



FUTURE WARRIORS PROJECT

EMPOWERING MAASAI COMMUNITIES

KITENDEN PRESCHOOL PROJECT

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2017



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PREPARED BY FUTURE WARRIORS PROJECT AUSTRALIA

JANUARY-DECEMBER 2017

PROJECT OBJECTIVE AND OUTCOMES

The objective of the Kitenden Preschool project is to promote the early childhood development of Maasai children by effectively running a preschool in the community, supporting its continued running costs and encouraging sustainability and community ownership.

The Kitenden preschool enables the following outcomes:

- Provision of early childhood education to between 40 and 60 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 also supports 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 60 children enrolled at the preschool, including 29 girls and 31 boys.

QUARTER		Number of children enrolled		Total
		Male	Female	
Q1	January -March	29	31	60
Q2	April--June	30	30	60
Q3	July-September	29	31	60
Q4	September- December	29	31	60

Number of children who graduated at the end of 2017	40
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Enrolment remained very steady over year which partly reflects the increasing role of the community contributing to the preschool. Parents purchasing their own uniforms, and the discussion about the community funding the security guard has made inroads into the community to take more ownership. The community has also responded to the increased investment in the clinic and the chicken coop and this, combined with discussion and actions for them to take more ownership has led to parents focusing more on taking their child's attendance more seriously.

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. The preschool is continuing to follow the government curriculum and Future Warriors Project has continued to sponsor the head teacher's participation in training workshops.

Time Period	Number of hours of Kiswahili taught
Q1	130
Q2	90
Q3	110*
Q4	90
January to December 2017	420

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 22,000 meals were provided over the year.

The Kitenden Preschool farm is contributing towards the food at a time of increasing food prices, enabling the costs to stay even and not rise substantially along with local price rises. This has been particularly through the supply of soya beans, a good source of protein and fibre and maize. The garden has also continued to produce tomatoes and spinach that are used in meals.

Time Period	Number of meals provided
Q1	6,000
Q2	5,400
Q3	6,600
Q4	4,160
January to December 2017	21,960

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

There have been no changes to staff over the period and they continue to enjoy working at the preschool.

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

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED THIS YEAR!

SUPPORTING THE CHILDREN

Of the 60 children enrolled for 2017 at the preschool, 40 of the 60 children were selected to go to primary school in 2018. The primary school headmaster who helped with the selection process noted that Kitenden 2017 graduates received some of the highest grades in the District.

In fact, our preschool alumni are among the best performers at the Primary School, averaging in the top 10 students of each class. Position in class is very important in Tanzania, as only the brighter children are likely to pass examinations into secondary school. In 2017, the preschool head teacher received training and now strictly uses the national curriculum

We have worked hard to consolidate the role of the preschool in the community. As the facilities improve at the preschool and clinic, there is a greater sense of pride and with it a sense of responsibility for maintaining these. The whole community benefits when facilities are good, their children have a meal daily and are progressing well at school.

We have had more meetings with the community this year than ever before. Following the objective of the Sponsors to encourage increased Community involvement, ownership and responsibility for the preschool'

This is also reflected in the very steady attendance rates across the whole year and the fact that most children now wear a uniform to school. And, despite financial hardship, 28 parents paid the small fees as contribution. All pre-school children have medical insurance so can attend the clinic.



FACILITIES

During this year great improvements have been made to the facilities that support the Pre-school and the Clinic which has provided a great injection of improved infrastructure to the community. All the funding has been made possible by the substantial support from the Kitenden Class Sponsor Group associated with the Rotary Club of Albury Hume. We have used this to renovate the preschool building, connect electricity, build a preschool chicken coup, built toilets, showers and an incinerator for the clinic and purchased clinical materials

1. Pre-school building renovations, completed October 2017



2. Electricity connection

The wiring has been installed to both the Pre-school and Clinic. We paid and submitted Electricity and Poles installation application the District and now we are just waiting for them to come and undertake the work. Beyond making continued requests for this to happen, the actual connection timing is outside FWP control.

3. Chicken coop and farm

The chicken coop is constructed and is a solid secure building. All it now needs to have nesting boxes and feeding troughs and a few chickens! Some training has been provided by small chicken business owners from Arusha who visited the Preschool and talked to our staff about caring for chicken.

