

## Malaika Orphanage Foundation 2022 Activity Report

### 1. Introduction

Malaika Orphanage Foundation seeks to give most vulnerable and orphaned children in Tanzania a sustainable future. We offer the children a real home, where they can feel safe, eat regular meals and just be children again and strive to educate them to become responsible citizens capable of supporting themselves in the future.

Our first priority is to look for (distant) family members for the orphaned child when they are brought to us by the Social Welfare. While we take care of them at our 'Reception Home' (RH), we look into their background to see if we can reunite them with family members. If we do find family members who are willing and suitable to take in an orphaned child, we place the child with them and enrol them in our Relative Support Program (RSP). The Reception Home also acts as a safe haven for a lost child or a child being abused, we temporarily care for the child here.



Unfortunately, it's not always possible to place children with their family. For the children who we cannot place with families, we needed to find another solution and have therefore built a unique Children's Village in Mkuranga (CVM). 5 boys and 5 girls, varying in age between 1 to 14 years live in a house with a 'mother' who raises them. In this way, we try to recreate a family environment whereby the older children can help the younger ones. We encourage a family bond to develop, and the welfare of these children is our primary concern.



### 2. 2022 Movement of children

|                                      | No. of children<br>(1/1/22) | Transfers<br>within MOF      | New<br>arrivals | Children reunited<br>with families/ Found<br>new foster homes | MOF<br>Leavers | No. of children<br>(31/12/22) |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Reception Home<br>(RH)               | 19                          | -18(to CVM)<br>+8 (From CVM) | +31             | -16                                                           | -1             | 23                            |
| Children's Village<br>Mkuranga (CVM) | 76                          | -8 (to RH)<br>+18(from RH)   | +3              | -6                                                            | -1             | 82                            |
| Relatives Support<br>Program (RSP)   | 97                          |                              | +18             | -6                                                            | -6             | 103                           |

### 3. Relatives Support Program (RSP)

In 2022 we cared for 115 children living with extended families within the community. Our RSP mediators regularly visited these children at home as well as in school to follow up on their progress. Monthly food parcels containing rice, corn flour, beans, sugar and cooking oil as well as fresh vegetables/fruits bi-weekly were provided to these children and their siblings, living with their caregivers.



Educational material i.e. school uniform, school shoes, school bags, books and stationery were also provided to the children who went to school. Furthermore, Health Insurance as well as hygiene products such as soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes and diapers were also provided.



### 4. Reception Home (RH) & Children's Village Mkuranga (CVM)

In 2022 for different lengths of time we cared for 129 children at both our children's homes in Kinondoni and Mkuranga. Some children were either found lost on the streets, had been physically or sexually abused or orphaned.

All basic needs such as meals, clothing and shelter were provided to these children. Out of the 129, 16 children were reunited with families, 5 absconded, 2 older children left our care to live independently and unfortunately 1 child who was HIV positive died shortly after being rescued and brought to us.

Hostels or rooms were rented for 6 older children who are in college and still under our care.

#### 4.1. Education

Educational support was provided to all children in our care. Tuition fees were paid and all the necessary educational materials such as uniform, books and stationery were provided to all children.

12 children attended our pre-primary class at the children's village, 50 children attended different primary schools, 2 were in special schools and 14 in different secondary schools. 9 children completed primary and 4 secondary education in 2022. They all performed well and will be joining secondary school and different colleges/vocational training in 2023.



15 children attended different vocational training courses or work experience in carpentry, hairdressing, welding and fabrication, tailoring etc and 8 were studying different courses such as accounting, marketing, social work, human resource management etc at different colleges.



6 babies who were not of school age yet did not attend school. On-site educational programs and support was provided to 22 children who stayed at the children's homes temporarily before being reunited with their families. We made several school visits where we discussed the academic progress of each child with their teachers as well as the challenges they face and the way to alleviate them. We have special programs for children who were not doing well academically and need extra guidance especially those who had missed out on schooling earlier.



At the children's village we have a computer room where we conducted computer classes for all children twice a week. We also have a library with over 2000 children's books and school textbooks.



