



**FUTURE WARRIORS PROJECT**  
EMPOWERING MAASAI COMMUNITIES

# **KITENDEN PRESCHOOL PROJECT**

## **Annual Report 2016**

ASHE ASHE NALENG...

PREPARED BY FUTURE WARRIORS PROJECT AUSTRALIA

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## **BACKGROUND**

About 15 years ago, the community of Kitenden, a remote village in West Kilimanjaro, Tanzania (approximately 2-3 hours from Arusha), built a preschool in partnership with a foreign organisation, agreeing to fund the ongoing operations of the preschool.

The Kitenden community funded the operations of the preschool until 2009, when drought led to a loss of livestock and an inability to afford the preschool's running costs. The school closed and became run-down and overrun with weeds. In June 2011, Kitenden community elders spoke to Future Warriors Project (FWP), indicating that reopening the preschool was a priority for the community.

In September 2011, Deborah Wallis-Hinde and her daughter Hannah visited the Kitenden community to undertake an assessment of what was needed to re-open the preschool. They identified that the building structure was in good condition but that cosmetic repairs were needed. The Wallis-Hinde family generously committed to providing \$4,000 to enable the renovation and preparation of the preschool for use.

In November 2011, FWP and the Wallis-Hinde family approached the Rotary Club of Albury Hume, Rotary District 9790, to request support for running the preschool. The Club indicated interest in supporting the preschool, seeking greater detail on the costs involved and how it would be managed. In consultation with the Kitenden community, FWP developed a project plan and budget for its operational requirements.

In October 2012 the Rotary Club confirmed its commitment to funding the operational costs of the preschool for two years. This was subsequently extended by a further 2 years until the end of 2016. The Rotary Club of Albury Hume extended the initial commitment of 2 years by further 2 years until the end of 2016 arrangements. Funding support from Class Sponsors will also be sought.

The Rotary Club has been very extensively supported by 34 individual Class Sponsorships over this 4-year period.

## **PROJECT OBJECTIVE AND OUTCOMES**

The objective of the Kitenden Preschool project is to promote the early childhood development of Maasai children by re-opening a rundown preschool and supporting its continued running costs. The new Kitenden preschool will enable the following outcomes:

- Provision of early childhood education to up to 40 children each year
- Teaching of national language, Swahili, in readiness for school
- Provision of two healthy meals a day for children attending school
- The employment of 6 local people
- Ongoing support for operational costs

The project will also explore alternative uses of the building, including as a venue to support the health of Maasai women and community education. An international volunteering program is a potential extension of the project, where up to three volunteers at a time will help at the pre-school.

**PROGRESS AGAINST OUTCOMES****1. Provision of early childhood education to up to 40 children each year**

As at the end of the preschool year, there were 50 children enrolled at the preschool, including 26 girls and 24 boys.

QUARTER	Number of children enrolled		
	Male	Female	Total
Q1	27	18	45
Q2	29	17	46
Q3	25	27	52
Q4	22	24	46

<b>Number of children who graduated at the end of 2016</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Number of children who have graduated in the last 4 years.</b>	<b>150</b>

This proportion has increased during the year, due in part to the dry season and an associated lack of food available at home, making meals received at the preschool highly attractive to families.

Early this year we commenced a more regular and formal relationship with the government operated Kitenden primary school. There is now a closer relationship with the primary school which helps us to support and monitor the progress of the children who transited from our pre-school to the primary school. The primary school teacher has reported very positively on the skills of the children who arrive from Kitenden.

The head teacher Miss Nosotwa (Maria) Mollel has made an arrangement with the primary school that they direct students who require pre-schooling to Kitenden Preschool rather than enrolling them directly. We are hoping that this will be a good step in raising awareness of the preschool among some Maasai families and encouraging them to understand the importance of pre-schooling.

Life is tough in the villages in Tanzania. Early this year, we had a sad reminder of the dangers faced by Maasai children in their daily life with the tragic loss of one of our children who drowned in a creek swelled by storm water.

Most Maasai in Northern Tanzania have not received rain since the end of May and this is becoming a significant issue. Fortunately for Kitenden it hasn't been so bad, it has had rain beyond this, but it has been drier over the last few months and the local community has suffered crop losses as they were expecting heavy rain in December. As a direct result of this, 58 children enrolled on the first day back in 2017, which is unprecedented for the preschool.

Parents have agreed to contribute a payment to the school but have requested to pay in a few months so they can get through their losses.

**2. Teaching of Kiswahili, the national language to preschool children**

The program includes teaching spoken Swahili and learning the Swahili words and alphabet each day, for at least two hours. Over the year, 420 hours of Kiswahili was taught to the students. The primary school has provided more specific curriculum requirements to the preschool on what standard would be most helpful for children. They have recommended more work be done on numeracy. The preschool is now incorporating more formal activities to promote better numeracy among the children.

