

HUYAMWI YEARBOOK



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Recent changes at HuYaMwi

At first HuYaMwi was in a small office at the Lutheran Bible School Mwika. At this time we had only one room, which was not enough, because we had to use this room for everything. But now we have a new office in a house of the Bible School, which has ten rooms of which one is a seminar room. Moreover, there is a room for the chairman, next to the room of the secretary. There are two rooms for the volunteers to sleep in and another for guests of the volunteers, a kitchen and a living room for the volunteers and a storage room.

At the time HuYaMwi moved into this house (2007 in October) I was a pupil at Leguruki Secondary School in Arusha for my last year. After having finished form four, I joined the HuYaMwi staff. Dr. Martin Burkhardt advised me to participate in the work of HuYaMwi in order to understand it better before my journey to Germany. Now I know more about HuYaMwi, because I have worked for it and I got to know about its staff and their work. My experience has increased, compared to my first time here. I like this staff, because they are doing great work and we work together very well.



our team

Abisai J. Marandu

Expansion of HuYaMwi

Since 2003 HuYaMwi is developing and expanding year by year from the first idea of awareness raising to service provision, from pilot parishes to network parishes, from different guidelines to different handbooks, research programs, small income generating programs, building fund, medical fund, scholarship program, field worker program and seminars.

All programs and activities of HuYaMwi have been accepted and are very useful to the congregations in order to start an orphan ministry as well as services for other needy in the community.

Therefore, we have developed a plan to train, strengthen and monitor the orphan ministry in different Lutheran congregations of our Northern Diocese. In 2003 we started with four congregations and we were able to add another four in the beginning of 2004. The parishes received seminars at our compound as well as at their own location: training staff, guardians of the orphans and the orphans as well. Each congregation is monitored personally by one of our staff members.

HuYaMwi's processes went through building the capacity of congregations to develop interventions related to Diaconic work - the ultimate aim: to increase and to build a heart of helping the needy groups among the parishioners.

Through its work and commitment HuYaMwi proved to be a good diaconic program supporting orphans in the Northern Dioceses. Thus it was that for the last two years the dioceses used the module of this ministry and established an Orphan and AIDS program which uses all methods and documents of HuYaMwi. Furthermore, all districts of the Northern dioceses use the methods developed by HuYaMwi.

Through all these processes and results the ministry seems to expand areas of work that means numbers of congregations are increasing every year as well as programs and activities. Above all this HuYaMwi is still a diaconic department of Mwika Bible School.

HuYaMwi expands its ministry to parishes of Central Kilimanjaro, Hai and Siha districts of northern dioceses. We are looking forward to get experience working in the Maasai communities which belong to the Hai and Siha district.

Through seminars we managed to give education to many congregations who sent participants from different dioceses of the ELCT. Our goal is to reach out to more congregations in different districts and dioceses. We want to know about their challenges and implement our methods and strategies to help different needy people in their communities, particularly HIV/AIDS orphans and widows.

Since last year we have a working relationship with the Pare diocese, Mtii congregation. This year we trained four field workers who will work as local volunteers in their orphan programs at Mtii parish. Also this year we received guests from the Meru diocese visiting our ministry to learn about how they can start services to orphans in their congregations, in their diocese.

All these are expansions of our ministry to orphans. Because of all this work it seems to be necessary to develop HuYAMwi as an independent diaconic organisation owned by the Bible school and no longer being a department of it anymore. This means, HuYamwi is supposed to be registered as a faith based organisation (FBO) which will enable HuYaMwi to apply for funds from different donor organisations.

Until now we are very much depending on the support from German congregations. They give their offerings to support orphans in Tanzania and usually the money is given to specific congregations which have partners in Germany.

As we are expanding our ministry, many network congregations have no partners and will not be able to care for all orphans and their education without any help from outside. So far we have been able to supply each of our congregation with some funds from overseas and to help them to use this money effectively and transparently.

To extend our ministry, so that more congregations and even more orphans can benefit from our program, we are looking for sponsors, who will be able to share our values, expand this ministry together with us and will help us to raise enough funds to care for the orphans.

Deacon Samwel Mori, Chairman of HuYaMwi

The Academic Day of HuYaMwi

The General Idea behind HuYaMwi's research efforts

Since 2004 HuYaMwi has been working on various research fields in order to find out about the life conditions widows and orphans are living in. Developing a systematically composed research program enables HuYaMwi to provide most vulnerable people with effective helping systems.

HuYaMwi's first Academic Day

On November the 27th 2007 HuYaMwi presented the outcome of previous months' research work to an open audience. For the first time everybody who would be interested in HuYaMwi's research areas was invited for the so called Academic Day in order to share ideas and get new impulses. Besides the HuYaMwi staff members also teachers of the LBS Mwika, two representatives of the ELCT Northern Diocese and other parish members participated in that day.



The general idea of the Academic day was to make participants familiar to HuYaMwi guidelines and furthermore, to develop a research plan containing different topics. Investigation on these topics should be delegated afterwards to staff members as well as members from outside HuYaMwi.

