



Annual Report 2018

It is always with great motivation and satisfaction that we see how eager the Kenyan children are to learn and how happy they are if we pay their school fees and take care of the most important things. In this way, we help them to attend school in a complete and relatively comfortable way. Children and young people suffer enormously if they are expelled from school and sent home, which is common practice, because they did not pay the school fees.

For many young people it remains a dream to attend a high school (Kenyan secondary school) or even to receive a vocational training after primary school. Education costs money. It is therefore a privilege and is highly desired and appreciated by the poor.

Numerous children are orphans or half-orphans, and their relatives are rarely able to pay the school fees for them. Most of them are very poor peasants who often cannot even harvest enough to feed their own family; they usually have very little money. Due to their miserable situation, some of the destitute people come to Nairobi to a slum and usually keep their heads above water with occasional, underpaid jobs. Many live in poverty in order to be able to send some money to their family members in the countryside.

Almost without exception, it is very important to the people we meet that their children / foster children receive an education. Many parents and relatives are willing to make big sacrifices to enable at least one child to get a higher education.

For example, we learned that a small farmer had sold a part of his tiny farmland, so that his son was able to take up his studies. Thanks to the efforts of our Kenyan employee Jackline, we succeeded in reversing the sale of the land.

Another example was a very poor grandmother who had sold her only cow so that her grandson could go to high school. These are examples that make us cringe as Swiss citizens: Why is the world so unfair?

Primary school pupils

This year, we paid the school fees and lunch for 200 destitute primary school children in 10 slum schools. They all received a little family pocket money at the end of the school year (end of October) to pay for basic foodstuffs.

57 primary school teachers received a little amount to bridge the unpaid holiday months of November and December.

High school students

This year, we enabled 66 high school students to attend a boarding school.

Boarding schools have the great advantage that the students live in an encouraging environment, have clear and strict structures, and receive regular meals.

The Ministry of Education recently started to subsidize the school fees of all public high school students with 20 to 25%, which is fantastic!

Despite these alleviations, it is still impossible for most Kenyan families to bear the costs of a high school education.

Practical vocational education and university students

We made it possible for 12 adolescents to receive education at a Technical College. This included 9 electricians (thereof 3 young women), 1 carpenter, 1 cook and 1 plumber.

We helped 20 adolescents to finance their studies at university by granting them loans for the monthly costs such as meals, housing, study material. Whenever necessary, we also paid for the university fees.

This year, the first graduates will conclude their 4-year-studies and will have to attend a traineeship: 1 microbiologist, 1 primary school teacher, 1 IT expert, 1 nurse. We very much hope that they will be able to find a job afterwards.

Furthermore, 5 electricians and 1 carpenter are concluding their 2-year-education. They receive the necessary tools from us in order to exercise their professional skills.

We have again been supporting the **'Tania Integrated Rehabilitation Center'**, a home for the disabled, with monthly contributions to their running costs. Besides the salaries for the employees, the enormous electricity costs are a major burden to Jennifer and Joseph. We may help them to install a proper solar system next year...

Emergency aid

When I was in Nairobi in April, the poor suffered from torrential rains in many parts of Kenya. Numerous huts were washed away and farmland was flooded. I was able to provide some emergency aid.

However, there also happened a man-made disaster in a slum: A bulldozer of the government destroyed small huts and shops. Without any announcement, the machine flattened everything that was in the way of the new street planning through the Kibera slum. Many families lost all their possessions and their homes. Carole and Christoph were eyewitnesses to this horror in August and were able to provide some financial emergency aid. Even our employee Jackline had to leave her home within just 2 days!

However, I would also like to mention positive things about the Kenyan government: They launched an inexpensive health insurance for families (NHIF= National Hospital Insurance Fund). Jackline motivates the inhabitants of the slum to take out this insurance as it ensures that children and adults receive free treatment in case of illness or injury. Thus, our emergency aid for children has become (almost) redundant.



Christoph Künzli has been a member of our Executive Board since 2018 and has traveled to Kenya for the third time this year.

Photo 1st page: Britneyz (14) is an orphan; her parents died in a street accident when she was still small. Franciscan sisters enabled her to go to primary school, and CHaCHaCHi now pays for her high school education.

Please visit our website for more information: www.chachachi.org

We are still passing on 100% of all your donations to the children and young people in Kenya.