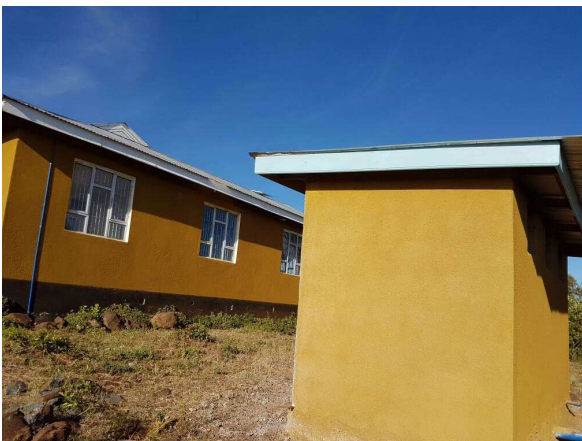


This will be a major source of food, reduce the food costs at the pre-school and a great learning for all the community, including the children about sustainable food production.

Despite drought conditions, we have continued to grow food at Kitenden for the pre-school. Maize and soya beans in the farm and in the garden we grow some tomatoes and spinach all are used towards the children's meals, offsetting costs. Given the number of children at the preschool this year is higher than the previous few years, Future Warriors is closely monitoring the meals to ensure the best possible nutrition can be provided within available budget.

4. Clinic toilet block and shower.

Building is now completed and the pipes are all laid ready for water to be connected. However at present the nurses are using bucket water in the shower and toilet as they are waiting for the community to connect the water. FWP always viewed it as the community's role to connect the water and they have agreed to do this. We have used our ongoing discussions with the Village Clinic Committee about the issues above and raised the importance of the clinic having running water. Should they continue to delay we will get our contacts at the Mission Hospital to explain the urgency around the connection. It would be much faster just to pay someone to complete this but the community needs to take this responsibility.



5. Equipment for the clinic

The purchase of the clinic equipment has been delayed, these will be purchased next month after a few training meetings with the community. The funded equipment are an examination bed, a delivery Bed, a microscope, and infant weighing scale, a hanging scale and weight scale.

The installation of equipment was tied to toilets and the incinerator being completed as having women deliver babies without a toilet would not have worked and we were lucky to have Lei, our volunteer nurse from Australia spend a month at the Clinic. We asked her to observe the clinic in operation so as we could plan for the training and best use of the equipment provided.

Lei observed the clinic's operations for a week and raised some very legitimate concerns that led to us deciding to postpone installation of the equipment until FWP and the Village Clinic Committee could address these issues. Lei's assessment simply evidenced concerns raised by others, including FWP about the quality of the nurses, lack of supervision and their engagement with the community.

While Lei was there she visited other clinics nearby Kitenden, including Irkaswa clinic, Kamwanga clinic and the Mission Hospital. She found that apparently, the Mission Hospital previously had strong linkages with the

Kitenden Clinic but these had fallen away and would benefit from being reinstated in particular to support the nurses who seemed to be isolated with no one overseeing their work.

Again, FWP believes it is important for the Community to take responsibility for resolving this through the Village Clinic Committee before the new equipment is installed and operated. We understand that this delay may concern donors, however their donations will now have a much better, lasting impact. FWP is implementing the following plan moving forward:

- FWP spoke with the Village Clinic Committee about the need to more fully understand and undertake their role and responsibilities for managing clinic staff, and they are behind this plan
- Supporting the village to recruit a qualified RN/midwife. We are now in contact with District Council to progress this.
- FWP has also facilitated the reinstatement of linkages between Mission Hospital, the Village Clinic Committee and the clinic nurses to enable full training in the use of the equipment once it is installed.

It turns out to have been very important to have had these issues verified during Lei's volunteer time with FWP so that we can work with the community to address staffing /training issues and be in the best position to use the completed building and equipment to meet the health needs of the Community.

FWP distributed the birthing kits provided by Birthing Kits Foundation Australia throughout 2017. These were welcomed by the community around Kitenden and those visiting the clinic. During the visit of our volunteer Lei, these were distributed more widely, as a result the supply of 200 received this year and the 63 remaining from the previous year have all been distributed. Another 300 have been ordered and will be distributed between clinic at Kitenden and two others: Kamwanga, North Kilimanjaro and Irkaswa, Monduli District.

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. Volunteers continue to bring time, funds, skills and an injection of new ideas into our work in Tanzania. In 2017, we have improved facilities for volunteers, the clinic and Pre-school so that their physical needs are met. But using volunteers from more advantaged countries in these remote communities is not without its challenges. There can be raised expectations about the reality of life in these villagers, cross cultural issues and misunderstandings and the tyranny of limited time. FWP are working to develop better information, resources to improve understanding and provide better support for our volunteers.

