



Maragoli

Community Development Foundation Inc.

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Annual Newsletter 2012

Clinic Opens to Meet Health Care Needs in the Community

After years of preparation, the Vigetse Community Clinic was officially opened by community members, public health officials, and guests from abroad at a December 2012 ceremony. The clinic will begin operation with a nurse and a clinical officer and will offer a variety of routine medical services, HIV counseling and outreach, neonatal care, immunizations, and preventative education. With roughly one doctor for every 185,000 people and the nearest hospital miles away, the clinic is a long-awaited accomplishment for community residents.



Board of Trustees President Jan Kees den Bakker ceremonially opens the clinic



Community members listen to speeches at the health clinic opening ceremony



Members of the Vigetse Women's Group, MACODEF officials, local residents, and overseas guests pour into the health clinic compound for the official opening of the Vigetse Community Health Clinic during the Christmas season.

A message from...



Samuel Amukono Kidini
Local Board Chair

In 2012 MACODEF projects have enabled almost all Vigena and Vigetse community members to achieve many of the Millennium Dev't Goals. The poverty rate has fallen to about 40%, and extreme hunger is now rare; retention and completion rates in school have increased; HIV/AIDS prevalence rates and stigma have been reduced; our water is cleaner; and tree cover has increased to 3%. In 2013 we will focus on the community center and on sustaining the health clinic and other projects.

The local people in partnership with our friends from abroad have made possible all of these developments. A special thanks to our trustees and to our long-term international volunteers, Hanna and Floor, for their guidance, as well as to our local board for their focus and loyalty in implementing projects. We will forever remain grateful for the achievements and efforts of donors in raising funds and other resources for our community projects.

Pad Fund for Three Schools

MINI-PROJECTS



Mary Musimbi, a total orphan, is one of this year's recipients of a school bursary



Moving the Vigetse Salvation Army church off school grounds opened up space for a school library



More than half of the families in Vigetse and Vigena are now using solar lights.



Thanks to the generosity of Patricia and John Moll, girls at Vigetse and Vigena Primary Schools no longer need to worry about missing classes on a monthly basis. Teachers report that attendance and performance are up, and that girls now outnumber boys at both schools. The pad fund has been so successful that it was expanded to Vigena Secondary School, bringing the total number of girls participating in the program to 488.

Community Resource Center Takes Shape



Above, community members gather and carry rocks to be crushed and used for the foundation of the resource center. Right, workers complete the foundation of the building up to slab level.

Work continues on a new community resource center that will include the MACODEF office, a meeting hall, and a demonstration garden, as well as offering a variety of educational and IT services. Community members have played an integral role in planning the center and given freely of their labor and other in-kind resources.

