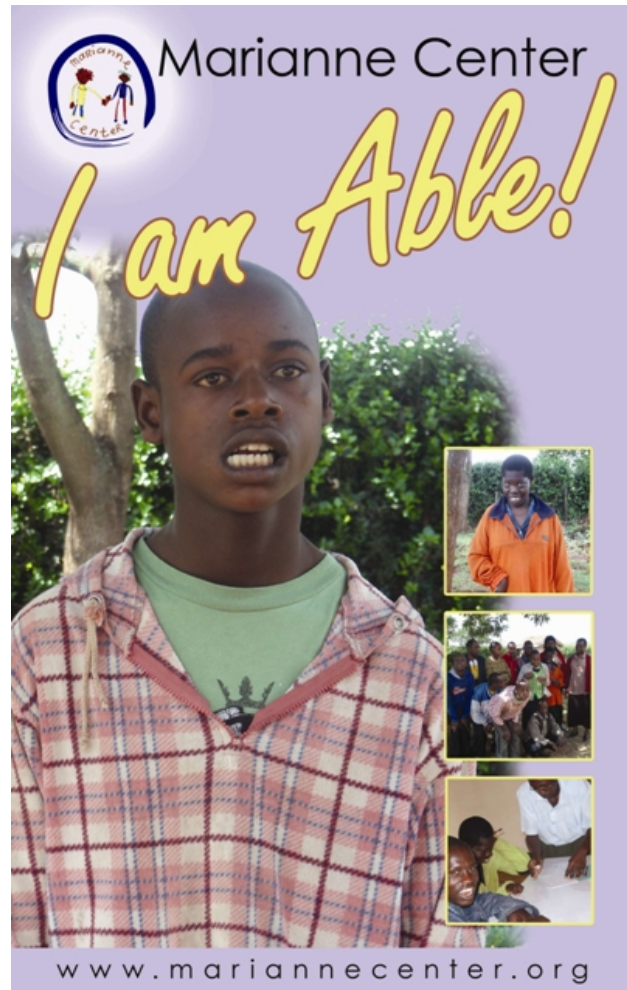


Report Marianne Center

2012



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INTRODUCTION

In 2012 we received several donations for the activities of Marianne Center. Through this report we want to update you about what we have achieved with the help of these donations.

RESULTS 2012

Since we opened our doors in January 2012 we have achieved a lot. We are very grateful for this and we are planning to continue our activities in 2013.

In our proposal of last year we wanted to achieve the following things:

- 25 students who took their exams;
- Started with the construction of our new premises;
- Two open days and two awareness events;
- 5 million Kenyans reached about Marianne Center and the capabilities of people with a mental disability through an article in at least 2 newspapers, one radio and TV broadcast;
- At least have set up three income generating activities;
- Sale of our products on the Masai Market;
- Most income for running cost has to come from Kenya.

Our objectives for 2010-2015 are as follows:

1. Start a training center for (young) adults with a mental disability
2. To support (young) adults with a mental disability, by providing specialized training and equipment, social functions including personal hygiene, gardening, cooking and uncomplicated vocational skills that can enable them to get basic employment
3. Fight the social stigma associated with people with mental disabilities
4. Sensitize the government of the need to support people with mental disability in education
5. To reach out to the 2,9 million people with mental disabilities and give them and their families hope for a better life

Below we indicate per objective which activities in 2012 have been done to achieve our goals.

1. Start a training center for (young) adults with mental disabilities

In January 2010 we opened our doors for the mentally disabled (young) adults. Together with the local authorities, community leaders and churches we spread the news about Marianne Center and her activities. At the moment we have 42 disabled students among which 25 are female. At the beginning of 2012 we had 55 students but due to the lack of space at our new location we couldn't host more than 42 students.

At this moment we have 2 full time teachers, 1 part time teacher for computer course and 1 part time teacher for sewing. We have a cook, cleaner and gardener who also support and train our students in activities like cooking, cleaning and gardening. We also regularly have volunteers who support our teachers in executing their tasks. In this way we can ensure that every student, including the weaker students, receives the attention and training they deserve. We don't expect many more students to be admitted next year unless we receive more funding to hire extra teachers.

