



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

“To provide shelter, sustenance, education and medical care for vulnerable children and families in the Mufindi District of Tanzania; to curtail the spread of HIV/AIDS, to teach life skills (language, fiscal, vocational and self-sufficiency) and to create supportive networks and opportunities for future generations.”

WHO WE ARE

Since 2005, Foxes' Community and Wildlife Conservation Trust has worked hand-in-hand with the Mufindi Community to provide shelter, sustenance, education and medical care for vulnerable children and their families—especially those affected by HIV/AIDS.

WHAT WE DO

Work across three sectors - Childcare, Education and Healthcare - to respond to the needs of the community and provide advocacy and access where it's needed most. Current projects include providing direct orphan and foster care at the Children's Village, overseeing the implementation of Kindergarten classrooms in local villages, sponsoring vulnerable youth in school, training local community health workers and supporting of local HIV/AIDS clinics.

WHERE

Tucked inside the rolling hills of the Southern Highlands in Tanzania, East Africa, is the small community of Mufindi. Within a 16 village project area, our Tanzanian staff is working tirelessly on the ground for their family, friends and neighbours with the guidance and support of our partner charities, volunteers and benefactors.



Foxes' Community and Wildlife Conservation Trust 2005—2020

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VULNERABLE CHILDCARE



VULNERABLE CHILDCARE

The Children's Village continues to be a safe haven for Mufindi's most vulnerable children. Over 120 children, ages 0 -17 have received shelter, sustenance, education and counselling from it's hardworking House Parents and staff. The Social Welfare team also works in the 16 village project area to identify poor households who need help and provides support/interventions to keep families together.

THE CHILDREN'S VILLAGE

Currently, there are 51 orphaned, vulnerable children living at the Igoda Children's Village (ICV); 10 children are living with HIV and an additional 4 children are living with life-long physical and mental disabilities. Roughly over 85% of the children living at the ICV are victims of neglect, abuse or torture. The children receive food, shelter and protection as well as medical treatment, psychological counselling, youth empowerment and educational support.



THE MILK POWDER PROGRAM

The Milk Powder Program (MPP) has been providing life-saving milk powder and lische power (nutritious, calorie dense porridge powder) to HIV+ mothers and caretakers, as well as orphaned/vulnerable children (OCV) living at the Igoda Children's Village since 2010. In this time frame the NGO has provided better nutrition and HIV prevention for over 230 vulnerable infants and toddlers in Mufindi. Distributing milk powder and Lishe powder is done to improve the nutritional status of OVC's in the villages and prevent vertical transmission (mother to child) of HIV.



SOCIAL WELFARE AND CHILD RIGHTS ADVOCACY

FCWCT has been working to provide social welfare interventions to orphaned and vulnerable children (OCVs) in the community since 2008. This ensures that the Children's Village remains a safe haven for only the most vulnerable children while expanding services to all OVCs who need assistance. The guardianship department works closely with the local and district Social Welfare Office in order to bring more time and attention to vulnerable children in the local villages - particularly those outside the Igoda Childrens' Village direct care - in order to provide aid to OVCs living in the village. FSCWT's social welfare office follows up on cases of children who are not attending school or who have been reported as living in unsafe conditions to the Village Child Protection teams. On average, 10 families are visited each month. These families receive various support from FCWCT, such as healthcare advocacy, encouraged participation in an income generating project, provision of school uniforms/school supplies, or enrolment in one of the many outreach programs (Milk Powder Program, Early Childhood Education Outreach etc).

HEALTHCARE



Lead by an on-site Physician, Dentist and Nurse, the Health team in Mufindi oversees a number of programs aimed at providing healthcare access and advocacy to those who need it most. Through training 21 local community health workers, providing life-saving clinical care to 1,000 patients and supporting vulnerable HIV+ caretakers and their infants with nutritional supplementation, little by little, Mufindi is becoming healthier. To date, over 5,000 HIV+ clients have registered at our local clinic to receive HIV care and treatment.

THE CHILDREN'S VILLAGE CLINIC



Beginning in 2013, FCWCT broke ground on an on-site clinic to serve the Igoda Children's Village and neighbouring villages. As of July 2015, the FCWCT health department made the final move to call the Luhesela Clinic "home". Both the Home-based Care Program and Milk Powder Program work out of the clinic, as well as all voluntary medical professionals. The clinic serves as a headquarters for visiting doctors, nurse and co operants who are encouraged to bring medicine and supplies with them to contribute to the medical stocks.

