



Usakos Needy Children Support Organization

„RISE AND SHINE“

Newsletter Term 1/2019 (January-April)



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Greeting

The year 2019 will be the year of RISE AND SHINE for UNCSO. With a new year comes new challenges, strengths and new thoughts. Namibia declared an emergency situation in the country as a result of drought and appealed to all for their help and assistance. A great deal has been achieved in the course of the first trimester. Many challenges are overcome and achieved.

Therefore we want to thank all our donors, supporter, stakeholders and volunteers for their admirably and special donations and hard work towards the organization.

Marianne and Ingrid

Once again we will take you into the the world of UNCSO and give you an insight on all our activities, progress and challenges.



Volunteers



Jakob, 20



Magdalena, 23



Magnus, 20



Anthonja, 19



Carina, 16

The constant living and working together always brought new challenges. In most cases, we were able to overcome these problems together quickly through clarifying discussions.

We used the weekends to get to know Namibia together and, of course, for the weekly planning.

A Place For The Center

Since last year, there was a really essential question on everyone's mind. Where can the Center go, after leaving the classrooms of the Elifas-Goseb-Primaryschool.

For a long time, the school had been a good home for UNCSO but the year 2019 brought a new school system and the primary school planned to introduce a new class. Grade 8. A new class needs classrooms which the school could not provide, that's why the principal told us, the center could no longer stay.

During the summer holidays we brought all the belongings of the organization out of the school building to store them in a hall nearby. Even the old playground had to leave its place in the schoolyard where it had been standing for many years.

At first, we planned to move with the center to a new building which was still under construction. Originally this building had been intended to become a house for volunteers but plans change sometimes.

Marianne and Sakkie did their best to speed up the construction of this building but a row of unfortunate delays made it impossible to finish it in time. We had to look for a transitional solution.

A place in the nearby church turned out to be a dead end. We were running out of time.

When the school started over in January 2019, we finally had a plan which was not perfect but still a way forward. We could return to the ground of the primary school but we had to stay out of the classrooms.

On the first center day we put up tents outside to have some shade, but it was obvious that an organized homework time was nearly impossible under these conditions.

The next day we asked the school principal if we could maybe have two of our classrooms back until the new class was finally introduced.

The principle agreed and we moved back in. The search for a new home was postponed for now.

Now, in March, the new class is still not there. Maybe the center still has a future in the Elifas primary school.

If the center should be forced to move out again in the coming months, there is at least a place to go, as the new building in town is nearly finished now.



WORK DONE

Recycling In The Center

One thing is noticeable when driving through the Namibian landscape: The bushes near the cities are plastic bag catchers the river beds and habitats are polluted.

Waste separation is unfortunately foreign in Namibia. Only in Windhoek you can occasionally see several different coloured rubbish bins. In household waste, everything is simply thrown together, whether glass bottles, organic waste or plastic.

Waste and garbage disposal are big issues in Namibia, especially in the townships. It was therefore a great concern for us and Marianne to bring the subject of recycling closer to the children.

By means of stories, pictures and a video on "the Journey of the Plastic Bag" we tried to make it clear that rubbish lying in the riverbed does not remain there, but is washed into the oceans, where it poses a great threat to the animals and their habitat.

Again and again during the everyday life we encouraged the children to dispose their garbage. Often, candy wrappers and paper snips are simply dropped carelessly, the children simply don't know it any other way.

In order to show the children in reality that recycling makes sense and is possible, we made a mass from a mixture of water, waste paper, wood shavings and flour. Together with the children we formed these into small briquettes (by pressing out the water), which we left to dry.

These can be used to make fire. With a briquette you can cook about one portion of pup (porridge).

The children were extremely open and curious about these useful recycling ideas.



Reading Week

The Week before the Easterbreak was dedicated to reading. Marianne encouraged the kids to read more, if possible every day, especially during the easterbreak when „the Body is resting but not the brain“. It was important to make clear that reading means knowledge and with knowledge you can get far in life and make a living. Every child in the center was told to bring something that they could read out loud. One by one they read, Anthonja and Marianne listened to each child, supporting them and correcting, helping to improve the reading.



Further Activities

Besides doing homework, studying for the exams, discussing recycling, and reading we spent the afternoons singing, dancing, playing, handcrafting, talking and experimenting.



Making Valentines Day gift Cards



Solving a Quiz on Namibia



Hygiene day, getting everyone clean



Teamwork



Jakob is showing an Experiment

New School Clothing

New school year, new school clothes. In February it was time again.

For the timebeing, all sizes of clothes and shoes were collected to buy everything in the local Pep-store.

In addition to whiteshirts, long grey trousers, short shortsand skirts for the summer, socks and shoes also ended up in the shoppingbasket.

Afterwards the new schoolclothes were distributed and tried on.

