

## **First CHADIK newsletter**

Welcome everyone to our very first newsletter following our separation from Kijani Kenya. We are in the process of registering the new charity and facing a number of questions before our registration can be accepted. I am writing this in Nanyuki where I am spending a week before returning to chilly England.

### **Gertrude's Children's Hospital and the Outreach clinics.**

I visited the hospital on Monday Feb 6<sup>th</sup> and met Drs Frasia and Emma as well as their accountant Mr Mugo for the first time. I was told that both Frasia and another link person Angela are moving on but luckily for us the team of Dr Emma and Nurse Isaac have been running the clinics for some time now. No change there.

To improve efficiency and save time and money, we agreed to try to change the pattern of the visits as follows. Instead of two journeys a month to Nanyuki, each then continuing to two outreach clinics, there shall be just one each month covering Likii, DoIDol and Rumeruti. The regular visit to Nanyuki District Hospital will be replaced by a quarterly visit by Dr Joe Mbutia as a consultant/HIV expert.

Mr Mojo will help us by regular monthly updates of expenditure and a quarterly detailed account. The CEO, Gordon Odundo, is drawing up a new Memorandum of understanding with us.

My thanks to both Angela and Frasia for all they did to help set up the organisation of the clinics and keep them on the road.

### **LISHACQ Self Help Clinic**

At our last visit in November we found a number of disturbing factors such as the lack of progress in block making and the apparently unused computers. This time with Chief Joseph present, we made some management changes which hopefully will drive things forward. The site committee will appoint three part time paid managers at £30 per month who will have responsibilities for 1) the library and IT, 2) the VCT counselling centre and 3) the other money making activities such as the block making and oil pressing. The payments will last for six months in the first place and then it is hoped that their salaries will be covered by new funds generated.

A number of capital items such as guttering along the dispensary with a new water tank are to be costed. Also the provision of better computers is being actively sourced.

A Gertrude's clinic took place while we were there and over 40 unwell children diagnosed and treated. Malnutrition is still a major problem as seen in this little child held by his



grandmother. Dr Emma is ready to treat as necessary.

### Visit to the UMEJA nursery school.

One of our Likki support team, Josphat, had done a really good job persuading the Chairman to get the school registered. This is now happening and will allow far better management of the school and its resources. As a big concession we now have copies of all the previous official papers going back to the establishment of the school in 1974.

Enough teaching books have been purchased for all subjects and other than the very real need to have another class room the requests from the Head Teacher were for relatively minor items such as a book cupboard, table and chair for each staff member and shelving.



A real step forward is the replacement of the ramshackle gate by a strong new one with the school name proudly painted on it. Next step is to have the community build the new fencing round the site, the

line having been confirmed by the surveyor. Then we can put in proper playground equipment and the crèche children will play safely outside.

### **Funding**

Up to now, the outreach clinics have been funded by you i.e. the monthly donations, the annual lunch and other money raising activities. We have had generous help towards the laboratory furniture in LISHAQ and the playground equipment. I have also been given a donation from friends abroad towards the laboratory equipment but the quotation I received is way above our limit.

We need to be even more proactive in raising money now that the Likii needs have been included in CHADIK. One activity will be **the hog roast on July 14<sup>th</sup>** at my place so I will circulate more details later. Just keep the date free please and alert your friends. It would be useful to know if you are interested in coming.

I hope to have more information with regard to the activity CHADIK is starting up with regard to agricultural/technological training for 14–16 year olds in my next report.

Very best wishes to you all and thank you again for your generous help.

Gillian Bullock    February 2012