

**Newsletter Mutanyana Weru,
December 2007.**

Dear friends and supporters,
The chairman of the foundation "Mutanyana Weru" recently visited the Centre in Maputo- Mozambique. This newsletter has been assigned to this visit.



Pavilion nr. 3 Centre Mutanyana Weru 2007

VISIT TO THE CENTRE

Last September I paid a private visit to the Centre in Maputo. I was accompanied by my brother Hans who is a professional nurse. After getting acquainted with the Centre's residents, staff and volunteers we studied for a full week the way of life in the Centre. We learned that the Centre is a community with residents living like in a big family. They share joy and sorrow and are happy and satisfied with the Centre's offerings. The staff does not exist of professionals but its members have a very positive attitude and are open for input. Most residents are very pleased to be a member of this family.



Also the local workers are happy with the offered jobs. This enables them to earn a (modest) salary and thus are able to support their own families. The four volunteers are very inspired and actively involved with daily life in the Centre.

During such a visit one finds out that various improvements to the Centre are necessary. Provision for housing, dressing and feeding are o.k., It however is necessary to improve facilities for education, personal care, privacy, medical treatment and information.

Especially for the group of handicapped children more professional help would be of great value.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Within the framework of a special project several houses have been built for some of the (ex) residents of the Centre. It is the purpose that these people live in these house with small families and are fully independent. It is really impressive to see how these people shaped this re-integration process. The gratitude for this sort of support and visit was heart-warming.

THE CHICKEN PROJECT

After the first impressions of the local situation some adaptations have been made to the original plan. The project will be finished in the year 2008. The projects goal is to become self-supporting with respect to the supply of food and also to stimulate the creativity of the Centre's residents.

LOCAL COOPERATION AND INTERNATIONAL HELP

- 1- There is an existing close cooperation with Maputo's Central Hospital. This cooperation ensures good and affordable medical services.



2- The Hospital , Maputo

The Centre's management has established good contacts with the local authorities and also consultation with government health authorities. In spite of these good contacts management has to run the Centre fully on own force and with external financial support. A number of volunteers (people from Mozambique as well as foreigners) offer help. This help can be in the form of natural products like bananas or chicken, but sometimes it is in the form of small personal funds. Student organisations from Maputo and social organisations organise several times per year recreation/entertainment afternoons for the residents.

- 2- Some foreign Embassies several times hinted international charity organisation to support the Centre. Very good contacts exist with the Dutch Embassy.

EVALUATION AND ARRANGEMENTS

At the end of the chairman's visit a very positive meeting was held with then Centre's staff. We have been able to get a very good and clear picture of the current situation, necessary improvements and priorities. On behalf of the foundation we have promised to increase the financial support (if possible).

FINALLY

We have seen with our own eyes that a lot of good work has been done and that even more has to come. We also notice that the local authorities have no funds to support the Centre.

The staff and employees do whatever is possible but fully rely on external help. All people involved, including the staff are very thankful for offered help in the past. However, structural improvements required more money.
Sjef van Zon.



Sjef and staff: Victorino, Jose and Andre

HOW TO PROCEED?

The Foundations staff therefore requests you insistently to continue to donate allowing us to continue our support to the needy fellow-man. Your financial support stimulates the many volunteers and staff in the Centre "Mutanyana Weru" .

FOUNDATION MATTERS

Finances: Thanks to your support the Foundation donated in the year 2007 the amount of € 25 000.00 This amount covers approximately 35% of the total Centre's budget. Because the salaries in Mozambique raised by 15% over the recent year and the cost of living even by 16% the Foundations financial goal for 2008 is to also increase their sponsoring to € 28 000.00 (vs. € 25 000.00 in 2007)

Website: www.mutanyanaweru.nl

Provides further information and photographic material about the Centre and their residents. Also information about the Foundation can be found here. We cordially invite you to have a look here. Off course we are open for any questions, reactions and/or suggestions.

We all wish you a merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

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