



Foxes' Community and Wildlife Conservation Trust- Foxes' NGO

Mufindi Moments

September/October 2015

New On-site Clinic Opens to Record Numbers of Patients

Like so many other NGO buildings, the Foxes' NGO clinic has housed numerous projects since its ground-breaking in 2013. But as of July 2015 when ceiling board was placed, walls were painted, and shelves were built- the health department made the final move to call the clinic "home".

As Igoda Village's only dispensary, the clinic is providing medical care for over 40 patients per day, in addition to NGO staff, children, and guests. Popular services include wound care, wellness checks, preliminary diagnoses, gynecological exams, pre-natal and post-natal care, and pediatric care. An innovative schedule has been designed to allow all branches of our health department team access to clinical space. On Mon-

days, Finnish Pediatrician Dr. Leena will host pediatric clinics. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, the clinic will operate as normal under the supervision of Isaac Gwivaha, nurse/midwife. On Wednesdays, Swedish Dentist Dr. Bodil will host a satellite dental clinic. The clinic will also serve as a headquarters for visiting medical doctors, nurses, and co-operants who are encouraged to bring medicine and supplies with them to contribute to the medical stock.

Payment for services will be on a sliding scale, with children under 12 years of age being treated free of charge. For those unable to pay the full cost of treatments, discounts will be given and subsidized from a benevolence fund

raised by willing donors.

A health education initiative is also in the works to jumpstart the continued education of our Home-based Care (HBC)volunteers who work tirelessly in the villages to make medical care accessible to all. Important educational topics will be chosen each month, with educational materials posted in the clinic and dispensed to the HBC volunteers to aid in the continued education of the villages on HIV/AIDS testing and treatment, nutrition, reproductive health etc.



Nurse Assistant Sijali writes a prescription in the pharmacy.



The Clinic is open 6 days per week to provide medical care to the people of Igoda and the NGO staff and children.



Work-study student Harry cleans the weighing station for infants.



The wound care room has been organized and ready for patients!

NGO Celebrates Graduation of Six Standard 7 Leavers.



Igoda Primary School Graduation at the Igoda Ukumbi (Community Hall)



The Children's Village performs for the graduates!



Social Welfare Officer and House Father Joseph Majembe speaks to the graduates about the importance of staying in school and studying hard.



The Graduates reciting a poem they wrote for the NGO party.

Graduation season is upon us! This year, Foxes' NGO has celebrated the graduation of Six Standard 7 Leavers. This is a big accomplishment in rural Tanzania as this is the last mandatory year of schooling. The six students sponsored by the NGO: Zulea, Candida, Neema, Sipriana, Steven, and Blai, participated in the Igoda Primary School Graduation on September 24th, 2015.

Students from all grade levels performed songs, dances, and raps to celebrate the accomplishment of their fellow students. At every graduation, there are rewards for students in various categories. One of these categories is the "condition of the child" and an award is given to the student who displays cleanliness and self-respect. With the Igoda Children's Village house parents in attendance and feeling great pride, the two winners of this award both came from the Children's Village! Blai and Neema won this coveted prize!



Neema accepts her certificate from the high table.

An NGO party was held a few days later in the students' honor. Everyone came out in their best clothes to celebrate, including all the children, guardians, guests, and staff. Florian Mtilega was the Master of Ceremonies and DJ Nadrick Mdeti played everyone's favorite tunes. There were performances by both the Sewing School students and the Children's Village. And at the end of the day, a huge feast was enjoyed by all- including soda for everyone!

Next month, the NGO is preparing to celebrate the graduation of our first Form Four leaver, Datrai Masonda, who came to live at the Children's Village back in 2007. As one of the original children and our first Form Four graduate, the party is rumored that it will be the biggest of all time!

Welcome Back to Dr. Leena and Dr. Bodil!

End of September saw many happy events- including the return of our favorite residents doctors, Finnish Pediatrician Dr. Leena and Swedish Dentist Dr. Bodil. Dr. Leena has worked in Tanzania for 30 years and in Mufindi since 2007. Dr. Bodil has worked in Tanzania for 20 years and in Mufindi since November 2014 when she opened our first dental clinic.

on-site, both the NGO clinic and Mdabulo Care and Treatment Center will benefit from their services. Dr. Leena will continue her work with the Home-based Care Program each week. Dr. Bodil will open two satellite clinics- one at the NGO clinic and the other at the Madisi Care and Treatment Center. We are so excited to have them back home once again!

Now that the good doctors are back

Bittersweet Goodbyes

The repatriation of children from the Children's Village is always bittersweet. This month, Foxes' NGO did not have to say goodbye to one of its own – just see you tomorrow! Shamira has officially moved home with her aunt Dorcus Mkolefu. Dorcus is a shining star of Foxes' NGO, working her way up from a Guardian Assistant. She attended a program on the NGO's behalf to obtain her certificate in Early Childhood Education and Guardianship. She went on to become a Head Teacher of the Luesuela Kindergarten (the new name for our on-site Kinder-

garten!). She now serves as the Head of our Education Department, overseeing all educational initiatives undertaken by the NGO. Since the death of her sister and the arrival of "Shami" at the NGO four years ago, Dorcus has taken Shami home with her every weekend to visit. In March of this year, Dorcus married Odeko Kibenelo a wonderful man who often works as a translator for NGO doctors and other professional co-operants. It should be men-



tioned how extremely rare it is that a

young man is accepting responsibility for a child he did not biologically father.