Time Period	Number of hours of Kiswahili taught
Q1	120
Q2	90
Q3	120*
Q4	90
January to December 2016	420

\* The July-September 2016 Quarterly Report was incorrect for this figure, reporting 90 hours only.

### 3. The provision of two nutritious daily meals to each child

The preschool project is committed to providing daily nutritious meals to support the early childhood development of the children and as a way of encouraging regular attendance. Almost 19,940 meals were provided over the year. The increase mid-year reflects the increased number of children attending during a particularly dry season.

Time Period	Number of meals provided
Q1	5,400
Q2	4,140
Q3	6,240
Q4	4,160
January to December 2016	19,940

**Please note:** The calculation of meals may not be reflective of the actual numbers as it is based on the number of children enrolled over each quarter and does not take into account attendance. We are aware that over the last few quarters there was a large fluctuation in attendance numbers which means that the calculated meals for reporting might not reflect actual numbers. We will be changing the way we calculate meals from this year. From now, we will seek to get an average of students attending over each month and calculate the meal numbers based on this.

### 4. The employment of up to 6 local people

Miss Kitaya Rakatiya, who commenced in July 2014, left for maternity leave in April 2015 and did not return in 2016. She was replaced by a new teacher who is Maasai, Miss Nosotwa (Maria) Mollel, a former primary school teacher. The remaining staff have not changed.

Staff employed at Kitenden Preschool		
Role	Name	Commencement Date
First Teacher	Miss Nosotwa (Maria) Mollel	1 July 2014
Second Teacher	Ms Leah Lekishon	4 February 2013
Security Guard	Mr Nandarai Melau	4 February 2013
Day Security / Gardener	Mr "Paul" Issaya Lekunoni	4 February 2013
Head Cook	Mr 'Peter' Mburrudi Logelie	25 February 2013
Assistant Cook	Ms Ester Lekunoni	25 February 2013

## PROJECT MILESTONES

### Milestones achieved

Milestone	Planned End Date*	Achievement	Comment
Preschool recommencement	05 JANUARY 15	MET	The preschool re-opened on 06 January 2014
First quarterly report	15 APRIL 16	MET	Report provided late
Second quarterly report	15 JULY 16	MET	Report provided late.
Quarterly report	15 OCTOBER 16	MET	Report provided late.
Annual Report	JANUARY 17	MET	Report provided late.

### Other relevant milestones

### Visits and volunteers

This year has been busy and Future Warriors Project has taken on some exciting new projects as well as consolidating our activities with Kitenden Pre-school. This year, Sianga has made many visits to Tanzania and worked closely with the community, staff and volunteers on the ground to identify and implement many improvements to Kitenden Pre-school and its community.

Notable visitors this year included Howard, Paul and Marcia from the Rotary Club of Albury Hume. They initiated support for improvements to the school and the new volunteer building, provided equipment and proposed a birthing kits applicant grant to the Kitenden Clinic and midwives. Subsequently 200 birthing kits have been distributed to the Medical Clinic and local midwives. 20 new chairs and 4 new tables funded by the Rotary Club are now in use by the children

Max Bailey, former AFL play for Hawthorne joined Future Warriors Project as a volunteer in Kitenden in February 2016 until June 2016. Max focused his efforts on helping the preschool in the mornings and on coaching AFL and soccer at the local primary school and secondary school in the afternoons. Max has provided us with feedback and suggestions for the management of the preschool which have been invaluable. We have observed that the teaching quality has improved since he has been present. Max has been invaluable and continues to give the preschool and Future Warriors Project significant exposure.

Another volunteer, Ella Sutton arrived in September 2016 and stayed until mid-November. Ella also had two friends visit who made a donation to the preschool of Tsh 200,000. They support the teachers with the pre-school and have helped commence an after-hours adult English class which has 10 adults attending at the moment and we expect more.

Andrew, the current FWP Committee President also visited Kitenden with Sianga in July. They were able to fix the drainage issue outside the volunteer building identified earlier in the year as well as provide on the ground support.

### Supporting the children

- **Health**

Medical insurance has been provided by FWP for all of the pre-schoolers through the clinic. This will allow them to get treatment for free for a full year. This includes treatment at any clinic in the Longido district. It will also enable us to measure and weigh new students and refer any children with ailments directly to the centre.