MDABULO CARE AND TREATMENT CENTRE

In 2009, construction began on a Care and Treatment building that would give the surrounding areas access to life-saving HIV/AIDS treatment. The facility has a completely renovated pharmacy, doctor's consulting rooms, a fully functional maternity ward complete with a labour room, post-natal room and delivery room, furnished with useful equipment. The HIV treatment facility includes a CD4 machine and reagents that complete the resources needed to have complete HIV treatment. Now handed over to the government the facility has a comprehensive treatment plan for HIV/AIDS.

CONSTRUCTION OF CLINICS

2009 FCWCT contributed towards the construction of a clinic and pharmacy in Ibwanzi Village.

2010 FCWCT contributed towards the construction of a clinic and pharmacy in Chogo Village.

Igoda Village built a clinic equipped with a maternity ward with funds from FCWCT in 2018.

HEALTHCARE



THE HOME BASED CARE PROGRAM

The HBC Program is a government approved channel to increase healthcare access in rural areas, and today it remains an active, life-saving program. HBC volunteers are educated at monthly seminars on the public health issues that plague the Mufindi community such as HIV/AIDS testing, treatment and prevention; opportunistic infections and related cancers; sexual reproductive health and family planning; proper nutrition. Beginning in March 2011, FCWCT has funded and overseen the training of 21 local volunteers in government provided Home Based Care training. In addition FCWCT supplies the volunteers with monthly stipends and seminars to expand upon the HBC foundation knowledge as well as an HBC Program Facilitator to coordinate volunteers in meetings and arrange visits between visiting medical professionals and HBC volunteer's sick community members.

TRANSPORT AND ACCESS

The school bus, donated by the Merck Family Foundation in 2018 is an important vehicle as it transports students from our Childrens' Village to and from school. This generous donation of over \$35000 covered the costs of purchase, importation and mobilisation of the bus.

Doctors on Wheels - a program designed by Finnish Pediatrician Dr. Leena Pasaden, Doctors on Wheels seeks to bring healthcare access to those who need it most in our project area. Dr. Leena visits patients in their homes, delivers medicines and hold children's clinics each week at the local dispensaries and organises visiting volunteer doctors.

The Dental Unit. Swedish dentist, Dr. Bodil Sandin, has worked in Mufindi since 2014 to open a fully functional dental clinic at Mdabulo Care and Treatment Centre. Her work also includes a mobile dental unit to provide treatment in the village. She has recently formed a partnership with Dentists Without Borders, which has brought 8 trained dentists to Mufindi to work under her for short stints. Dr. Bodil has examined and treated well over 6,000 patients in Mufindi.



EDUCATION



EDUCATION

Through providing access to education, FCWCT is changing the trajectory of children's lives, from infancy to adulthood. Our Early Childhood Education Outreach program is now located in 8 villages and trains over 20 teachers per month. 2017 saw the completion of a new Vocational Training Centre that will serve 100+ young adults in learning trades to generate income for themselves and their families. Today, 82 of Mufindi's most vulnerable children are receiving financial support to attend primary school, secondary school and university.

VOCATIONAL SCHOOLING

Opening its doors in 2010, the Threads Vocational Sewing School has provided vocational education to upwards of 75 students. A new vocational training centre building has been completed, which will hold the sewing school classrooms as well as other trades such as computer studies, carpentry, mechanics, tourism guiding, hotel management, masonry, plumbing and mechanics. In 2018, FCWCT has partnered with Udzungwa Training college which has graduated students of tourism guiding and hotel management.



KINDERGARTEN OUTREACH PROGRAM

A lack of training and resources renders local Kindergarten teachers ineffectual in the difficult environment, resulting in low quality or non-existent ECE for over 3,000 children under six years old (estimation of 200 pre-primary aged children per village). In response to this gap, FCWCT created an outreach program in 2013 to support existing kindergarten/pre-school classrooms and the establishment of new kindergarten classrooms in the village, through monthly training seminars, the provision of locally resourced classroom materials and monitoring and evaluation visits to classrooms. The goal is to create long-term advocates of early childhood education within the community. This is combined with a rigorous training program for participating teachers and the creation of a feedback loop that supports teacher advocacy.