Here are some comments from our volunteers in 2017:

Amy

Amy Henderson, for the month of February 2017. *"I was able to support the primary school teaching English and spent some time with Kitenden previous year's student at the primary school. And their progress was amazing."*

The only small issue that I come across was that, because the primary school does not provide food to the student, attendance is very low. Hunger can prevent students from making the most of a formal education and we all know that food is the fuel necessary to get through a normal day and these children need energy to be able to carry out regular day-to-day activities. When I went back to home to the UK I was able to raise funds to feed the primary school kids for 5 months. And I will continue doing this for at least some time."

Lei

"In Kitenden, it was hard not to notice the bundles of joy women carry on their back, or rejoicing at the games at the preschool. Children are the treasure and hope in every society, regardless of culture or resources. Likewise, basic maternity/newborn care entails prenatal check-ups and nutrient supplementation, identification and management of complications including the prevention of vertically transmitted infections, and postnatal observation and follow-up. To my understanding, the Tanzanian government has been working along these lines by demanding appropriate beds, kits, and trained personnel at every birthing facility. So it was a reasonable request from the clinic staff for the equipment, albeit perhaps they did not fully appreciate the complexity of the operation or health economics.

Maternity/newborn initiatives attract the most attention and funding. The most common health problems, from Arusha to Olmoti to Kitenden, however, have been respiratory infections, eye and ear infections, diarrhea and other abdominal complaints, and the ubiquitous malaria. Thus projects to improve the awareness and standard of hygiene, such as handwashing, using indoor toilets, reduce the reservoir of flies, safe storage and application of pesticides, reduce wood-smoke, etc. would bring the most profound, long-term health benefits to the individuals, households, and the community. It was heartwarming to see the number of women presenting at the clinic to weigh and vaccinate their babies. That's ample evidence that people care about their health and welcome services that are accessible and affordable.

Currently, most pregnant women at Kitenden who attend prenatal care do so at the Mission Hospital, which is a little out of their way, some attend other nearby facilities such as Olmoti or Kamwanga, and a small number do not receive prenatal care. Among the women we spoke to, more than half reported giving birth at home – a practice now outlawed, and many delivered without anyone attending or assisting. The reasons given included feeling safe at home, not having complications during pregnancy, the labour started too sudden or happened too fast, not having access to transport, and worrying about the cost.

I did not encounter any perinatal complication during my stay, and consulted only one case of neonatal infection; however, one spreadsheet showed that Kitenden had the one of the highest newborn mortality rate (cf. attachment "Target population RCH Longido 2017", the chart on the top right; photo taken at the Mission Hospital). Would a birthing suite bring positive change? Yes, definitely. However, the community require support to recruit a qualified RN/midwife. And also support the Village Clinic Committee and discuss their role and how they can best advise the clinic."

PROJECT REPORTING FOR 2017

QUARTERLY REPORTING

Milestone	Planned End Date*	Achievement	Comment
First quarterly report	15 APRIL 17	MET	Report provided late
Second quarterly report	15 JULY 17	MET	Report provided late.
Quarterly report	15 OCTOBER 17	MET	Report provided late.
Annual Report	JANUARY 17	MET	Report provided late.

FINANCIAL REPORT - 2017

ITEM	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE (TSH)				TOTAL
	Jan-Mar	Apr – Jun	Jul – Sep	Oct - Dec	
STAFF SALARIES	2,580,000	2,730,000	2,730,000	2,730,000	10,770,000
CHILDREN'S MEALS	1,742,000	984,850	1,810,400	1,347,000	5,884,250
ADMINISTRATION / TRANSPORT	360,000	360,000	450,000	450,000	1,620,000
BUILDING MAINTENANCE	0	0	0	4,100,000	4,100,000
OTHER	0	0	0	0	0
Bank fees			160,510	260,000	420,510
TOTAL COST FOR PERIOD	4,682,000	4,074,850	5,150,910	8,887,000	22,794,760
AMOUNTS PROVIDED BY ROTARY (TSH)	5,876,311	4,197,486	5,140,110	8,887,193	24,101,110
AMOUNTS PROVIDED BY ROTARY (AUD)	3,481	2,472	2,847	5,016	13,816

Note: Amounts provided for January March included 910,000 TSH (A\$532) for Salaries October-December 2016

Comment: 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 (e.g. no attendance in December or June, and holidays in April and September)

Notes: 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.

APPENDIX: BACKGROUND

Less than 10 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 provide part of the funding the operational costs of the pre-school for two years. The Rotary Club has been extensively supported by 34 individual Class Sponsorships from Club members, families and other benefactors.



WE ALL THANK YOU VERY MUCH!