Within the Academic Day the following papers were presented and/or handed over to the participants:

- (1) HuYaMwi Research System (Rev. Dr. Martin Burkhardt)
- (2) Evaluation and Expansion of the use of the counterbook (~)
- (3) How to measure the neediness? (~)
- (4) The Building Fund of HuYaMwi (Franziska Greulich)
- (5) Orphans' Grief relief (Marion Hegwein)
- (6) Small Income Generating Projects SIP (Deacon Samwel Mori)
- (7) Expansion of orphan services in Masai area (Rev. Dr. Martin Burkhardt)
- (8) HuYaMwi Field Worker Program (Deacon Samwel Mori)

1: Rev. Dr. Martin Burkhardt presented the research system of HuYaMwi. The listeners agreed that further Academic Days are required for they are a good forum to represent the results of numerous research efforts. Besides that, the group appreciated HuYaMwi's plan to put more emphasis on sponsoring academic papers as far as they deal with topics of HuYaMwi's interest.

2: Within his speech Rev. Dr. Martin Burkhardt gave a short report about the OAPND statistics 2007. It provided a sophisticated statistic clustering the orphans in different groups of neediness.

3: Rev. Dr. Martin Burkhardt's paper "How to measure the neediness" was passed to the participants without further explanation.

4: The HuYaMwi Volunteer Franziska Greulich gave a short report about the Building Fund of HuYaMwi, its history and its challenges. The group discussion led to the following questions: While HuYaMwi and the parish are sharing the costs of building a new house, should HuYaMwi or the parish be first to start building? Should HuYaMwi only build mud-stick houses in order to save money for other house-building projects or should quality have first priority before quantity? Answering these questions in relation to HuYaMwi's helping policy was considered to be an important task in near future.

5: Marion Hegwein, the second HuYaMwi volunteer in 2007/2008, had been working on orphan's grief relief. Her paper contained basic reflections on grief relief, methods to grief relief and ways to introduce these methods to HuYaMwi organs. The general idea behind the paper was about anticipation of grief that could also involve the children's sick parents. Some members of the discussion assumed that difficulties would arise due to differing Tanzanian/African cultural background. A person dealing with his/her own death turned out to be an idea Tanzanians are rather unfamiliar with. Finally, the necessity of providing ways to relief grief was assured by every participant while the methods to use remained as a wide field that still needs to be worked on.

6: Deacon Samwel Mori presented a report about the small incoming generating projects. These days 16 groups in different parishes are sharing small animal projects, such as pigs, chicken or goats. These projects

7: Rev. Dr. Martin Burkhardt's paper "Expansion of orphan services in Masai area" was passed to the audience without further explanation.

8: Finally Deacon Samwel Mori gave a speech about the HuYaMwi Fieldworker Program, its strength as well as its challenges. This program was mainly introduced in order to optimize the communication system between HuYaMwi and the cooperating congregations. It was pointed out that Fieldworkers are rich skilled Volunteers engaging themselves in various ways in the work on Orphans. They are consultants to the orphans, the parishes and also to HuYaMwi helping to find an implementable plan for needy people. A big challenge to the Fieldworker's program is the lack of support Fieldworkers receive from the parishes and church leaders. Furthermore, they often have got their own problems, even similar to problems of the families they support. As a result Fieldworkers could lose motivation for their work.

The future of the Academic Day

Participants in the HuYaMwi Working Day of January 16th 2008 decided to conduct an Academic Day once to twice a year. Possible future research areas are the following:

- The Expansion of the ministry to the Masai area
- The Expansion of the Fieldworker model to the whole ELCT ND
- Local Fundraising
- Scholarship program
- Diaconical education for pastors

Marion Hegwein & Franziska Greulich

My time with HuYaMwi

My name is Abisai J. Marandu. I am 21 years old and I come from Mwika, Tanzania.

I started working in the HuYaMwi office a year ago after finishing form four in secondary school. I do this work in order to support the HuYaMwi staff members by doing office work but also organizing and carrying out different kinds of tasks outside of the office. Sometimes for example the chairman sends me to visit other orphans in order to take their photo and to write a short story about their life. At other times I am sent to pay for things like the water bill, the staff phone bill or other things.

Also, I work very closely together with the volunteers. Every Saturday we choose one of the HuYaMwi parishes to attend an orphan meeting in order to introduce new games and play with the orphans. The aim is that they have time to enjoy themselves and to give them a chance to forget at least for some time about their problems and think about new or other things. Another aim is to give the orphans time to play because many times at home they only have to work without having



me together with the volunteers

a chance to play. It also gives them the opportunity to exchange ideas, to share their sorrows and pain.

I think the work of HuYaMwi is very important. Orphans and their families but also other people in society value it very much!

I myself like my work a lot.

Abisai J. Marandu

Volunteers' Impressions

In September 2007 two new volunteers started working for HuYaMwi.