A "goodbye party" was held in Shamira's honor, with Guardians and Administrative Staff alike singing the praises of Dorcus and Odeko for stepping in for

Shami. Fortunately for all of us, Shami will continue to come to work each day with Dorcus to attend our on-site pre-school and kindergarten.



Rehema Mгимwa, head of the Guardians, addresses the party and speaks about the importance of families caring for each other in times of crisis.

Summer Recap:

University of Louisville Medical School Students Engage in Service

June and July of 2015 was an exciting time for the Foxes' NGO Health Department. For the second year, University of Louisville Medical School dispatched two service groups to visit Mufindi and deliver medical care to the District's poorest and sickest patients. First year and second year medical students were lead by Dr. Bill Smock, a police surgeon, Dr. Bethany Hodge, a pediatrician, and Dr. Autumn Loomis, an ER doctor.

In June, 13 second year medical students and their leaders arrived to Mufindi to begin their week of service. The students divided into different groups to deliver their medical services, and these groups would head out each morning in different direction. On Monday, students and doctors held a large seminar for Home-based Care volunteers about Mossy Foot- a rare type of leg swelling that occurs among subsistence farms in Mufindi

as a result of long contact with irritant soil containing volcanic rock. Both preventative education and treatment information were dispensed. The following days, Home-based Care visits were performed to the neighboring villages of Ibwanzi, Kilosa, Isipii, Lulanda, Nandala, Ilasa, Ikanga, and Mlevelwa. At each village, one half of the group would hold a mini-clinic while the other half visited patients in their home.

During the gap between groups, Dr. Bethany Hodge stayed on in Mufindi to offer her services, which included work at our clinic and with home-based care volunteers. She also followed up with "high alert" cases located in the village during the first round of clinics and visits. She is also responsible for writing Foxes' NGO's first ever Medical Field Guide, a detailed description of the expectations of service for visiting medical co-

operants. The guide includes lists of supplies needed when holding clinics or visits, a formulary for medications, and how to write prescriptions in Tanzania.

In July, 10 first year medical students and Dr. Loomis rejoined Dr. Hodge to begin a second week of clinics and hospital visits. However, for the first three days, students, doctors, and all translators hosted huge clinics at Igoda Community Hall, Ibwanzi Dispensary, and Madisi Clinic to service hundreds of patients. This also allowed the medical students to become acclimated to the different working environment.

The following days, the students broke up into Home-based Care Groups to the village of Ihanu, Iyegeya, Ludilo, and Kilosa. For each village, trips to villagers homes were organized to visit the most sick, and mini-clinics were held to reach more patients.

Foxes' NGO is so grateful for the life-changing work of the University of Louisville Medical Team! Plans are already in the work for next summer's mission trip. Karibuni tena!



Translators, medical students, and leading doctors meet to discuss cases. This group treated over 1000 patients!

Foxes' Community and Wildlife Conservation Trust 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. This project came to be known as Foxes' NGO. 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. This work is made possible through the partnership of our sister charities all around the world— Orphans in the Wild (UK), Mufindi Orphans (USA), African Book Box (CA), Mufindin Ystavat (FN).



A Letter from our Leaders

To our wonderful family, friends, donors, staff, and supporters:

We made it back to Mufindi, and we could not have done it without your support! We had a family emergency that has kept us in the United States for quite sometime, but since May of this year, we have been working again with some amazing people here in Mufindi. And we have been overwhelmed with the amount of great work that has been going on! The staff here has taken on some tremendous responsibility and their confidence has skyrocketed to the effect that the organization has never run so efficiently and effectively. In essence, things are getting better and better each day! We anticipate that this efficiency and efficacy will lead to fantastic correspondence and updating for all of our donors, partners, and supporters as well! Speaking of whom, we have been equally overwhelmed with the support from our extended global family! We are so excited that on a daily basis we get to see the amazing things that have come about from everyone's support! Even a little bit really does go a long way, and we have had so much support that has enabled these great people to accomplish so much. Hard to put into words the gratitude we feel, so we will just say:

Asanteni sana kwa wote! Thank you very much everybody!

Staff Highlights:

Ngojea Kitinusa

Ngojea Kitinusa connected with Foxes' NGO back in 2008 as a former student of Manager Jenny Peck at Mbabulo Secondary School in her Peace Corps days. Ngojea showed promise and potential way beyond his years and Jenny offered him a position in the work study program to help him pay school fees for secondary school, and later, for university. This past June, Ngojea graduated from University of St.

Augustine in Mwanza, TZ with a degree in Education. He has returned to Mufindi to work full-time at the NGO. His passion is working with vulnerable children. And the compassion and gentleness he shows towards all makes it clear that this is his life's calling.



Recently renamed as the Lusuela Kindergarten, the NGO's interactive learning kindergarten is as busy as it is adorable! Check out our Reading Corner, the Tooth Brushing Station, and Circle Time!

Candid Camera: The Luhesela Kindergarten