All our students have shown a lot of improvement and for that we wanted to praise them. During the open day in June 2012 all our students received a 'Certificate of Achievement'. With this we showed our appreciation towards them and their families



Samuel happily receives his certificate.

Land

Since December 2011 we are the proud owners of a piece of land of 0.6 hectares in Limuru. The construction of our premises has started on 15th August 2012. Because of the construction and to reduce costs we moved to our new location in September 2012. The rent of 96,000 Ksh (approx. €950) a month was discarded and with that a lot of worries were lifted from our shoulders. Until the construction is finished we are renting a small school building of our neighbour for 30,000 ksh (approx. €280) a month.



The school building we rent until construction is finished

The foundation of the dormitories and classrooms will be strong enough to hold a storage building. In that way we will have more space left for other activities like agriculture. The construction of our own premises will contribute significantly to the sustainability of Marianne Center. A large part of running cost will decrease because it won't be necessary to pay rent any more. This will help in making Marianne Center more financial independent.



Foundation dorm



Foundation and wall

New board members

As of October 2012 we have expanded our board with three more members. This to draw more expertise to Marianne Center, to be able to have a better control mechanism over the execution of the projects and the use of funds and to generate more awareness about Marianne Center through their networks.

We like to welcome our new Directors Jane Ngiria, Samuel Kago and Rev. Captain James Mwangi. Jane Ngiria is a Special Needs Assessor, Samuel Kago is a coordinator of a government funded Assessment & Resource centre and Captain James is the reverend of the church where our students are part of. We are very excited to have new board members because their expertise, network and commitment will contribute a lot to Marianne Center.

These are the new board members of Marianne Center Foundation:



Jane Ngiria



Rev. Captain James



Samuel Kago

2. To support (young) adults with a mental disability, by providing specialized training and equipment, social functions including personal hygiene, gardening, cooking and uncomplicated vocational skills that can enable them to get basic employment

We are offering the following programs at Marianne Center; gardening, personal hygiene, cooking, housekeeping activities, sewing, farming, animal husbandry, computer lessons,

tapestry and crafts. One of our newest activities is hair styling. This is a very popular course for mainly our female students.



Materials for the hair styling class

We had the hope of graduating our first 25 students in 2012. Because of the move to our new location we lost quite some training time to prepare them well for their graduation. Because of this we decided to postpone the exams to 2013 to enable them to gain enough knowledge and skills to be successful during their exams.

We are already contacting several employers who are willing to provide employment opportunities to our students. Task descriptions may include packing groceries in supermarkets, car washing, cleaning, gardening, and doing laundry and other basic jobs. Other students might be better fit with a small business at home, like clothes making. Initially students will receive close supervision and support, but in time, as the tasks become a routine and the student can work more independently, this support can be phased out gradually.



Harvesting maize

Income generating activities

To be financial independent is important to Marianne Center Foundation. This is why Stichting Marianne Center in The Netherlands is gradually reducing their support to us. Most of the decisions are made in Kenya and the Dutch foundation is only there for support and fund raising for investments. Because we had to deal with the construction next to the day to day running of the center we didn't manage to implement other income generating activities. For this reason we also didn't manage to expand the poultry business and therefore only had 500

chickens. We did send a proposal to a Kenyan donor who hopefully will fund our poultry business in order for us to expand up to 3000 chickens and from this activity be able to financially support the running costs of the center.

Masaai Market

Our plan was to sell our products at the Masaai Market, a souvenir market that is visited by many tourists. Because we moved to our new location in Limuru this activity has not been as cost efficient as we hoped. It would cost us more to drive to the market than that we would generate as profit. Due to this we are now searching for local buyers to purchase our products in larger quantities without us having to drive long distances and wasting fuel.

Medical

We find it important that our students are healthy. We therefore regularly provide them with a medical check-up. These medical check-ups are funded by a partner organisation or the local church. Marianne Center ensures that her students are in good condition, eat a variety of healthy food and get regular exercise.

3. Fight the social stigma associated with people with mental disabilities

To achieve this goal we organised several activities this year.

