

LIVE AND LEARN IN KENYA INTERNATIONAL



EDUCATION IS KEY TO THE FUTURE

ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT 2018

The year 2018 was very successful despite some challenges. We had a number of activities that we successfully carried out during the year.

We constructed a number of buildings. Two classrooms, two offices and a staffroom, staff washrooms, a cowshed and wall fencing around our school. We are now in the process of constructing and finishing the large dining / multi-purpose hall

Our feeding program went as smoothly as usual. Children were fed with well-balanced meals 6 days a week. Parents were always available to prepare meals for the children. Children who attend public schools had their meals at their respective schools except on Saturdays, when they came to the Live and Learn in Kenya Education Center for their warm lunches.

We also submitted our annual audited accounts to the Government in February according to the law.

We decided to start a new class of children (Day Care class) in which we admitted the first group in March and the second group which will start their classes in January 2019 was admitted in September.

To support our feeding program, we did some farming both on our school farm and on the leased land. We planted maize and beans. We harvested several bags of maize.

All of our children received their full school uniforms including shoes and socks. All of these uniforms were sewn at our tailoring workshop. Several of our youths who had attended seamstress courses in vocational training come to volunteer. They also sew other dresses for neighbors at a small fee as well as clothing that sponsors have made for their sponsored children. They have used the small profit to buy 3 large pavilions and almost 300 chairs for them for the Center.

We received donations from our sponsors to start a dairy cattle project. Three dairy cows were purchased and a cowshed was built for them. One of the cows delivered a baby girl on Christmas day.

More than 60 parents received funds from sponsors to start micro-credit businesses. Most of these businesses are doing well. Some sponsors visited

these businesses in May and October and they were impressed with their progress.

This year we received two groups of visitors from Germany and Netherlands. The first group of visitors from Germany came in May and stayed for about 10 days. They were 4 in number. The second group from Germany and Netherlands came on 26th October and left on 4th November. They were a group of 30 people.

The first group of visitors sponsored to install a home gas system for our kitchen. The project cost about 70, 000 Kenya shillings. It is used to make staff meals.

Through the efforts of Renate Angermann and her son Kay Angermann, we received a donation of about 700,000 Kenya shillings to start a rain water harvesting project at our school. This has reduced the cost of buying water from the water company

This year, just like other years, both our children's families and children received Christmas presents. They received them on 22nd December. They were elated.

These are some of the activities we did during the year 2018.

a) CONSTRUCTION

Construction of two classrooms, teacher's staffroom, staff washrooms and offices started in mid-March. All were ready for use by the end of August.

We also saw the need to secure our school. A perimeter wall was the starting point. We talked to the contractor who accepted to construct the wall for us on a cost sharing basis. We only bought building stones and he bought the rest of the material plus paid the labor costs. Erick Ouma is a God-send to our project. He has a BIG heart. He donated sand, cement, ballast and labor for the wall construction without charging us.



Complete classrooms and offices



Perimeter wall around our school

In early August, we started the construction of a modern dining/multi-purpose hall. Due to limited funds, we are constructing at a slow pace. It is our hope that we will get enough funds to complete the construction by March. This will make it easier on our parents, who have to carry food to our make shift dining hall about 100m away. Children will also avoid the trouble of rain and dust during windy season. A clean and hygienic place to eat is a priority.



Our modern dining/ multi-purpose hall in construction

b) FEEDING PROGRAM

Our feeding program continued during Christmas holidays. Both children who attend our Live and Learn in Kenya Education Center and other public schools received a warm lunch every day from Monday through Saturday. We paid for lunch for all children who attend public schools at the beginning of every school term. Children who attend our school receive a warm and nutritious meal every day from Monday through Saturday.



Children enjoying a warm and nutritious meal at the weekend



Warm and nutritious meal on a school day

Fees must be paid for students attending high schools, colleges and universities. At the beginning of every school term, we paid school fees to all students. This has enabled them to stay in school without interruption.



Children at Freehold primary school during lunch time

c) AUDITNG

It is a Government requirement for all Non- Governmental Organizations to file their returns every financial year. Returns involve audited accounts by a credited Institute of Certified Public Accountants (ICPAK), an annual report and a fee of 2,000 Kenya shillings.