These two volunteers are we, Marion Hegwein and Franziska Greulich. So let us first introduce ourselves:

I, Marion Hegwein, am 21 years old and come from Bavaria, Southern Germany. After finishing high school I started studying theology. Last year I took my intermediate examination. My interest in Tanzania

started already in high school where we had a partnership

with a school in North Maasai. Within my studies of theology I am required to do a practical year in order to gain work experience. For me it was clear that I would do this in Tanzania. Through the former HuYaMwi volunteer Wolfram I found out about the work of HuYaMwi. It appealed to me as a very interesting and useful project which I would like to be involved in. So I applied to Mission EineWelt which finally sent me to Mwika.

I, Franziska Greulich, am 29 years old and come from Saxony, East Germany. After finishing high school I lived one year in the USA volunteering for a small non-profit organization that supported Bosnian and Latin-American refugees in various ways. Influenced by the very enriching experience I have gained throughout this year abroad I decided on studying Social Work after returning to Germany. Before coming to Tanzania I worked 3 ½ years in a Lutheran hospital. After finishing my work there I was looking for a volunteer program to get myself engaged once again in a project abroad. Through the Leipzig Mission I found out about HuYaMwi and was very interested in the work of this project. I am thankful that the Leipzig Mission has sent me to Mwika.

The work of HuYaMwi volunteers consists of a very broad variety about which we will share a few details with you:

Teaching English

Right since the beginning we started teaching English twice a week to the HuYaMwi students who are trained at the MVCT and at Mama Monyaitchi's baking project. Teaching English has been a permanent challenge to us. All of the students have already finished elementary school and should therefore have at least some basic English skills. In reality we are struggling every time with the very basic questions. Some of the students are making an effort to improve their English skills while others like to re-



Franziska & Marion



Our English class

2007 / 2008

lax more than to learn - probably like every other teenager in the world... By inviting them to our home or by going on a day trip we got the chance to get to know them from a different perspective as well. It brought us closer together, helped to build a good relationship and encouraged mutual exchange.

Monthly orphan meetings

Before we went to our first orphan meeting we had already visited a few orphans and their families at home. Often the children were very restrained and quiet. The smaller ones were even scared. But all of them showed respect and distance because a *mzungu* came to visit at their house. In the beginning it was and still often is the same at the orphan meetings: the children keep the distance while at the same time they seem to be very curious. But as soon as we start playing with them they



forget that we are *mzungu*. We are part of their team and become a regular team member. This change is great: no more fear and hesitation but pure joy to play!

After gaining insight into the way orphan meetings are conducted we found out about some challenges which have to be dealt with. One of those challenges was the lack of communication between students and their fieldworkers. Therefore, we conducted a seminar for fieldworkers and students in order to face some of those challenges. In teams they have been working together and finally came up with a detailed working plan concerning the orphan meetings for the next few months. By that we hope the quality of orphan meetings will improve.

Orphan seminars

So far we have conducted two orphan seminars together with students of the student committee: One seminar was about peer group education. Aim of this seminar was to train orphans who are interested in supporting their fieldworkers at the orphan meetings by leading certain activities. The second seminar was about self-reliance. To our great pleasure this seminar was developed and carried



out mainly by students of the student committee. Since we are aiming to hand over responsibility as much as possible we see this as a success of our work. One part of the seminar comprised the visitation of SIPs at orphans' houses. At one place we were looking at chickens, rabbits and guinea pigs. The owner of those animals was so generous to give 5 orphans a guinea pig as a gift. This was a very moving moment: somebody who does not have much gives presents to those who have even less. Also, it was a wonderful demonstration to the children to encourage them to share with people like them.

We are planning on having another seminar dealing with grief relief of orphans. For that we will invite a specialist who is going to work with the children one full day. This shall be a very interes-

ting seminar since the importance of grief relief in general and for children in particular is hardly recognized up to now.

Research

According to the HuYaMwi Guidelines the staff members are required to do research in order to develop and improve the work. We as volunteers also participate in the research work. Therefore, we went on two study trips together with Reverend Dr. Martin Burkhardt in order to find out about life conditions in another environment. We went to the Hai district where we visited Maasai families who live under very different circumstances compared with people in the Mwiki region. Also, we went to the Karatu district where we visited families for 3 days. Those trips did not only provide us with new ideas and questions but gave us more insight into the everyday life of Tanzanian people. Also, we got to know some parts of the country – but not as tourists which seems to us even more valuable.



Us together with a grandmother and her orphaned grandchildren, twin girls

Finally, HuYaMwi introduced an Academic day (see article) which took place in November 2007 for the first time. Also the two of us presented each a research paper which then was discussed by the audience.

Working for HuYaMwi is very interesting but also challenging. It's a big diversity as might be noticed by the short overview we have given to you and we can involve ourselves in various activities according to our talents and gifts.

It has been a fortune that the two of us get along very well. Living together is great and you can't get lonely easily. In terms of work it is enriching discussing ideas and challenges together. All in all, we thank the Lord that he has led us to Mwiki and HuYaMwi.

Franziska Greulich & Marion Hegwein