



Usakos Needy Children Support Organization

Newsletter

Term 3 / 2019

September - November



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Greeting

According to the motto **SHARING IS CARING** of the third term of the year 2019, we would like to share our experiences, projects and achievements with you in this newsletter.

With the end of the term and the whole school year, we six volunteers are looking back on three exciting months.

In addition to beautiful and varied days in the center, we can also be proud of successful projects such as house building or the Theatre Night.

In this newsletter we would like to share our insights and the unforgettable time at UNCSO with you.



Merry Christmas and a productive and happy year 2020!

Sophia, Jana, Jennifer, Jule, Marianne, Selina and Jana



1. Volunteers of the Term 3 / 2019

Jana



Age: 27 years
Studies: industrial management assistant & education student
(primary school)
Grade 1 - 3

Jule



Age: 18 years
Studies: A-Levels
Grade 1 - 3

Selina



Age: 19 years
Studies: A-Levels
Grade 4

Jenny



Age: 31 years
Studies: legal assistant & education student (secondary school)
Grade 6 - 7

Jana



Age: 22 years
Studies: education (special teacher)
Grade 4

Sophia



Age: 18 years
Studies: A-Levels
Grade 5



2. House Visits

After the third week in the center we started with the house visits. During three weeks we visited the houses of almost all the children, together with Marianne.

The family members always welcomed us very friendly and gave us an insight into their living situation. In addition, the relatives were very open to our questions.

Already at this point of time, the children have grown very close to our heart. Consequently, it was even more moving to see how the children live.

For us, it was terrible to see and also difficult to understand in which circumstances the children live. Many of them live in small shacks, which offer little space and protection. In addition, most families lack food and electricity. Some children also have to cope without running water and without an income from their relatives. Especially the sleeping situations of the families are frightening in many cases.

However, thanks to the volunteers of the last years, we could already see distinct advances. Some children have their own small shacks and all children have their own bed or share at least one with their siblings.

Even though the home visits were emotionally very stressful for us, they could motivate us for our projects. Seeing the kids living situation with our own eyes has strengthened us even more in our will to help the children besides their school career.



3. Our Projects

3.1 Tree Planting

At the beginning of October there was a "Tree Planting" day when we planted six trees in the schoolyard in front of the centre. With this project, some shady places will be created on the site and the children will

learn to take responsibility for nature.

Not only on the day of planting, but also beyond that, the children are responsible for a certain tree. On the "Tree Planting" day the children helped to dig

holes, fetch water, mix soil and sand to create a good ground for the trees and finally plant the trees. The children were divided into their class levels and were responsible for each tree together with their classmates. Furthermore, some teachers and a father of a centre kid helped to build a sun protection for the trees. The children are now responsible for supplying their tree with water so that we can all see how the trees slowly grow bigger. 😊



3.2 Beautification of the Centre

In October - besides preparations for the theater night - everything revolved around the beautification of the centre.

Information Shelves

We revived three old centre shelves with the help of the children - each shelf was assigned a specific theme and is now not only nice to look at, but also provides the children with important information. Even the shelf walls were not spared. Among other things, a world map, the multiplication tables and our motto "Sharing is Caring" can now be found in the so-called "Green Room".



„Reading Corner“

As a "retreat" for the children to start reading again, we designed a so-called Reading Corner. Here the centre kids can now read in one of the great children's books under a tree in a green oasis. Furthermore, they have now a great environment to take a closer look into their school books or just rest.



3.3 School Events

Model-Event

We attended the Model Event of the Elifas Goseb Primary School. The event took place in a small townhall right next to our centre. Altogether there were ten girls who took part in the competition. They all were between 10 and 18 years old. One girl from our centre, Palomieta (14 years old) also took part in the event.

With the donations we had received at the time we were able to buy tickets for all the children in the centre and enjoy the event together.

We congratulate Palomieta on scoring place 5! The event is definitely one that volunteers and children will remember as a fun and entertaining afternoon!



Price Giving



All the hard work pays off. At the yearly price giving ceremony eight of our centre kids received certificates trophies and book prizes. The function was under the theme "Education is the key to a brighter future". We are very proud of their achievements and success.

David was the best of the whole school with 84% in mathematics. Congratulations!



3.4 Housebuilding Sylvanus

As already described, the centre children live in shacks, often without electricity, without running water, and in some cases with insufficient space for all family members. This was also the case with little Sylvanus.

Sylvanus is eight years old and lives with his mother and five other family members in a small hut in Hakhaseb. He shared a small room with two beds, with four siblings and his sister's little baby. Therefore we saw an urgent need of action to improve his situation.

When asked if the mother was happy with our project, she answered:

"I am very happy and thankful about this. I prayed every day to god. And he placed this project into your hearts. That's the reason why you are here."



With the collected donations and the help of Sakkie Isaaks and three workers we could build an additional hut of 6m x 3m, which together with the already existing hut offers enough space for the whole family.



3.5 Housebuilding Erica

Erica, an eight-year-old girl attending 1st grade, also lives in very cramped and unpleasant conditions, as her home has recently burned down. For this reason, we volunteers considered it necessary to create a small retreat for her here, as she has shared her bed with her mother so far.

Thanks to the collected donations we were able to provide the materials for the new 3m x 3m hut and the workers who built it. The family is now happy about a new hut, which has enough space in addition to the old one.