We started our auditing in early January after the end of our fiscal year in December 2017. By early February, we had submitted our returns to the Ministry of Internal Security which is our line Ministry.

d) DAY CARE CLASS

From the year 2018, the Government changed a system of education from 8-4-4 to 2-6-6-3. This new system did away with baby class. Instead the government introduced a Day Care class where children do not go through a normal learning process. Instead they learn about environment and identification of people especially family members, but mostly they play with educational toys, eat and sleep. We admitted 30 children aged 3. In 2019, they will be joining ECDE in kindergarten.



Day care children with their teacher-Pauline



Day Care children during class session

e) FARMING

Every year we lease farms for crop cultivation. This year we leased 1 ½ acres of land for growing food for our feeding program. We planted maize and beans. Our parents come in to help with planting, weeding and harvesting. This was their contribution towards our project. Other than this farming, they also help in preparation of meals for our children.



Parents planting maize and beans



It is weeding time

Maize Harvesting

Maize production was very good this year just like last year. But beans did not do well. We only harvested 3 bags of beans. Parents were called in to plant, weed and harvest maize and beans. They did a good job. They also helped in

the drying and storing of maize. This year we harvested about 30 bags of maize. This will take care of our feeding program for one year. It will save us the cost of buying maize for Ugali. Our children love ugali with meat. *ugali is a sort of white polenta



Parents at our leased farm while harvesting maize



It was shelling time

f) TAILORING WORKSHOP

Our tailoring workshop, which was started in 2014, was also very busy this year. Other than making school uniform, they also sew clothes for birthday, Easter and Christmas presents from sponsors.

This work is done by our young women who went through our project. They come to volunteer - paying back to the community that they came from.

These young women also sew clothes for other people around the school for a small profit. This profit has enabled them to buy over 300 chairs and 3 pavilions for the Center. This has saved us the cost of renting tents and chairs whenever we have visitors or parents' meetings.



Some of the children with clothes made at our workshop

School Uniforms

Our school uniforms are sewn from our tailoring workshop. Uniforms for children who attend other public schools are bought from Shah's Outfitters shop in Nakuru town. We started making these uniforms in early December.

We are hoping to have them ready by the end of January 2019.



Uniform making in progress



Children in their new uniforms

g) SCHOOL HOLIDAY TUTORING

During the school holidays the children have the chance to revise their last term's work and prepare for the coming terms. The children, including those attending partner schools, are tutored by our teachers in order to give them a good start into the next school year.

Children reported to school at 8 am and left at 2 pm after having a warm and nutritious meal. Learning ended at noon. After classes, children went for games and other extra curricular activities before having lunch.



