

CHRSTIAN MERCY MINISTRIES

OCTOBER 2011- MARCH 2012

**Bi-Annual Newsletter of
THE CHILD EDUCATION AND
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
SUPPORT . Funded by DCMDD**

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The Child Education and Community Development Support
A Project of the Christian Mercy Ministries (CMM) in Rwanda

Overview

Christian Mercy Ministries (CMM) is a faith non profit making organization based in Rwanda especially in the eastern province district of Gatsibo. It was founded by Mrs Jackiline Hansen (in 1999) a Rwandan diaspora. Later, she was joined by a group of christian individuals with an aim of fostering education and community development at large. This project has so far assisted about 502 children and adults both directly and indirectly.



The Project Plan Agreement Signing Ceremony. This was between CMM and KIT plus ARK Church Denmark. Here also the project team being presented in December 2010.



A team of project staff was trained and their capacity was enhanced. on a regular basis, they train others in communication skills and self help projects. Also Volunteer members are shown here in a discussion session to agree on village support strategies before leaving for the field work.



The renovated CMM house that serves as a community center building, which houses project offices and the class rooms as well as traing rooms. Here also, the teaching aid kits are show hanging in the class room.



The Ntende Vilage Community meeting to select needy children to enrol in the pre-school program-October 2011. Vilage members and local leaders participated in the selection process for beneficiary children.



The CMM Social Center being inaugurated by the District Mayor Mr. Ambrose Ruboneza in November 2011, flanked by Jackiline Hansen the represenattive of KIT as well as Umulisa Chantal the representative of CMM. The local leaders, project team and beneficiaries (children) listen to the Sector Executive S ecretary Mr. John Mushumba during the launching event as shown in the picture here.



Local leaders touring, inspecting and advising the project team on how to managee the facilities better. The District Mayor requested the project management team to plant trees on the premises and also plan to expand the education support program in future.



The playground being used.
The kids feel happier when playing on the new rotating facility.



Pre- school teachers doing their work. Interesting to see a pupil hold a pencil to write for the first time.
In addition to learning, the kids are served with porridge mixed with milk during the day.



The after school youth club was formed and it comprises some of the secondary school dropouts in the area. Discussion sessions are organised on a regular basis where they learn self help project ideas. The club has 40 members so far. A group of youth have been trained on saving for life methodology. This exercise was done by the project in partnership with world relief Organization. As a result, a village saving and loan association has been formed by a big number of the community members, whereby the trained youth have helped to market the concept to parents and other village members.



Distribution of scholastic materials
(uniforms, books, pencils and shoes)
to 50 pupils in the pre-schooling program.
Since January 2012, the pre-school class sessions have
been going on.



Distribution of scholarstic materials to 102 pupils in the
primary school program. There are many school drop outs
in the local area who could be helped ,but the project
resources are only able to support this number at the moment.

Training has been done for members of Humura Association (a group of HIV positive village members). This training on communications and counselling skills on HIV /AIDS was provided to the group with a view to help others adopt a positive living attitude. In the picture ,officials preside over the pass out ceremony and trainees show their certificates.



A village Saving and Loan Association (VSLA) has been formed by Humura group memeber with the help of trained youth, who have in turn helped to market the the concept to parents and other village members.



In progress here as shown, is training in nutrition and social behavior for the community representantives in Rugarama Sector, who in turn would help their colleagues in awareness for nutrition and social behaaviour.



During one of a series of community meetings whereby awareness campaigns on HIV/AIDS is conducted. The use of open public rallies is a useful strategy as well in addition to organized sensitization workshops that the project has conducted.



KEY ISSUES TO NOTE

The community is increasingly appreciating the importance of the CCM project. They have been involved in selecting children. They have participated in Umuganda to build playing facilities at the premises, and the local leaders are supportive. Below is a presentation of few feedback stories:



Mr. Faustin Turatsinze, a beneficiary trainee for communication and counselling course. He said "I now have counseling skills after this training, and am going to help my fellow members in Humura Association and others to live a good life through counselling and advice".

Chantal Umulisa, the CMM presidential and Legal Representative. "We are very grateful to our funders DMCDD (Denish Mission Council Development Department) and Our partnes KIT for all the financial support to this project.

We also appreciate our estemmed co-workers and prayer partners who have supported our community outreach program.

There has been enormous support by various local leaders and the community at large. This is encouraging and we are ready to continue supporting the development of education in the communities".





Mr. Abed, in charge of social affairs at Kiramuruzi sector, (a neighboring sector) contributed to the school by donating books for teaching materials. This is what he said: “ I have been impressed by the initiative and wanted to be part of the success story when our children are educated and healthy”.

Executive Secretary
of Rugarama sector,
Mr. John Mushumba: “I am
happy this project is starting to
make impact on the social
welfare of our people .
I guarantee my support
and advocacy for the
CMM activities because they are
in line with government programs”.



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