Ewoi Programme report for the period January to December 2022

The report highlights all the programme activities implemented in the period of January to December 2022. In the reporting period, the programme attended to the old and multiple handicapped children through the outlined activities below.

The Elderly

The programme still has a total of about 50 old ones within Lodwar town. And during this period 1 client died of old age.

The home visitors and the social worker did home visits in their respective villages on Mondays, and Fridays then Tuesdays, Wednesday and Thursday they did daycare for the multiple handicapped children in the office. We also organised soap days every two months. All the clients were invited to the office. They got some food or a drink on the spot and some dry food to take home. They got a piece of soap to keep hygiene and a talk is given by one of the staff.
The soap day activity is becoming a challenge because most of the clients have become too old and cannot walk up to the office, because of this we allow them to send their relatives/caretakers to collect the food for them or the home visitor or the social worker takes the food themselves and a follow up is done to ensure the old one is getting the food.
There was an International Elderly Day celebration on 1st October 2022, and it was celebrated in Nakwamoru parish, the day was colourful, there was mass animated by the parish priest. The old people were served with a special meal, they received dry food to take home and a Maasai sheet.



International Day for older persons celebration in October

Multiple Handicapped children

The programme is still focusing more on the Multiple Handicapped Children, by doing daycare activities in the office. The aim of the day care centre is still to give a relieve to the parents of MHC and give them time to do other activities for their living, it is also to improve the health condition of the MHC since most of these children are neglected and don't get attention and good care.

This is now done three times a week Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays from 9.00 am until 4.00 pm. The children are fed, cleaned, massaged, played with and get full attention from the caretakers. The children are collected from their homes as early as 7.30 in the morning and at the end of the day they are taken back home satisfied and happy. In the morning the parents have to prepare them well and hand over to the caretakers and also in the evening they are supposed to be at home to receive them. Every Friday of the week the home visitors/caretakers do the home visitation to the three children whom she was taking care. This is to inform the parents of the children on the progress of the children and also to teach them on the care. We also have meetings with the parents of the MHC once every two months, this is to encourage them and give hope, to share experience and teach them on care of the MHC.

The total number of the children being attended is 25 and the two twins were left at home until January as per the mother's request, this is due to one of the child being sick for a long time.

One child passed away in June.





Children taken care by the caretakers at the Ewoi Centre

In June 2022, there was a two days training to the staff and the parents of MHC organised by a group from Nairobi SEP (Special Education Professionals) in collaboration with John Paul 11. They visited the Ewoi Centre for the second time. This was for both

parents and caregivers to benefit more from practical sessions to improve handling, positioning and communication skills.

The SEP specialists engaged the caregivers and parents on different topics like, handling and positioning, Different types of disabilities, Causes of disabilities and communication/therapy speech. The caregivers and the parents were actively participating during the session both theory and practical sessions and they liked the training,



The training by the Special Education Professionals to the staff of Ewoi



Sr. Christine Jemtai and Sr. Anna visited the centre to see the children. They appreciated the staff for the good work and encouraged them to continue with the good hearts of working with children with disabilities. They also brought some fruits, milk and biscuits for the children.

In July the youth also from Slovakia visited the Ewoi centre and got experience on care of the MHC for one week. After that they assisted by purchasing some of the assistive devices like the standing aid, positioning wedges, special chair and a corner seat for the children.

In December 2022, we organized a Christmas celebration for the multiple handicapped children with their parents at the centre. It was a celebration of its own because we had mass celebrated by our new bishop, Rt. Rev. Bishop John Mbinda. He also baptized the 10 children, blessed the rest and encouraged the parents of those children to take care of the children as they are a gift from God.





His Lordship the Bishop carrying one of the child with autism condition.

During this period:

- **205** people came for special reasons and general assistance
- **65** came for social problems
- **500 clients** came for food assistance. They were given maize/beans, flour, biscuits and
- **120 others** as oil, vegetables, milk, soap, maize flour, salt and sometimes sugar and tealeaves.