We organized an open day in June 2012 that attracted around the 250 people. Among the 250 attendants were the Ministry of Education, District Gender and Social Services Officer, a few representatives of the Karuri Council, journalists of large country wide newspapers The People and The Nation, a representative from the KBC radio station, representatives of the Anglican Church of Kenya and representatives of several organizations who support people with a disability like Global Ethos. All organizations were given a chance to speech and they shared their appreciation for the work Marianne Center is doing. This event has contributed to the image of Marianne Center and the publicity will help us in fundraising and networking locally.



Many visitors came to the open day

We organized a workshop on 20th July with the help of KAIH (Kenya Association of Intellectually Handicapped). Parents, the local community and area chiefs and district officers were invited for this event. This workshop received 135 attendants. KAIH focussed on creating awareness about the potentials of people with a mental disability, like our students. They talked about the rights of the mentally disabled and even an intellectual disabled person, who is employed by KAIH, shared her story. It was a very succesful and encouraging

day for the participants, our students and our staff. Due to this event many people were reached and we expect that workshops like these are reducing the stigma of people with a mental disability.

The students of Marianne Center are regular attendants of the church services at St. Andrews' Wanguyu. They enjoy interacting with the congregation and the church members love to sing and pray together with our students. On 8th July 2012 25 youth of the church organized a youth's day in which they spent the whole day with our students. They involved themselves in activities like food preparation, some entertainment and counseling. Next to this they also helped out in domestic activities like laundry and fetching firewood. This day has brought the youth of the church closer to our students and with that improved the relationship with all the members of the church. The church plays an important role in creating awareness about the capabilities of people with a mental disability. On a regular basis the reverend organizes a service with the focus on mentally disabled people.



Psychosocial training during the Youth's day.

Our goal for 2012 was to organize two open days and two awareness events. At the end of 2012 we had organized one open day, one workshop and a Youth's Day. Next to this we have our weekly nature walks with our students where other pedestrians are getting in contact with our students. This often results into them asking questions and/or visiting Marianne Center.

The move to our new location also created quite some awareness, as neighbours were interested in what Marianne Center is and does. With some of the neighbours we discuss the possibility of our students doing an internship at their farms.

Media

Our goal for 2012 was to reach at least 5 million people about Marianne Center and her mentally disabled students. We managed to get two articles in newspaper, The People's Daily (circulation of 3-4 million) and The Star (circulation of 3 million). Furthermore we accomplished a broadcast on the GBS television and Coro FM radio station. With this media attention we easily have reached over more than 5 million people.

Voting

Marianne Center has supported its students in processing a National ID card. With this ID card they are allowed to vote in the upcoming elections which is a huge thing to many of our students. It also shows everyone that people with a mental disability are part of the Kenyan society.

4. Sensitize the government of the need to support people with mental disabilities in education

We are working closely with the local authorities and the chief of Karura Village. They are helping us in informing the community about Marianne Center and motivating parents to send their children to us.

We also closely work with the government assessment centres in Nairobi. They often join us for meetings and advise us where needed. Two of our new board members, Jane Ngiria and Samuel Kago are working for these institutions. This makes our connection to the government much easier. The government was also present during the KAIH workshop and our open day.

We are very grateful for the Member of Parliament who donated school fees for seventeen of our students!

Some of the parents are not able to pay for the school fees of their handicapped children. They therefore request support from the National Council for People with a Mental Disability. This government institution pays 2/3 of the school fees of our students. With this we can continue our programmes at Marianne Center and take care of our disabled students.

Not only is communicating with the government important to make Marianne Center successful. It is as important to have a good connection with the local government, organisations and businesses. These actors are often willing to support Marianne Center. By fund raising locally and inviting them to take a closer look at our programmes we encourage them to fund our activities.

5. To reach out to the 2.9 million people with mental disabilities and give them and their families hope for a better life

Marianne Center can only accommodate a certain number of mentally disabled people and therefore reaching out to 2.9 million mentally disabled people is a big challenge. To make sure that besides our students other mentally disabled can benefit from our activities as well, we are organizing awareness activities. This includes open days, annual event, awareness walks and media attention where we inform people about people with a mental disability. In 2012 Marianne Center received publicity in two newspaper, one TV channel and one radio broadcast. In this way we hope that more people become aware of the capabilities of people with a mental disability and accept them of who they are. Also our documentary is contributing to this goal.

We will keep on organizing awareness events and networking with the local government so that not only our students can benefit from our activities but also other mentally disabled people in Kenya.

