

MUFINDI MOMENTS



ORPHANS in the Wild

Registered Charity 1113719

**IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FOXES' COMMUNITY AND
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION TRUST**

QUARTERLY REVIEW

#IWD2017

#BeBoldForChange

#50Wagesfor50Women

"International women's day is so important because in years past, women were placed completely behind men and were given no rights.

These days, our rights are respected. But there are still many, many challenges. Girls can still be assaulted in school and people will stay quiet. There are still few women in leadership positions, because even

not long ago, women were not allowed to get an education or find work. They said women didn't have the capability to lead. That's why there are few female leaders. But thankfully today, education has carried more women into leadership positions than before."

JANUARY -
MARCH
2017

BACK TO SCHOOL WE GO!



Top: An adorable moment in the Nursery school. Looks like reading time!

Left: A silly moment captured by driver Jacob of the back of our ambulance at the end of the school day. The ambulance helps to carry school children back and forth to school each day. Because of this transport option, every child, regardless of physical ability or health status can attend school.

Are you interested in sponsoring a student? Only \$50/month sponsors one student for an entire year!

January marked the opening of another exciting school year! Currently, there are more students sponsored in school than ever before. 41 primary school students are attending Madisi English Medium Primary School. 19 students are being sponsored through secondary school. And a record 6 students are being sponsored through University around the country!

With so many bright young minds enrolled in school, the support structure for students has grown immensely.

A Children's Village wide homework hour has been implemented whereby students, volunteers, and University of Iringa field students gather each day at House 3 and House 5 to do homework together and receive tutoring in math and English. And the mid-term exam results are proof- over 80% of students passed with flying colors! Confidence in speaking English has never been higher among our kids. We cannot wait to see what this generation of students will accomplish!

Dentists Without Borders Back Again!

DWOB-Sweden has returned for their second mission trip in Mufindi, where they provided examinations for over 2,818 students!

At the end of February, FCWCT was so excited to continue a strong partnership with Dentists Without Borders (DWOB) Sweden, under the work of our Resident Dentist Dr. Bodil Sandin, who has just completed her third year in Mufindi. The program was designed to provide free dental care services to primary school students in the project area. Each day, with the help of trained translators,

the DWOB volunteers went to a primary school to teach about proper dental care and do screenings on students. Those students who were found to have serious issues were then transported the following day to Dr. Bodil's Dental Unit at Mdabulo CTC, where she provided free treatment to each child. In total, Dr. Bodil performed 561 filings and 70 extractions from those screenings. We are so grateful for the amazing work of our "tooth fairies"!



Screenings were done at 8 primary schools in the project area.

An Honored Visit by the British High Commissioner

A visit to the Mufindi community became a historical moment for FCWCT's founder Geoff Fox.

British High Commissioner Sarah Cooke began her posting in Tanzania a few months ago and has been making the rounds to greet and meet with her British constituents. Her Excellency's stop in the Southern Highlands included a four day stay at the Foxes' Lodge, where her team were shown all of the great work being done by FCWCT in Mufindi. This included an on-site project tour, a trip to see the Community Hall and the Luhunga Girls Dormitory, as

well as a visit to Mdabulo Care and Treatment Center.

During this historical visit, Her Excellency took the opportunity to present Geoff Fox, founder and CEO of FCWCT, as a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (MBE) for his service to the Mufindi Community through his organization. Everyone was thrilled to be a part of this momentous occasion and congratulate Mr. Fox on this remarkable recognition!



Water + Hygiene go hand-in-hand!

Two professional Finnish volunteers Kari and Kirsti Kinnunen joined the Mufindi Team for 3 weeks to provide consults on the water infrastructure and healthcare at the Children's Village!

The Kinnunens came to Mufindi to share their skills with staff and provide feedback on different projects. Their extensive backgrounds in development work, in tandem with their valuable professional experience was invaluable! Kirsti, who is a nurse, worked with our on-site Health Team to provide healthcare to our kids, as well as provide recommendations for improving hygiene in the Children's Houses.

Kari, who is a limnologist (studies in-land water), performed an evaluation of our current water infrastructure in order to outline the next phases of development as we move towards our goal of clean, convenient water for all. At the end of his time, he produced an extensive report that evaluated local resources, average water consumption, and seasonal changes in water availability.

The report has now been shared with donors and supporters!



House Father and Social Welfare Officer Joseph helps teach better hand-washing techniques at House 2, courtesy of Kirsti!

PSI Tanzania Partnership Grows

A new partnership is allowing women from Mufindi to receive discreet, safe long-term reproductive health care!



PSI Staff pose with FCWCT Administration team!

In their second trip to FCWCT's on-site clinic, PSI provided 54 women with free long-term contraceptives! PSI is an organization that seeks to provide healthcare services and products to vulnerable populations across Tanzania. Before they arrive, FCWCT's administration notifies local villages of the services that will be provided and any one interested is welcome! PSI will be returning every few months and FCWCT is excited to continue this partnership!

Dorm Opening to Bring Safety for Girls!

February 17th marked the official government handover of the new girls dormitory at Luhunga Secondary School!