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CHILDREN'S VILLAGE KINDERGARTEN AND NURSERY

Beginning in March 2013, FCWCT began planning to build an on-site child care facility for children of pre-primary age (0-3 years), with construction completed in February 2016. This was built in addition to the on-site Interactive Learning Kindergarten, which opened its doors to students in 2012. Today, pre-primary aged children, living at or near Igoda Children's Village, attend nursery and kindergarten at the school compound built to serve local vulnerable children. The 'Caterpillar' classroom is for children 6 months - 18 months; the 'Butterfly' classroom is for children 1.5 years to 3 years and the 'Twiga' classroom is for children 3 years and up and runs parallel to the ECE Outreach Program. Monday to Friday, children participate in a 7 hour school day where they receive stimulation with games, songs, independent activities, arts and crafts, and free play that elicits creativity and imagination.



STUDENT SPONSORSHIP AND SUPPORT

The goal of the Educational Support Initiative is to allow every child to reach their maximum potential regardless of the financial, social and health obstacles that might be present. A parent's inability to pay school fees or purchase a new uniform is enough to keep a vulnerable child out of school. In the 11 years since FCWCT's founding, the NGO has financially supported the educational opportunities of over 200 orphaned and vulnerable children, which includes paying school fees and providing uniforms, school supplies and transport to/from school. 105 children have reached and/or completed their secondary education and over 1,000 children have reached and/or completed their primary education through FCWCT's financial intervention and support. Ten previously vulnerable children have reached and/or completed their university education through participation in the Work Study Program where students are able to pay for school fees through working in different sectors of the NGO. Ten children have continued to find work with NGO or in another career field, helping to provide income for themselves, their families and the greater community. Nearly 200 children have been educated in the on-site Pre-school and Kindergarten classrooms.





CAPITAL BUILDING PROJECTS



Since its inception, FCWCT has contributed towards the building and construction of multiple educational and social facilities in surrounding villages, from school classrooms to meeting halls.

IGODA COMMUNITY

In 2009, FCWCT funded the construction of a community meeting hall located at the heart of Igoda Village. Seating upwards of 500 people and outfitted with a functional kitchen, the community hall is the centre for all local government meetings, school functions, weddings, graduations and community education seminars.

IGODA PRIMARY SCHOOL

FCWCT has made a long standing commitment to the excellence of Igoda Primary School, now widely regarded as one of the top government primary schools in the Mufindi District. This commitment has included the building of a school kitchen, 6 classrooms and a fully stocked English teaching library.



LUHUNGA SECONDARY SCHOOL

FCWCT has also made an investment in its closest government secondary school in Luhunga which has included the building of a fully stocked library and computer lab as well as the funding of a trained ICT librarian. Completed in 2017, a girls dormitory is the latest project, which contains beds for 64 students and was built for the protection and safety of female students.



BIBI HOUSES

From 2007 to 2012, FCWCT provided assistance to elderly woman who lacked safe housing by building 8 houses for their use in the village. These houses were especially needed by grandmothers who were charged with caring for their grandchildren after the death of a parent.

IKANING'OMBE AND MWEFE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Both Ikaning'ombe Village and Mwefe Village within our project area received aid in rebuilding and repairing worn or failing classroom buildings. With significant contributions from the local community, FCWCT helped to rebuild Mwefe Primary School after heavy rain caused the school to collapse. FCWCT also provided assistance to Ikaning'ombe Primary School in replacing the roof, refurbishing one classroom and renovating the Kindergarten classroom.

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- ⇒ 35% of the general population in the NGO project area is living with HIV/AIDS.
- ⇒ 44% of women in reproductive age (18-45 years old) are HIV+.
- ⇒ 116 orphaned/vulnerable children have received direct orphan care at the Children's Village.
- ⇒ 100% of vulnerable families in local villages receive on-going monthly social welfare support.
- ⇒ 650 patients are visited by Home based Care volunteers on average each month.
- ⇒ 33+ infants have received milk powder, infant formula and nutritional supplements each month.
- ⇒ 21 local community health workers are trained monthly on relevant health issues.
- ⇒ 738 pre-primary students enrolled in Kindergarten Outreach school.
- ⇒ 82 students receive financial sponsorship to attend school.