3.6 Theatre Night

Christmas Present Campaign

In view of our closing ceremony in November, we already started our "Christmas Present Campaign" at the end of September. With this campaign we tried to ask many different people in Namibia for their help to pack Christmas packages for the children from our centre. With the help of Marianne and her circle of acquaintances we quickly made the campaign public and received a lot of positive feedback. We have assigned a child from our centre to each person who wanted to pack a package for Christmas. In this way the Christmas presents could be adapted to the age, the interests and especially the urgent needs of the children. We would like to thank the many donators who made it possible for us to receive an individual Christmas package for each child and to distribute it at our closing ceremony. The happy faces of the children will remain in our memories!

Roleplay

2019 was a special year with a special play. This year we have a theatre play "Life lessons for a Little Pirate" with a special message.

Every child has found its place in the play: as a singer, as a dancer or as an actor.

The evening was a complete success! The children were great: the dances looked beautiful; the children's outreaches were great. Each child received a Christmas present, which was donated by friends or acquaintances of UNCSO, as well as us volunteers. Every Donor was acknowledged and thanked for their present.

The joy of the children about the gifts was immeasurable.

We are grateful for the Donors from Germany who made it possible to ensure that the families have enough food during the holiday. We blessed every family with a food package of the value of 500ND. We are also thankful to had a meal together with the children and their families.





3.7 Farewell 7th Graders + Dinner for Award Winners

Finally, on the 25th of October the time had come - the long-awaited farewell dinner for the 7th grade children took place. In Namibia, the kids change to secondary school after the 7th grade, which is why these children usually leave the centre. This year not only the farewell of Benhard, Magdalena and Lukas was celebrated, but also the outstanding achievements of some other centre kids. Thus, in addition to the children taking part in the "Science Fair" those who received an award for special achievements in this school year were also invited to dinner. The evening was a complete success - all the children were fed (Hamburgers, French fries and milkshakes for everyone) and were very happy about the time spent together.



4. Received donations

This term many donations from **Germany** reached us again.

We especially thank Rebecca for the many small gifts for each of the children from the centre. The children were very happy and received a small Christmas present, in addition to a big gift from people from all over Namibia.

We are also grateful for the donation at the beginning of this term, which includes a lot of clothes. In Hakhaseb we handed this out to needy children, who now can jump around with complete clothes again.

We like to thank also Rebecca Bergs, Marion Lange, Sophie Massier, Britta Klimmek for the many parcels with toys, clothes and hygiene articles from Germany. Special thanks go to the organization "**Namibia Hilfe**", which was responsible for the transport of the parcels.



We have received a special box from **Agra** and we want to say thank you for this. The kids were very happy about their gifts.



Dankie baie!!!



5. Wishes for the Future

UNCSO is a donation-based organization, therefore we hope that the organization will receive continued financial support in the future. Donations help us to buy necessities like food for the children, shoes, medicines or hygiene products like toothpaste and plasters which are needed daily.

We would also like to organize a “Father’s Day” in the near future to make families aware of the importance of the father role.

The program also needs people who are willing to volunteer their time and energy. Therefore, we hope for the future that many people will continue to become engaged in UNCSO and apply for an internship or voluntary work.

6. We need volunteers



++ WE ARE LOOKING FOR YOU ++ WE ARE LOOKING FOR YOU ++

Do you enjoy working with children? YOU are open-hearted and loving? YOU are looking for a challenge to immerse yourself in another culture and to tackle the problems locally? YOU like to work in a team and are committed to the community? YOU have 3 months and want to make a difference?

→ Then YOU are just right as a volunteer!

*Only with YOUR help UNCSO can make a difference, stand up for the **future of the children** and help shape it. Only together can we face poverty.*



7. You would like to support?

Would you like to support UNCSO with a donation to provide the children with a hot meal per day, school fees, uniforms and supplies?

Then you'll find the information you need here:

Donation account in Germany:

Deutsch-Namibische Gesellschaft e.V.:

IBAN: DE 42 3008 0000 0211 3508 11

BIC:DRESDEFF300

Bank: Commerzbank AG

Intended purpose: UNCSO / Usakos

Donation account in Namibia:

UNCSO / Usakos:

Account number: 6 2124 732 258 Branch code: 281073

Bank: First National Bank; Branch Karibib

SWIFT-BIC: FIRNNANX

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

Contact for additional information:

Germany: Ingrid Pfannkuchen

E-Mail: ipfannkuchen@web.de

Namibia: Marianne Izaaks

E-Mail: uncso@yahoo.com



8. Acknowledgements

A big thank you goes to ...

... all supporters, who sent us packages with donations (clothes, etc.). With the clothes and other useful things we were able to make the children happy.

... all friends, relatives and all others who supported us with a donation. Thanks to you, we were able to realize many projects.

...all the people who supported us during our time in Usakos. Through your helping hands we were able to put our ideas into practice.

...Ingrid Pfannkuchen, who was our contact person in Germany. Before our time, as well as during our time at UNCSO, she was always very helpful.

...the Izaaks family, who gave us a warm welcome in their house. Through Marianne's daily work and the passion with which she runs UNCSO, she was able to motivate and inspire us all the time. Thanks to Sakkies energetic help we were able to realize our projects quickly.