EFFICIENCY

The workshops, church visits, open days and media attention has proven to be very effective in achieving our goals. With this we were able to inform many Kenyans about people with a mental disability which result in to reducing the stigma associated with this marginalized group. Not only had our students benefited from our activities but also other mentally disabled Kenyans. The students at Marianne Center benefit greatly from our activities and show improvements every day. This is also why they received a Certificate of Achievement during our open day in June 2012. The activities at Marianne Center will help our students to be able to contribute towards the (financial) needs of their families and to society at large.

The support from the chief, the local government, the assessment centres and our other partners have helped us in reaching the families of the mentally disabled and in creating awareness about the capacities of people with a mentally disability. The fact that local government and partners have supported us financially will make us confident that in the

nearby future Marianne Center can fully be run and supported by Kenyan professionals and organisations.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Our activities are monitored and evaluated against the project goal and objectives. Monitoring is done on a regular basis during every management meeting which takes place on a monthly basis. We want to keep on improving and optimizing our activities to be able to provide the best training based on the needs of the mentally disabled people. We therefore gladly receive any advice, comments, and critique from government or other actors.

Student Performance Reports are prepared every term. These reports assist in assessing any changes in the development of the students. Performance appraisal for project staff is being carried out at least once a year. Twice a year we send all donors, partners and other people connected to Marianne Center a newsletter, which contains updates about the activities, a note about our donors and success stories about our students.

Marianne Center is financed through school fees, generated income, funds and grants. The Ministry of Education has acknowledged the need for a training center. The government will support us in advice, knowledge and network. Government institutions like the National Council for People with a Mental Disability, is taking more responsibility in improving the welfare of mentally disabled people. This has resulted into the financing of a large part of our school fees.

We also networked with Members of Parliament (MP) and other individual government officials. This led to the payment of school fees for seventeen of our students.

Our goal is to be financial independent from funds from outside of Kenya in 2015. Because we have already started with setting up our income generating activities at the center and with networking with local organizations, it is most likely we achieve this goal. The funds from The Netherlands have decreased over the years until we can be fully financial independent. Running costs are already being fully covered by Marianne Center Foundation and the Dutch Foundation only supports us in investments like construction.

Our team of directors consists of professionals with broad experience in subjects as management, entrepreneurship, organizational development, healthcare and mental disabilities. Our general manager and board member has 7 years of experience in a similar occupation at a comparable training center in the UK. Also other employees who are or will be hired by the training center will be professionals with extensive experience in related fields.

All staff, except for one board member, is Kenyan and they are responsible for the daily activities of Marianne Center.

PUBLIC SUPPORT IN THE NETHERLANDS

Although the focus is on Kenyan people the Dutch foundation does also create awareness among Dutch people about our activities and about the situation of people with a mental disability in Kenya.

Stichting Marianne Center presented in January 2012 our activities to sixteen year olds at a secondary school. As of 1st of March 2012 the documentary of Marianne Center is available to be watched at an online broadcast channel of GoedTv.nl. Over 1 million people have access to this channel. On the 7th of October 2012 Zendtijd voor de Kerken presented during a broadcast of church service information about Marianne Center. During a Christmas concert a

presentation was shown about our activities. All these activities resulted into donations and publicity for Marianne Center.

Via our website, which is also available in Dutch, we update our partners, donors and others about our activities and Stichting Marianne Center subscribes herself to websites and organisations like CIGD and goededoelen.nl. Via our newsletter we keep people up to date about the whereabouts of Marianne Center.

PLANS 2013

Marianne Center Foundation (MCF) wants to make the government more accountable for the situation of the mentally disabled people. This can result into the support of Marianne Center or other events that makes an effort to improve the lives of people with a mental disability. MCF also wants to join public events more often. This to connect Kenyans with disabled people in order to reduce the stigma on this marginalized group.

Goals 2013

We would like to have achieved the following at the end of 2013:

- 25 students who have graduated;
- Construction of dorms and class rooms finished;
- Minimum of three awareness events (among which an open day);
- 7.5 million have been reached through media activities about the capabilities of people with a mental disability;
- At least 2 income generating activities have been set up;
- 80% of all income, to cover the running costs of the center, should come from Kenyan sources.