- **Sustainability in food**

This year, we were also able to start an agricultural plot at the preschool to grow maize, tomatoes and red beans. In spite of falling victim to a hungry elephant only nights before harvest, the plot recently produced 4 bags of maize, equivalent to 3 months of ugali (maize meal) for our kids!! This will help to reduce food costs for the pre-school significantly, as a bag of maize is used each month. Any surplus produce will be sold to provide funds back to the pre-school. We also now have a new outdoor kitchen for meal preparation to support the cooking of this produce

In addition, during the visit by Marcia Paul and Howard, they identified the need to provide eggs so as to improve the protein content in the children's diet. At present the building of a chicken coop and secure free range yard for 25 chickens is being sourced in order that fresh eggs can be added to the children's diet and the children can participate in attending to the chickens on a daily basis.

### **New buildings and facilities**

During this year great improvements have been made to the facilities that support the Pre-school. These improvements were funded by the Rotary Class Sponsors at a cost of A\$2500

The new buildings include:

- New shelves for storage have been installed in the indoor kitchen. A drainage pipe from the kitchen has been put in to direct water away from the building. The Kitchen bench has been tiled and the walls painted.
- A new, additional outdoor kitchen has been built to complement the indoor kitchen in the new building. It was built with open eaves making it very good for cooking with firewood because it can let the smoke out and bring air as needed for the cooking. The cook is very happy with the new outdoor kitchen.
- The main kitchen in the volunteer building will still be used for storage and food preparation and to access water and wash dishes.
- Accommodation for volunteers has significantly improved. A new room was created by building a wall in the larger room at the rear of the building to create an extra bedroom to accommodate 2 volunteers at a time. There is a now clean tiled bathroom, a toilet and additional storage. The majority of furniture and utensils for the volunteer building have been purchased and it has been used by recent volunteers.

### **Transport**

Future Warriors has purchased a car to support the monitoring of all our projects and will go a long way towards maximising time spent by FWP staff and volunteers and reducing the risk involved in using public transport.

In the next seven months, the car will be mainly used for the Maasai Cultural Tourism Capacity Building project which it has received a grant for. It will also be used occasionally (2 to 3 trips per month) to Kitenden preschool. The current monthly budget for transport for the Kitenden Pre-school will be used for fuel for trips associated with the Pre-school.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

ITEM	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE (TSH)				TOTAL
	Jan-Mar	Apr – Jun	Jul – Sep	Oct - Dec	
STAFF SALARIES	2,610,000	2,580,000	2,730,000	2,730,000	10,650,000
CHILDREN'S MEALS	1,965,000	1,086,000	1,916,000	1,032,500	5,999,500
ADMINISTRATION / TRANSPORT	225,000	228,000	228,000	228,000	909,000
BUILDING MAINTENANCE	0	0	0	0	0
OTHER	0	0	0	0	0
Bank fees	147,945	60,852	48,092	24,000	280,889
<b>TOTAL COST FOR PERIOD</b>	<b>4,947,945</b>	<b>3,954,852</b>	<b>4,922,092</b>	<b>4,014,500</b>	<b>17,839,389</b>
<b>AMOUNTS PROVIDED BY ROTARY (TSH)</b>	<b>5,435,500</b>	<b>2,669,993</b>	<b>5,121,647</b>	<b>2,984,668</b>	<b>16,311,808</b>
<b>AMOUNTS PROVIDED BY ROTARY (AUD)</b>	<b>\$3,500</b>	<b>\$1,779</b>	<b>\$3,219</b>	<b>\$1,899</b>	<b>\$10,397</b>

**Comment:** The amount provided by Rotary does not include reimbursement for December costs as these had not been billed by 31 December 2016.

Comparing the Tanzanian shilling amount to the Australian dollar is not an accurate reflection as the variances in exchange rate and bank fees charged can vary on a daily basis.

Variances in expenditure during the year are due to fluctuations in the cost of food as well as differing numbers of days children are attending the pre-school due to school holidays (eg no attendance in December or June, and holidays in April and September).

FWP has been on a steep learning curve in terms of working with its staff and the community to ensure adequate recording and reporting of expenditure.

The total cost for the period represents a lower cost than the previous year by about Tsh 1,000,000. This is most likely due to:

- The transfer period to RAWCS – FWP Australia covered some additional expenses that are not represented in the table in April.
- Some support from the Kitenden garden towards the food budget at the end of the year.
- Maintenance costs not being included.
- FWP emphasising its expectations of the preschool staff to be efficient with resources.
- More regular arrangements for food purchases developed.
- Favourable agricultural commodity prices.



**Future Budget:**

Over the next year the preschool will focus on trying to maximize building sustainability into the operational costs of the preschool. This includes requesting a co-payment by parents and attracting more volunteers who contribute both funds and their time to the preschool.

FWP will be seeking to build its and capability around financial records and reporting. FWP will also continue work with the village to build the size and capacity of the preschool's garden and chicken coops to produce food to save funding for meals and ensure that the provision of meals is more sustainable for the village in the longer term.