Football time after tutoring



First grade class during holiday tutoring



Children enjoying a nutritious meal at lunchtime

h) DAIRY FARMING

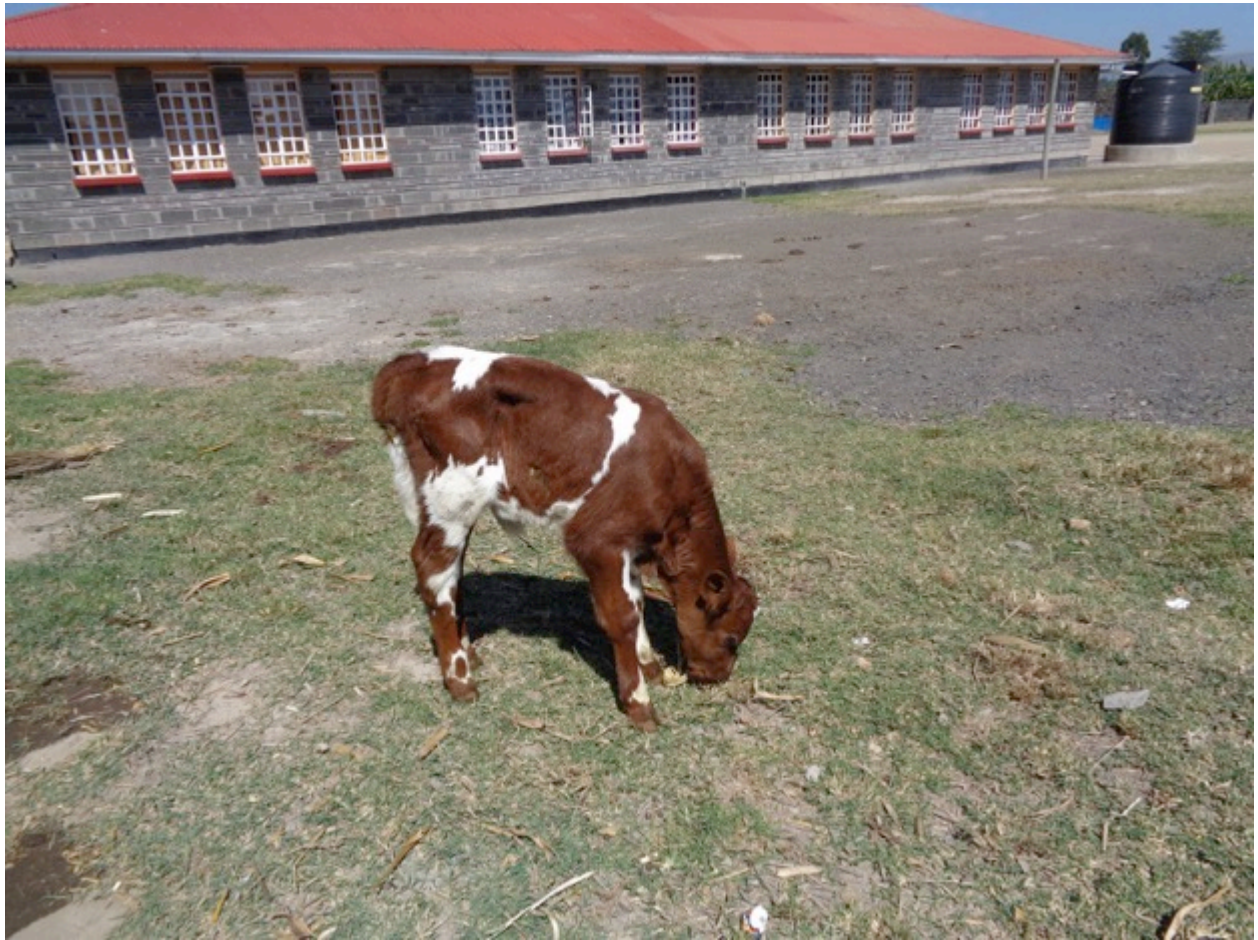
We bought 3 dairy cows for the Center. All 3 are expecting calves at the beginning of next year. Riziki, Lizzy and Wispy are their names and were donated by 3 sponsors from Germany and Australia. Other than a small amount of milk because of their pregnancies, they also provide cow dung for our home gas installation.

We are expecting all 3 cows to have their calves by February 2019. We are also hoping that we will be able to get enough milk from them for our feeding program. This will save money used for buying milk from vendors.

Wispy delivered a female calf on 25th December. Noel is her name.



Lizzy, Riziki and Wispy in their cowshed



Wispy's calf born on 25th December. Noel learning how to eat grass

i) MICRO-CREDIT

60 parents/guardians have received start-up funds for a micro business. We visited all parents/guardians who are doing business regularly to monitor their progress. Most parents operate food kiosks and are selling charcoal. A number of them do crop farming and chicken rearing. It took us two days to visit all of them.

Most of the businesses we visited are doing well. Parents are able to meet their daily basic needs, such as buying food.



Esther Nanjala's parent is rearing chickens



Miriam Mbone's mother in her used clothes kiosk

j) VISITORS

a) Visitors from Germany

On May 20th we received 4 visitors from Germany. Dirk, Udo and Brigitte are sponsors of project children and the 4th visitor, Martin, is Udo's son.

They stayed in Nakuru for 11 days. While here they participated in a number of activities. They cooked with mamas in the kitchen and visited micro-credit projects among others.

They also came with presents for our children. Among them were sports uniforms from a soccer club in Selb, Germany. They also brought presents for their sponsored children's families. They were impressed with the work we are doing in Nakuru.



Visitors cooking ugali for children



They also visited a workshop run by a blind parent

b) Visitors from Germany and Netherlands

On 26th October, we received the largest group of visitors ever from Germany and the Netherlands. They stayed from 26th October to 4th November. While here, they participated in many, many activities with the children - from singing, dancing, exercising, arts and crafts, playing board games and other fun games, learning for a play that they would then show onstage, playing soccer and other sports with the children to giving presents of clothing to nearly all of the children and taking thousands of photos. Below are some of the activities.

c) Visiting families

Visitors visited children homes to meet family members and see their living conditions. They also visited parents' micro-credit businesses. They brought presents to these families especially those of sponsored children. Families were very happy and appreciative. Some visitors were surprised to see the living conditions of some families. Some could not hold their tears (especially

because of a family with a roof of polythene paper). One sponsor had offered to construct a new house for this family.



