INTRODUCTION

St. Luke's Home for the Deaf is an institution funded solely by Annie and Ben through Stitching Ewoi from the Netherlands from 2002.

St. Luke's Home for the Deaf has 70 children under care of the staff: - a Manager, 1 Social Worker, 3 security guards, 1 Storekeeper/Matron, 2 Caretakers,1 Admin Secretary, 4 Teachers (2 paid by Diocese of Lodwar and 2 from the Turkana County Government)



Children of Grades 1-5

ENROLMENT & EDUCATION

The Home has Deaf/Dumb children who are identified at the village level through Parishes by a Social Worker who goes out on a motorbike; He mobilizes and sensitize the communities on importance of taking and educating the Deaf child. This is done through Community forums called "BARAZA" in collaboration and contact with the Parish Priest, Community and Local leaders. Children are identified and enrolled to the Home with learning starting at the Early Child Education (ECDE).

Children go through learning at the ECDE through Pre-Primary 1 and 2 (PP1 and PP2), they later transit to different grades (1-5) while being accommodated and have meals at the Home.





New deaf Children identified at the villages by the Social



ECDE Class of 2022

FOOD

Children eat at the Home daily (Breakfast, 10 o'clock tea, lunch, 4 o'clock tea and supper. All the children eat their food at the Dining Hall.

Food is purchased from shops within Lodwar town (the staff in charge of stores and the Manager check on prices in different shops and identify one where food shall be bought on monthly basis)

This year, due to drought and high inflation rates, food prices has shot drastically which will affect next year's budget.





Children eating and drinking milk at the Dinning Hall

WATER

Water at St. Luke's Home is used for cooking, washing utensils, children bathing, washing clothes and cleaning of the Dormitories and classes.

Water was previously issued free of charge (when they were using Solar panels) by the Parish, this changed after Parish started using the Solar panels were stolen and they reverted to using other power generation hence the Home started being charged for using the water from 2021.

The Manager has since managed to consult Diocese of Lodwar Water Department who have agreed to put up a Solar generated water system in the Home from first Quarter of 2023. This will reduce the expense of paying for water.



Equipment for new water source

CHILDREN'S HEALTH & TREATMENT

Health of all the children at the Home is key to their learning hence we have a one of the Caretakers who is responsible for identifying a sick child and taking to the nearby health facility for treatment. At times children are referred for further treatment to other health facilities. In case a child is admitted, it's the role of the parent to be with the child at the ward. If a child is referred outside Turkana County, then the parent will take care of all the expenses for both referral and treatment.

Our challenge is that the bills are increasing every month at the Health facilities.

ACCOMODATION OF CHILDREN AT THE HOME

All children (from ECDE to Grade) are accommodated and taken care of by the Caretakers who stay with them 24/7 at St. Luke's home, they all sleep on mattresses/beds with bedsheets. No parent is allowed in to sleep with his/her child in the compound. The children go home during school holidays to stay with their parents and come back when the schools reopen.



New Mosquito nets on children's bedding

SPORTS/LEISURE

The children are given ample time to play (games such as football, volleyball, and Net ball 4 times a week), in door games, rope jumping, Nature walk every Sunday afternoon. And watching TV



1. Bead making by a girl



2. Children playing



3. Children collecting mud for playing

PARENTS/STAFF SIGN LANGUAGE TRAINING

Parents and Staff Sign Language training is conducted annually, this helps the parents and the staff to be able to communicate with the children both at the Centre (St. Luke's Home) and back at home

PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC EVENTS

During Day of the African Child, St. Luke's Day, Week for the Deaf and Disability Day; children are taken to participate in this annual events





a). Children attending mass during St. Luke's Day celebration



b) Day of the African Children celebration