers, House Mamas, and kids all turned out to watch!

The Children's Village Needs Supplies!

Are you interested in fundraising or collecting supplies for the Igoda Children's Village? Each year, new clothing, school supplies, and household items are needed for the Children's Village. For a small amount, you can provide simple necessities for our children!

1. Cloth/re-usable diapers of all sizes.
2. Gently used baby clothing— particularly preemie clothing.
3. Gently used boys' clothing (ages 4 to 14).
4. First Aid Kits
5. \$10 buys 50 school notebooks— 1

- for each child living at the Children's Village.
6. \$35 buys a complete school uniform, including shoes, sweater, shirt, and trousers/skirt.
7. \$10 buys 2 pens and 2 pencils for each child living at the children's village.

If you are interested in collecting items, please email @ foxesngo@gmail.com to arrange the carrying of your items to the NGO as national TZ mail can be unreliable. If you are interested in donating a dollar amount— please visit:

USA: mufindiorphans.org
 CA: africanbookbox.org
 UK: wildorphans.org



The office staff performs a skit where our men embrace their domestic side to help in the kitchen!

CIEE Executives Visit NGO to Strengthen Student-Volunteer Roles

CIEE (Council for International Educational Exchange) is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping American college students engage in cross-cultural learning in countries all over the world. Iringa Town, Tanzania is home to Tanzania's only Study Center of a Community Development Program which aims to give University students hands-on experience in the development world. Students take classes in NGO management, social development theory, research, and Swahili at the University of Iringa. After the initial coursework, the students join the ranks of our volunteers for four weeks, with the third group of the partnership's history beginning on March 22nd.

Each semester, the schedule of the volunteers has differed as the NGO and the students have different

needs. For this particular group, more focus is being put on the homestays and project development.

Catharine Scruggs, Executive Director of CIEE, Penny Alexander, Regional Director of Operations for Africa, and Paulo Kateme, Iringa Program and Language Coordinator, arrived to the NGO to conduct a visit to better understand the students' roles at the NGO and continue to strengthen the reciprocity of the partnership. Also with the delegation came Ms. Scrugg's family to volunteer. The group arrived on Wednesday night, and Thursday was a jam-packed day designed so that Ms. Scruggs and Ms. Alexander could not only understand what students do in their time at the NGO, but also give suggestions on how better to improve the relationship. After a tour of the NGO, the group visited our homestay families. Later, a meeting was held between NGO staff and CIEE to discuss better ways to integrate student-volunteers

and create long-lasting, impactful work for volunteers. It was decided that in order to create a reciprocal relationship between CIEE and the NGO, student skills (computer literacy, English, organizational etc.) could be better harnessed in order to improve staff development. For the students arriving in March, this means that volunteers will work under department heads as assistants to aid in projects of the department's choosing.



Catharine Scruggs, CIEE Executive Director, met with our Homestay families to hear their questions and needs, as well as hear their stories from hosting CIEE students.

Guardianship Department visits Children in the Village

Creating better, more efficient systems is a goal of each department at the NGO—specifically the Guardianship Department as they move into a new role in the local villages. Igoda Children's Village staff are no longer just the caretakers of vulnerable children but are also acting as enforcers of village policy and child welfare. A new system has been implemented where Department Heads, Joseph Majembe and Rehema Mгимwa, follow up on cases of children who have left the Children's Village to return to their families. In the month of February, Rehema and Joseph visited Kilosa, Ilasa, and Isipii to visit the children, assess their living conditions and wellbeing, and bring supplies to aid in their care. Before each



Social Welfare Officer Joseph documents what items are given to which child before going to Kilosa Village. Vasko and Zakayo each received a pack of pens in addition to clothes and household supplies for their families.

trip, Joseph and Rehema write letters informing the village government and the parents of their arrival as per village custom. At each home,

our staff speaks to the parents regarding any challenges or hardships they've faced in providing adequate care, and also the children to ensure they are happy and healthy. School attendance is recorded as well since school dropouts tend to be the first sign that a child is suffering. Clothing, school supplies, and household needs are brought for each family as well, and presented as donations from the NGO. Each trip is documented and a report is filed. If a child seems to be in poor condition, the next step would be to meet with the Village's Child Protection Team to alert them and make a plan to help the family. Currently, a district wide seminar is being planned by the NGO to better unite the Child Protection Teams of each village and encourage better cooperation and communication.

Foxes' NGO

In partnership with:
Mufindi Orphans
African Book Box
Orphans in the Wild
Mufindin Ystavat

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Foxes' Community and Wildlife Conservation Trust– Foxes' NGO

Foxes' NGO (Mufindi Orphans) was established in 2005 to support projects aimed at combating the devastating effects of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the Mufindi district of Tanzania in East Africa. We aim to provide shelter, sustenance, education, and medical care for orphans, other vulnerable children, and people living with HIV/AIDS within the project area.

Do you have a great photo of the NGO and its projects? Please share it with us at foxesngo@gmail.com to see it in these newsletters!



Wednesday is Needs Day at the NGO! Every Tuesday, shopping is done for the Children's Village for weekly fruit, meat, eggs, and vegetables, along with needed household supplies. These items are then distributed to our hard-working House Mamas!



HR Manager, Libe Mlela is hard at work writing contracts for our employees. Contracts expire at the end of February each year.



Nache and Steve (dressed in blue) participate in a Cake Walk at their English Medium Primary School! Musical chairs– with cake as the prize!



The sun struggles from behind clouds after an afternoon storm in Mufindi.