Some of the visitors from Germany and the Netherlands



Tivo visits Sarah with presents



Visitors visited one of the parent's micro-credit business

d) Playground Construction

Visitors as mentioned above, come with blessings for our children. They brought equipment and built a modern and beautiful playground. Through the efforts of Kay Angermann, his mother Renate and Kay's employer – Westfalia-Automotive GmbH – and the hard work of many of the other visitors, parents and youths - children are now able to enjoy this wonderful, colorful playground. Most of the parts for the construction came from Germany. Timber and nails were bought here in Nakuru. The total cost of all these material was close to 1,800€.

Parents and our youths were at hand to provide manual labor. The work took 5 days and the playground was ready to be opened for the children to use. They were elated and appreciative.



Construction of the playground in progress



Children enjoying the playground

e) Official Opening of classrooms

During the year 2018, we constructed two classrooms, offices, washrooms and rain harvesting systems. All these were officially opened during this visit. Although they were already in use, we had not officially opened and dedicated them.



Renate Oberdiek officially opening a classroom constructed in memory of her late husband, Heinz Oberdiek

k) YOUTH GRADUATION

a) Teachers

In June two of our youths graduated with Diplomas in Education. Gilbert Odhiambo and Edgah Onyango are now fully trained teachers. At the moment Edgah is volunteering at our school. He teaches Mathematics in grades 4 and 5. Gilbert is employed by a private school in Nakuru. We are expecting two more teachers to graduate this year.



Edgah and Gilbert on their graduation day

b) University Graduation

During the month of December, two of our university students graduated with degrees. Duncan Ouma graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Mount Kenya University.

Michael Wambua Mwinzi graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration (Finance option with IT) from Maseno University. He received a second class honours (Upper division) as did Duncan. They are now ready to try their hand in job market.



Duncan Ouma during his graduation



Michael Mwinzi during his graduation on 21st December

1) HOME GAS

Udo Benker-Wienands, who visited our project in May donated over 650 € for the home gas installation for our kitchen. This installation provides gas for the preparation of staff meals. This home gas was installed by a technician from Jomo Kenyatta University in collaboration with REHAU HomeGas in Rehau, Germany. We now have dairy cows that supply us with the necessary cow dung for it. We are very grateful to Udo for his kind donation. It saves us money for charcoal.



Peter Langat from Jomo Kenyatta University installing the home gas installation



Grace, our feeding program manager, explaining how the home gas installation works to the children



Home Gas cooking

m) RAINWATER HARVESTING

In Nakuru we have a water shortage problem because of the unreliability of rainfall. We have heavy rains between March and August every year. We are targeting to be harvesting lots of water during this period. Through the efforts of Renate and Kay Angermann from Germany, we managed to receive funds for gutters and water tanks. Renate and Kay have helped to provide the kitchen and our classrooms with gutters and 3 water tanks of a 10,000-liter capacity. Currently we have 4 water tanks. We are very grateful for their efforts.



Above photo shows rain water harvesting from our classrooms

n) PARENTS MEETINGS

Parents, being important stakeholders of our project, are involved in all projects that we initiate. They help us by cooking for our children, farm work and any manual work that comes up at our school.

We call them for meetings on a regular basis in order to update them on our project's progress. Each year we hold about 5 parent meetings. They know that they are a part of the project. Their input is very critical to our project's progress.



A parents meeting on 13th October

o) CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

Every year Christmas presents are given to our children and their families. Like last year, children received warm blankets for the cold nights and mornings - while parents received live chicken, vegetables, rice and maize flour for their holiday meal.

Since all of our children come from humble families, these presents provide the parents and children what they need to enjoy Christmas just like other richer families. Both children and parents were very happy, as shown in photos below. They danced throughout streets of Ronda slums in praise of LLK sponsors and donors for their generosity.



Children with their Christmas presents



Smiles show the joy in these parents hearts after receiving their Christmas presents

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