Food

When we were doing workshops in various parishes, we found out that the old people were very hungry and there was drought everywhere. Lucky enough we got a financial support from a well-wisher who gave us money for food for the old people for some parishes and outstations as follows: Kangatosa parish 60 old ones, Naoros chapel 50 old ones and Akatuman chapel 50 old ones. Katilu parish 70 old ones, Lokapel chapel 50 old ones and Nadee chapel 50 old ones, Nakwamoru parish 60 elderly, Juluk outstation 50 and Kapelbok outstation 50, Kangalita outstation 50 and Koono outstation 60. A total of 600 elderly people from outside parishes received food as maize/Beans, Maize flour, Rice, Sugar, tealeaves, salt and apiece of soap.



Food distribution to the elderly from outside parishes

Workshops SCC

Awareness workshops on care of the multiple disabilities, the deaf and the old people are still continuing in parishes/outstations. This was to teach members of the small Christian communities on the care of the disabled and to refer them to the right places in case they come across this kind of cases.
We did a total of 24 workshops in various parishes and outstations as Follows (Lokichoggio, Nanam, Lomidat, Kaeris, Kanukurdio, Milimatatu, Nakururum, Napopongoit, Nakwamor, Napusmoru, Natiir, Kekorisogol, Lokori, Lomelo, Lomekwi, Oropoi, Kalobeyei, Kakuma, Losajait, Lolupe, Nadwat, Sopel, Koono and Kangalita outstations. From the 24 workshops done, a total of 1,193 people attended these workshops. They are now taken as agents of training and awareness creation in their own communities and teach others on how to care for the old people and children with multiple disabilities.

From these workshops we have seen that the situation has changed in that there is no much negligence from the community, the Elderly people and physically challenged children are receiving proper care from their families. Secondly children more physically challenged children are identified and referred to special homes for assistance. In one of the parishes the youth have taken up the role by forming a charitable group whereby they feed some of the elderly people thrice a week.



Awareness creation to members of the small Christian communities in parishes on care of the old and children with disabilities



Home Visits

The home visitation is still a very important component in the programme. This is done by the home visitors who visit the old people and the MHC, in case of a problem, they report to the office for an action to be taken. The social worker guides the home visitors on how to do the home visits and in case of a complicated problem they go together to solve it with either the relatives or the community.

Total Home visits done during this period were:
Home visitors **2580**
Social worker **405**

Activities

- Daycare activities for the multiple handicapped children in the office Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.
- Food distribution to special cases and hungry clients.
- A total of 5 meetings were organised for the parents of the multiple handicapped children.
- The 4 Home visitors are visiting the old and multiple handicapped children in all the four villages regularly.
- 4 times Social worker and the home visitors meeting.
- The office organised 1 days training to upgrade the staff on their work on care of MHC.
- 21 Awareness workshops were done in 11 parishes and its outstations.

- In February, Two staff attended a 2 weeks training on Child care reforms(Care and Protection of children living with disabilities and sustainable Reintegration to families and community) organized by AOSK
- In May also, the co-ordinator attended a 2 days' training in Nairobi on foundational course on early Childhood Development and care for children living with disabilities organised by AOSK.
- In June we had a two days training for the staff and parents of multiple handicapped children organized by SEP.
- There was an International elderly day celebration at Nakwamoru Parish in October 2022.
- A Christmas celebration was also organized for the old people in Lodwar and also for the multiple handicapped children with their parents in December 2022 where 10 children were baptized.
- There was an outing for the staff.

Planning

- Continue the current activities
- Keeping in contact with members of the SCC and the community around.
- Celebrating Christmas days for the old and multiple handicapped children in December.
- Focus more on the multiple handicapped Children's activities as well as giving attention to the elderly.
- Continue with workshops around the parishes to create awareness on care of the disabled and the old people.
- Organising workshops/trainings to upgrade the staff especially on handling children with disabilities.
- Community sensitization on care of the MHC through chief's and barazas./radio
- Give a chance to staff members to attend courses.
- Networking with other partners working with children.

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