

SHERP



Samburu Handicap Education and Rehabilitation Programme

Building On a Sustainable Foundation



Construction has finally started on two more of our cottages! As our long term supporters will know, SHERP is currently attempting to undertake major efforts towards self sustainability. We are slowly realizing this dream and this quarter witnessed the construction of the cottage unit pictured above. The income generated from these cottages will go a long way towards providing the children with a steady source of funds needed to pay for food, school fees, and other basic needs. **Wilde Ganzen, the Rotary ter Aar, Fnd M O Knip** and our sister organization **SHERP NL** made the construction of this two cottages a success. The project is nearly complete and will fully be utilized by clients in the beginning of November 2013.

When this cottages will be complete we will have a total of 16 rental units of different sizes. Currently 14 cottages are fully booked

and being used by clients. One cottage is dedicated to **SHERP** volunteers. The other 13 cottages give **SHERP 155,000Ksh** each month. Sustaining our future is our main focus at the moment and we hope to be self sustained in the future. Thank you once again **SHERP NL** for sharing this brilliant idea with us and supporting us.



September 2013

PAMOJA TWaweza

Samburu Handicap Education and Rehabilitation Programme

A Reminder of Who We Are

SHERP is an organization devoted to giving children with disability the chance for a happy and healthy life. We support 104 children on-site with disability who cannot be supported by their families, and in total nearly 400 children with disability across the Samburu county.



We were founded in 2001 by Grace Seneiya, at the time a young Samburu teacher unable to live with the Samburu tradition that children with disability were, at best, looked after as a guilty secret, at worst, killed as being a curse on the family.

From humble beginnings where visually impaired students would share Grace's home and food, SHERP has grown into an organization that has given countless children a chance they would otherwise never have received. Many of our first children are now adults and are employed and fully integrated into the community.

Our quarterly newsletters seek to inform and educate our donors and friends about the work taking place at SHERP. We are attempting to document our successes, struggles and our need for your continued support and help, without which the remarkable success of the children here would not be possible. Please enjoy reading this newsletter, forward it to friends and colleagues and don't hesitate to get in touch with us!

September 2013

PAMOJA TWaweza

DONATIONS and SUPPORT

Staff from Safaricom visit to SHERP



Grace with safaricom staff.

Maralal International Camel Derby is a charity and Fun event that comes around each year during the month of August. This year we were blessed to have a special visit from friends from Safaricom who apart from supporting this great event also remembered spending some time with SHERP children who were not able to attend the event because of their nature of disability. It was all joy when the Safaricom truck entered the children home. The children were overjoyed by the team who came to entertain them. “ *I am physically challenged but you brought joy to me by your lovely music and dancing*“ Asante Sana!

The children also enjoyed the snacks donated by the safaricom team.

Safaricom Foundation visited the children home towards the end of this quarter to commission a project sponsored by the Foundation in the beginning of this year. The project is one major step in making **SHERP** self sustained. The project is already giving the children an amount of Ksh. 60,000 per month. **Asante Sana Safaricom Foundation.**



The project that was sponsored by Safaricom

Safaricom team entertaining the children.

DONATIONS and SUPPORT

KENYA TOURISM BOARD



Visitors from Kenya Tourism Board accompanied by His Excellency the Governor Hon. Moses Lenolkul visit to the children home during the camel Derby.

The Maralal International Camel Derby was mainly sponsored by KTB and the Samburu County Government. KTB has been a steady supporter of this event.

The staff from KTB wanted to make this event memorable and being an event that promotes culture through sports it also has an aspect of giving back to the less fortunate members of the society' The founder of Maralal International Camel Derby the

Late Malcolm Gascoine dedicated proceeds from the camel Derby to support the needy. He was the patron of SHERP till the time he died.

We want to thank KTB for remembering the SHERP children during this event and we appreciate all the food donations and clothes we received from the team. Our appreciation also goes to our Governor **Hon. Moses Lenolkul** who personally gave snacks to the children and he appreciated the efforts of the staff supporting the children. Thank you your Excellency for your commitment in supporting children/ persons with disability.



The visitor from Kenya tourism board interact with the children.

The world travelers that make up the **Baobab Group** from the **Netherlands** came to visit SHERP. Thank you very much for your support.

DONATIONS and SUPPORT



Some of the beneficiary children using the pants.

Special to christa and Stephan at baby kicks for working so hard to insure that the children of **SHERP** remain comfortable and clean! Asante Sana!

Through the tenacious. **Baby Kicks** donated a sample package of four pants and six cloth inserts for us to try and give them feedback on their usefulness in order for them to add to their donation. Currently, Baby Kicks plans on donating an additional thirty six pants and seventy inserts! The children in the special dorms, those who are unable to take themselves consistently to the restroom, are and will benefit greatly from these donations and we greatly appreciate the generosity and concern from our new friends.

Red cross



OIKO credit

SHERP has had a long standing relationship with **OIKO CREDIT** and they have truly been a wonderful partner organization. In the month of August they donated children's diapers, cloths and detergents. This donation is a giant step towards a child becoming comfortable enough to attend school and physiotherapy sessions without unnecessary challenges. Thank you **OIKO Credit!** We are very touched by your

Patrick the Peanuts Man

Thank you Patrick for coming as you promised to share your product with the children and to interact with them. They appreciate the packets of peanuts and the loving spirit that you showed them as you distributed your gifts. We grind the peanuts and used in porridge for children. Asante sana!!!

The **Kenya red cross society** also paid us a visit and donate 56 pairs of shoes to **SHERP** children. Hope to see you again!