The clothes, which didn't fit, were exchanged and missing clothes, which were not in stock at the local Pep-Store, were bought in the neighbouring village, Karibib.

Hardly any of our children's families can afford an additional, but obligatory, school uniform, it was necessary for the children to obtain it.



House Visits

Like every term, the visits to the children's houses were also on the agenda. This gave us volunteers an insight into the living conditions of the people in the township, and especially into the lives of our centerkids. During the visits we met parents, siblings or other relatives and friends. Through donations and the help of volunteers, the shacks in which most of our children live, were rebuilt, renovated and furnished. Often the whole family sleeps in one room, sharing their room with siblings, only a few have their own room and bed. Despite the lack of electricity and running water, they still master every day.



Easter Party

This year, Anthonja and Marianne worked together to create a wonderful easter party for the center kids. A whole afternoon the two of them stood in the kitchen, baking muffins and cake. The next morning they decorated them with colorful icing and sprinkles to make it even more fun!



Anthonja took the time to prepare, put together and decorate easter baskets with the children, which were then filled with some easter treats. Before saying good bye everyone was dancing and then enjoying their cake. The farewell easter party was a great, joyful, colorful end to the first Term of the year.



DONATIONS RECEIVED

A Late Christmas Greeting

In Usakos Santa Claus was a little late, but the presents he brought with him were both a surprise and a joy for our center kids.

The person behind the Christmas surprise is the former volunteer Rebecca and her friends.

Besides notebooks, toothbrushes sweets and much more, there was also a nice Christmas letter from afar, which everyone was very happy about.

A big thank you to Rebecca and all the other contributors who made the children happy.

Beetroot And Watermelons

This term the nearby farming compound decided to support us with fresh vegetables whenever there is something to spare. This is a great support for us, as well as for the kids because they get the chance to have fresh and healthy food that is otherwise just too expensive. The donations started of with a great amount of watermelons which were enough for about two weeks of after-center-melon-eating with 40 children. The second donation consisted of a big bag of green beans which Petra used to make a nice sauce for the kids daily meal. Even though the kids were a bit sceptic at first, because they had never eaten green beans before, they still enjoyed it in the end. The other two donation were beetroots. They were prepared by Petra and the kids loved them. You could see so many happy faces with red marks around the mouth all over the center. We are all very thankful for this food donation, supporting us to help the children.



Wishlist

Arts and crafts Material

- Pens, Pencils
- Erasers, Sharpeners
- Paper
- Glue

Material for the Centerkids

- Clothes, Shoes
- Sheets
- Books
- Toys
- Backpacks
- Toothbrushes, Toothpaste

Material to finish the new building

Support for painting the walls, covering the floors and installing electricity

Donation Appeal

In order to be able to purchase the materials listed above locally, recurring donations, although smaller amounts, are vital for the survival of the center, as only regular donations make it possible to plan for the future and future investments. However, many of the above mentioned materials do not have to be new and are a great support for the center even when used, so sending materials, old (but still working) equipment or used clothes is also a great support for the center. Especially the handicraft projects (which require the most materials) are a great pleasure for the children. The opportunity to live out their artistic talents offers many of the children an opportunity to let their creativity run free, which also increases their motivation for other school achievements.

WE ARE IN NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS!

If you know someone who wants to volunteer, or you know someone who knows someone, please spread the word about UNCSO!
The Centerkids and Marianne need the support!

***Please help us to invest in the future of our children.
It is only in our united efforts that we can fight poverty and let
the children of Namibia shine.***

Thank you!

Spendenkonto in Deutschland:

Deutsch-Namibische Gesellschaft e.V.:
IBAN: DE 42 3008 0000 0211 3508 11
BIC: DRESDEFF300
Bank: Commerzbank AG
Intended purpose: UNCSO / Usako

Donation account in Namibia:

UNCSO / Usakos:
Account number: 6 2124 732 258
Branch code: 281073
Bank: First National Bank; Branch
Karibib
SWIFT-BIC: FIRNNANX

Intended purposes of your donations

- Daily warm meals in the center
- School fees, school uniform and school stationary

You can exclusively get a receipt of donation from:

Deutsch-Namibische Gesellschaft e.V. (German-Namibian Society)
Sudetenlandstraße 18
D-37085 Göttingen
Phone.: 05 51 / 7 07 67 81
Fax: 05 51 / 7 07 67 82
e-mail: buero@dngev.de

If you need more information contact us:

Namibia: [Marianne Izaaks](#)
Germany: [Ingrid Pfannkuchen](#)

A BIG THANK YOU...

...to all our donors, supporters, stakeholders, volunteers and friends in the name of the **UNCSO** children and Marianne!

Without you, **UNCSO** would not be what it is today.

With your help we look forward to a year of **Rise and Shine!**

