



Annual Report 2013

We are still fully convinced that it is the most meaningful way of development aid if we enable children to receive a proper school education. This is the reason why we continue to focus on education and training of children and young adults. We strive to support as many orphans and children from destitute families as possible. We support them on their way through primary school education up to a professional apprenticeship.

As of the end of 2012, we changed our strategy of exclusively supporting the Makina Primary School and decided instead to enable poor primary school children from various parts of the slum to receive school education. Thanks to this support, **110 primary school children** were able to conclude their school year without having to fear that they would be chased away from school just because their parents were not able to pay the school fees. These primary school children receive education at 8 different slum schools where they are also provided with lunch. In cases of emergency, we also provide medical help, and during school holidays we often cater lunch for the children.

In February, we took up 25 new high school students and apprentices into our **Scholarship Programme**. We pay for their school fees at boarding schools selected by us and provide them with the necessary school uniforms and basic utensils for a successful start. Overall, we sponsored **80 adolescents at continuing schooling institutions**.

At the end of last year, 13 high school students graduated with their K.C.S.E. (Kenyan Certificate of Secondary Education), which can be compared to our Matura or A-Levels. We are all waiting excitedly to see their results.

5 students received a loan in order to study at a university or at a college. Furthermore, 1 dressmaker, 2 cooks, and 2 secretaries successfully completed their professional education. After careful examination of her skills and her job location, we granted a loan to the dressmaker in order for her to buy a sewing machine.

The **emergency station in the Kibera slum** has become increasingly well known and it often proved to be difficult for our representative Jackline to sometimes reject one or the other help-seeker. During her regular visits of sick and hungry people, she was able to provide help in more than 240 cases to overcome the direst needs. Often, she would accompany children, single mothers or fathers directly to a hospital where she would pay parts of or the entire medical bill. Sometimes she would also buy food packages for starving people and, in individual cases, she paid the hut rents so that the "landlord" could not evict the family involved.

Some of the destitute mothers joined the women's group **CHaCHaCHi Women Group**, where they may be granted a microcredit and get support for opening up their own small business. At the end of the year, the group counted 35 members.

The group has become active and intends, at the beginning of 2014, to ask other aid organisations for emergency aid to be provided to elderly and destitute people. Our board member Carole has been elaborating the applications together with Jackline. We are now hoping that the general emergency aid may be taken over by other institutions or organizations as in future, we would like to focus on the support of and aid for children.

We again supported the „**Tania Integrated Rehabilitation Centre**“, a home for the disabled, with monthly contributions to their running costs. It is impossible for Jennifer und Joseph, the managing couple of the centre, to make ends meet with their scarce private financial means, even though they are able to sell vegetables and fruit from their own farm. Unfortunately, they do not receive any financial support from the Kenyan state although they have repeatedly applied for it. In 2013, we additionally sponsored 7 of their graduates in order to enable them to get further school education.

Jackline, our employee and representative on site, is enormously important for our work. I am communicating with her several times a week, be it via text messages or emails. Upon my arrival in Nairobi at the end of every school trimester, everything is perfectly prepared. In particular, she is very reliable in neatly organizing and arranging the large volume of documents pertaining to the high school students and apprentices. Her detailed preparatory work enables me to start right away with the examination of all documents and letters.

Fortunately, her little daughter Heidi recovered well from her serious illness, and we were happily celebrating her first birthday on the 24th of January 2013.

Our **Board** has been reinforced with a new member, **Carole Maertens**. Last April, Carole travelled with me to Kenya in order to become acquainted with our projects. She was very enthusiastic about it and decided to become actively involved with us. We are of course very happy about her decision!

I travelled three times to Kenya last year; Fabienne, Carole and Nicolas, together with his wife Carola, each accompanied me once.

We would like to seize this opportunity to thank all our donors and members for the confidence you are placing in us, and, last but not least, for their generous and loyal support!

Photo: Girls' class at Kitonyini High School, where 16 of our high school students live and study.

Heiligenschwendi, February 2014

Heidi Brenner, Chairwoman