Dreamed and funded by FCWCT's partner charity, African Book Box, the Luhunga Girls Dormitory is now open for use by Luhunga Ward's secondary school girls. To commemorate the occasion, a hand-over ceremony was held, and in attendance were the entire student body, teachers from across the district, and district and regional government officials. The real guests of honor were Anne Pearson and Ruth James, ABB's Board of Directors, who spearheaded the project

and made the trip to Mufindi to see the completed dorm and be present in the hand-over process. During the ceremony, members of the government spoke to the crowd about the importance of education, particularly for girls, as well as the scope and depth of the work FCWCT has accomplished in its 10 years. Member of Parliament, Mendrad Kigola: "I don't think there is any other area in our district that is as lucky as this one to get the assistance they received from Foxes' NGO".

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Vocational Training Center is Complete!



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After nearly one year of building, the Vocational Training Center (VTC) building is complete! Born from a remarkable collaboration of FCWCT's international charities and donors, the VTC contains three full classrooms, two teachers offices, and two outdoor workshops for trades such as carpentry and mechanics!

Following the Luhunga Girls dormitory opening ceremony on February 17th, the government attendees made their way to the VTC

for a quick tour of brand-new building and a walk-through of the various projects happening on-site! District Commissioner, William Jamhuri said on this great day that, "This work done by this organization is encouraging to my people, and very inspiring".

Currently, the sewing school has started its 5th year as the first trade in the VTC. As FCWCT searches for funding for the operational costs of this program, trades in art and computer studies are being explored as the next steps in the VTC expansion project.

#50Wagesfor50Women

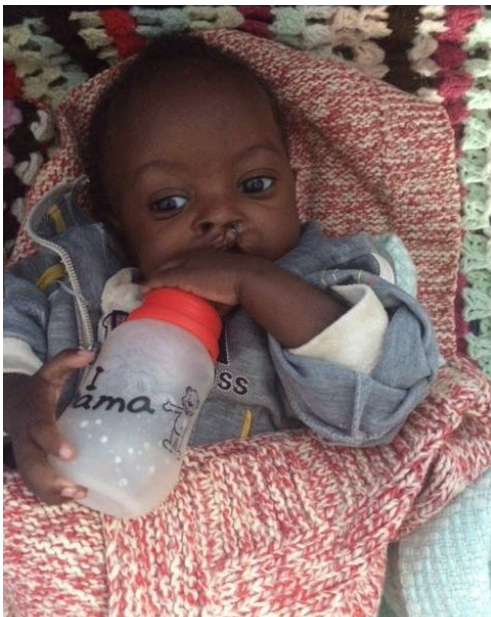
In honor of International Women's Day on March 8th, FCWCT ran a campaign to honor the 50 women who lead the NGO every day!



Across social media, FCWCT used the week of International Women's Day to share the stories of four women who work every day to heal, educate, and feed the children of Mufindi. Interviews were done with Sijali, Raheli, Fausta, and Maria to ask them why they believed International Women's Day was important. And we were honored to broadcast their voices across the world! The goal was to raise 50 gifts of \$50 in honor of our 50 female employees. Though we came short of our goal, the enthusiasm and generosity we were shown was humbling. Thank you!

Care of critical cases sees immense success!

After numerous consultations, hospital trips, and visits from medical professionals, children with critical cases at the Children's Village are stable, healthy, and happy!



With a little luck, and a lot of help, every child whose health case was deemed "critical" by the FCWCT's health team is now considered stable! Zulea, who spent time in the U.S. with Heal the Children for treatment of a chronic head wound is doing very well with her treatments in Mufindi- with new skin growth seen every day! Allan, who received open heart surgery in Dar es Salaam to fix a 13mm hole in his heart, is also healing well and is back at the Nursery School every day. He is now starting to walk!

Tunae and Winson, two new children to the Children's Village, both suffer from epilepsy. After a recent trip to Muhimbili Hospital in Dar es Salaam, both received EEGs, a neurological consult, and new medications to stabilize their seizures. Both children are back in school with their seizures well-managed and under control. Finally, baby Gloria, who was born with a cleft-lip, has been steadily gaining weight and becoming healthier and stronger. She will soon be ready for her plastic surgery to repair her lip.

Hello, Goodbye, and Asante!

We are so happy to welcome **Dr. Leena Pasanen** back home to Mufindi! She will be on-site for two months to continue her life's work of providing healthcare to the children of Mufindi.

We say a bittersweet goodbye to three members of our staff this month. **Nadrack Mdeta** will be leaving his post as Head of Maintenance to begin schooling at a technical college in Songea to become an engineer. **Artmin Mdalingwa** will be leaving his post as Gardner and Translator to start school in Njombe to become a tour guide. **Ngojea Kitinusa** will be leaving his post as Head of Building for a position with another organization in Arusha. We are so proud of these young men for their bravery, growth, and spirit! We wish them the best of luck!

Special shout out and HUGE thank you to our volunteers from around the world! Our Finnish friends **Heli and Ella** worked incredibly hard to implement a baby box program that aims to give life-saving clothing and baby supplies to new mothers in the project area. And a big KARIBU TENA to **Taika**, who spent three months on-site working with our kids tutoring homework hour and doing one-on-one care to critical health cases. She was a shining star!

And finally, all the gratitude and love to our friends at **Carpe Diem Education** for another great volunteer trip! Nine hardworking students led by two dedicated leaders spent 10 days on-site participating in village homestays, painting the new Nursery school classroom, volunteering in the Kindergarten, and shadowing our social work team as they did home-visits. Great job everyone!