Apart from this we have Islamic and Christian religion classes for the children. This helps to develop good morals through faith and develop love to God and amongst themselves.

For 1-2 hours every evening, all children and staff participate in different sports and games such as football, volleyball, netball, board games etc. We had inter-house competitions where children competed with each other as well as competitions with children from the community. We also have a small playground for the younger kids.



Our children actively participate in house chores such as helping mothers with cooking, cleaning, washing, small maintenance work etc



In addition, during some of the weekends and holidays we take our children out for different study and recreational tours such as to the national museum, forest reserve in Mkuranga, the beach etc. This is so as to invigorate and let them see new things as well as socialize. We have also been using this as a reward for the very well-done job and recommendable behaviour and so they have had very positive effects towards their ways of behaving.



## 4.2. Health

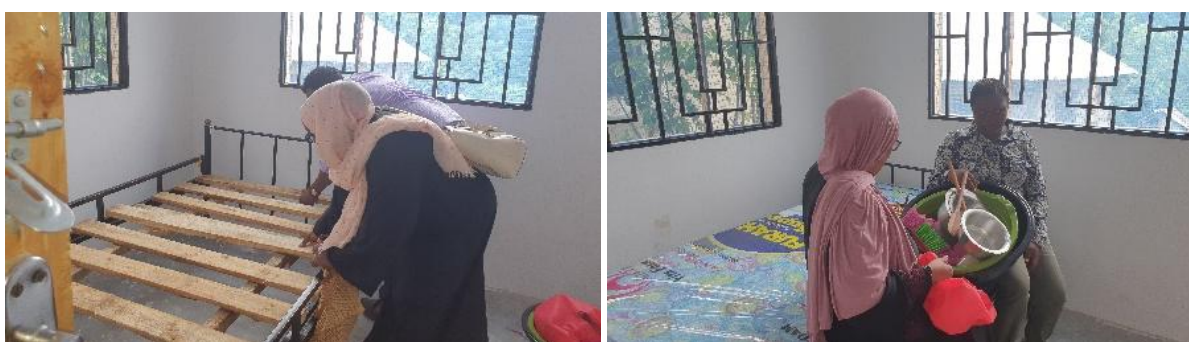
All necessary hygiene products such as soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, sanitary pads etc. were provided to all children in our care. A psychologist was made available to provide psychological support to children as well advice staff on any issues they had. Apart from minor viral infections we did not have any serious health cases. Compared to the previous years, we did not have any malaria cases.

All children in our care were covered by health Insurance (NHIF). This proved to be very beneficial especially for children who required regular medication, clinic visits or some sort of procedures/surgeries which would have been very costly otherwise.



## 5. Young adults leaving our care

After completing their education and having found a paying job, we support the young adults by paying 6 months rent and providing them with the necessities to start living independently. They are always welcome back to visit or when they require any assistance. We have had cases where children leave our care and later lose their jobs. We try our best to support and assist them on a way forward.



## 6. Agriculture

At the village we have a farm where we grow different crops as well as keep livestock to supplement our food requirements and teach our children. The crops include cassava, banana, pineapple, different type of greens, eggplants, cashew nuts, maize, coconut, tomatoes, papaya, and passion fruits.

In 2021 we started to develop an agroforestry project which we continued with in 2022. We planted new trees such as oranges, mangoes, coconuts, lemons and cashewnuts. We plan to continue with this scheme.

Since we were not successful with keeping fish as our water reservoirs do not favor their growth, we stopped this project. We however continued keeping chicken. Although some died, we continued collecting eggs which are all consumed by the children at the children's village. Our children while being assisted by staff were able to feed and collect eggs.

Due to prolonged drought and high temperatures, some of our crops did not survive. Furthermore the poor quality of soil in the area has always been a challenge. We use a lot of manure and sometimes industrial fertilizers. We however had water from our water basin and in the stream nearby which was enough to irrigate the plants especially greens and thus we have never missed lunch or supper without greens.

We are happy that we were able to grow greens to feed the village for the whole year and that our kids keep on learning different methods of agriculture and have been always active participants in doing this.