The children called him MATO. The Hearing impaired learners also had a sign name for him. He was so loved and adored by the children and the staff of SHERP. He was a friend to many people around Maralal town.

This young man **Martin Cooks** was assigned to **SHERP** for two years as an American Peace Corps Volunteer. He came to **SHERP** and did all a dedicate young person can do to lighten the lives of the children in **SHERP**.

Martin was a blessing and we miss him so much. He left a gap no one can fill easily. He introduced children to many sorts of social activities. Like the movie night, different games, the most amazing was a trip to Nairobi for some of the children, shopping and occasionally making chapattis with the kids. It was all fun having Martin around. He also played a very big role in the administration of **SHERP** daily activities which included counseling children/parents, community outreach activities, taking care of children daily needs, report writing (quarterly newsletter) and proposal writing. The most successful one was the Safaricom proposal that raised funds that constructed a big house that is now used by **AMREF** as their base office in Samburu County.

Martin was also a team leader for the other Peace Corps Volunteers in their region which describes Martin as highly responsible. We want to take this chance to Celebrate Martin and say **ASANTE**.



MEDICAL HELP

Njamano Lesepe was left in **SHERP** by two young parents who came to state clearly that they can no longer keep the child at home because of her severe disability. Njamano was assessed and was found with a condition known as cerebral palsy. Through a lot of medical, physiotherapy and special care Njamano can now sit by herself and she is trying to walk. Thanks to the support of our friends and donors who supported the physiotherapy



equipment for exercise and special thanks to **Therese Smeets** for her steady support to our small clinic which has been sustaining these children's lives. Njamano like many **SHERP** children who are abandoned by their parents strive to excel and we hope to link Njamano to her parents one day.

The **SHERP** clinic has seen many children live happily and we thank our supporters for the epilepsy medication which assists 28 children in our home with this condition. This quarter we managed to assist 17 children with different conditions for surgery. The many surgeries we have performed over the years have seen many children get out of disability and lead normal lives. The surgeries include orthopedic, neurosurgeries, cleft/palette surgeries, eye surgeries and many other forms of corrective surgeries. Every quarter we spend close to a million Kenya shillings to support the children from all over samburu county and the neighboring Marsabit county that are bordering our County. The surgeries would not be possible without the major support and dedication from **SHERP NL** whose donations have seen hundreds of children get their lives back through surgery.

At the beginning of this quarter, some children were taken to Olkalao to undertake assessment in order to be placed for surgery. Most of the time the surgery for one particular child can take between 2-4 years and **SHERP** pays for the child school fees and surgery fee. Olkalao offers children on surgery education as they undergo medical treatment. All the children we have taken through surgery come back home standing and walking. It takes along time and



With intensive medical rehabilitation **SHERP** has in some occasions lost a child. This quarter we are sorry to announce the death of Johnny Lemagas a child with along standing medical condition. Johnny died from a condition known as muscular dystrophy. We are happy we were able to bring a smile on his face for 8 years.

commitment to achieve the end result. Taking a child back to the parents after more than 8 years or so in a different condition remains **SHERP** major challenge.

The founder of **SHERP** Grace is seen with some children in Olkalao after taking them in the beginning of this quarter.

SHERP SPECIAL CLASS

Update on SHERP's Special Art Class



For the first time the children of SHERP got a stand at YARE to show people what they are able to do despite their disability.

Whatever we sold there of the children art it worth (3850 Ksh) the money that we collect we used to buy more beads for art class. We also talk with people about us and what we are doing. The teaching level of our class is certainly not very high but we focus mainly on the happiness of our children. Whatever the children learn and what they succeed in helps them to gain confidence and freedom.

We wish we could teach the children more skill and would love to improve the way we teach and care for the children. Any support whether it by in form of new ideas, knowledge about special education or how to handle certain disabilities, would be more than welcome!!

Mike Nakilinga is a boy from SHERP, Mike who is visually impaired has been with us for three years and we have seen him grow into an exceptional young man who is clearly on the path to success. Mike is very active does not stay in one place Despite his disability, he moves easily and without fear.

He has a hard time settling on one activity, passes very quickly from one game to another and he is eager to discover everything. He takes object, and puts them in his mouth to explore. For some activities, such as peg board, we guide him to do by himself but he gets tired quickly and lacks attention.

Mike provides us with a prime example of what children born with disabilities can do if they are provided the same love, care, and support given to children born without such disabilities.



Mike Nakilinga 5 working in SHERPs special class

Get Involved

How You Can Help

English:
“Thank you all ”

Kiswahili:
“Asanteni Nyote”

SHERP always welcomes any support, friendship, and resources given to us. We offer a variety of ways for people to get involved.

SHERP offers a volunteer program for students, professionals, groups, or organizations interested in donating their time, skills and knowledge to help us with our medical, business, health, and/or educational needs.

Two of our SHERP team members, SHERP NL in the Netherlands and the GO Campaign in the United States, offer ways to donate to SHERP. It is also possible to donate directly to SHERP through our website :

SHERP NL.....www.sherp.nl
GO Campaign.....www.gocampaign.org
SHERP MRL.....www.sherp-kenya.org

Join us on Face book at **S.H.E.R.P.** or Twitter at **Grace SHERP**

Otherwise, organizations or individuals wishing to give gifts in kind, offer financial support, make donations, or offer other types of assistance should make contact with us directly:

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Supporters During the Quarter

1. SHERP NL
2. Baby Kicks
3. Oiko Credit
4. Red cross
5. Safaricom
6. Kenya Tourist Board
7. Maralal Primary school
8. Mugie primary school
9. All SHERP staff

Thank You!

