



Annual Report 2016

2016 in Kenya was a year without any major turmoil or unrest, but unfortunately also without any changes for the better.

No improvements were achieved for the poor, on the contrary! It is tragic to see that surviving has become even more difficult for many destitute people in Kenya. The rents for many of the huts in the slums are continuously increasing, and basic food supplies are extremely expensive for most of the people as they often work day labourers.

Moreover, in rural areas, the climate change is strongly noticeably: In some regions, the rains do not fall during the wet season so that the crops such as corn, beans and grains wither due to the lack of water. If then, with a delay, the rains start to fall, the precipitations are often too heavy and make it impossible to plant anything.

Day labourers work for a lousy pay (2 to 4 CHF a day), and small farmers often do not have enough to eat, let alone any money. How are these families supposed to pay the school fees for their children?!

Medical care does not exist at a large scale. If someone falls seriously ill, it is most likely that this person will die or his/her family will have to incur heavy debts in order to be able to pay for the medical treatment of the family member.

It is therefore still very important that we enable destitute young people to have a solid [education](#) and, in case of emergency, also provide [medical treatment and supplies](#). Owing to our members and donors, we were again able in 2016 to continue and even enhance our targeted help.

Education

We paid for the school fees of [180 primary school pupils](#) from the poorest backgrounds. They attend 8 different primary schools in the Kibera slum of Nairobi. We also provided lunch and medical first-aid care.

Furthermore, we financed [continuing school education for 85 adolescents](#) by paying for their school fees, housing, food, and other necessities such as books or travel fees. 65 high-school students attend a boarding school. Almost without exception, they did very well in their studies and handed in their school and personal reports on time after each semester to Jackline so that I was able to examine the documents during my visits. Together with Jackline, we then get the new school cheques for the coming semester. We meet with the high-school students and hand them over the cheques and a small amount of money for the most necessary things.

At the end of November 2016, 24 high-school students concluded their 4 years of high school with the national final certificate K.C.S.E. (Kenyan Certificate of Secondary Education), which equals our A-levels. This certificate is an almost indispensable prerequisite for a vocational training.

We focus our help on vocational trainings and not on academic studies. However, unlike Switzerland, many vocational educations must be completed at a university. Professions such as healthcare professionals, IT specialists, laboratory technicians etc. have to undergo university education. We grant loans to the adolescents if they choose an education that is promising for a future job. Excellent students may also apply for a loan with the state loan board HELB (Higher Education Loan Board). CHaCHaCHi requests that they do this as early as possible. If the state loan is not sufficient, we may help further with our limited possibilities.

In 2016, we supported 20 of our previous high-school students with a loan. Most of our students are now in their first or second year at university. 1 Student recently graduated from a two-year diploma course as a high-school teacher in mathematics and chemistry and has just found a job. 1 young woman will soon complete her two-year certificate course as a food and service specialist. 1 young man is enrolled at the polytechnic school to become a carpenter and joiner. 4 adolescents will soon complete their first year of their education as electricians at the Gentiana Technical College. I visited them during a practical exam at the end of November (see photo) and was persuaded by their skills.

We also helped out the '[Tania Integrated Rehabilitation Center](#)', a home for the disabled, with monthly contributions to their running costs. We have done this for 9 consecutive years. Jennifer and Joseph are extremely thankful because they often do not know how to pay the salaries of their teachers and caregivers.

Emergency Aid

As in previous years, we organized [lunch to be cooked for hungry children](#) during the school holidays in April and August (1 month each). This support is very much appreciated. In 2016, we also enabled dozens of sick or injured children to get [medical emergency care](#).

Testimonials

Below, please find 2 original excerpts from letters (1 high-school student, 1 university student):

*,I am grateful for CHaCHaCHi members for your tremendous effort towards my learning. You have actually helped me because I was helpless and now I am hopeful that I will succeed in life. You have really taken care of me from time I joined form 1 until now I am in my last form (form 4.)
Faith Makori'*

'I would like to take this gracious opportunity to thank the chachachi organization through you mum for the enormous support towards my education and most of my needs. The words alone may not be enough to elaborate the volume of my thanks mum but just accept as it is cause I mean it.

Yours loving son Mark Amollo'



Jackline, our assistant and employee, has had her second daughter in July 2016. Malia is absolutely adorable, and her Swiss grandmother loves her to bits!

Foto 1st page: Electrician apprentice Peter Wandera at the Gentiana Technical College in Nairobi

For further information, please check out our website on: www.chachachi.org

In November 2016

Heidi Brenner, Managing Director