

# Malaika Orphanage Foundation

## 2023 Activity Report

### 1. Overview of Programs

Malaika Orphanage Foundation seeks to give most vulnerable and orphaned children in Tanzania a sustainable future. We offer the children a real home, where they can feel safe, eat regular meals and just be children again, and we strive to educate them to become responsible citizens capable of supporting themselves in the future.

Our first priority is to look for (distant) family members for the orphaned child when they are brought to us by the Social Welfare. While we take care of them at our 'Reception Home' (RH), we look into their background to see if we can reunite them with family members. If we do find family members who are willing and suitable to take in an orphaned child, we place the child with them and enroll them in our Relative Support Program (RSP). The Reception Home also acts as a safe haven for a lost child or a child being abused, we temporarily care for the child here.



Unfortunately, it's not always possible to place children with their family. For the children who we cannot place with families, we needed to find another solution and have therefore built a unique Children's Village in Mkuranga (CVM). 5 boys and 5 girls, varying in age between 1 to 14 years live in a house with a 'mother' who raises them. In this way, we try to recreate a family environment whereby the older children can help the younger ones. We encourage a family bond to develop, and the welfare of these children is our primary concern.



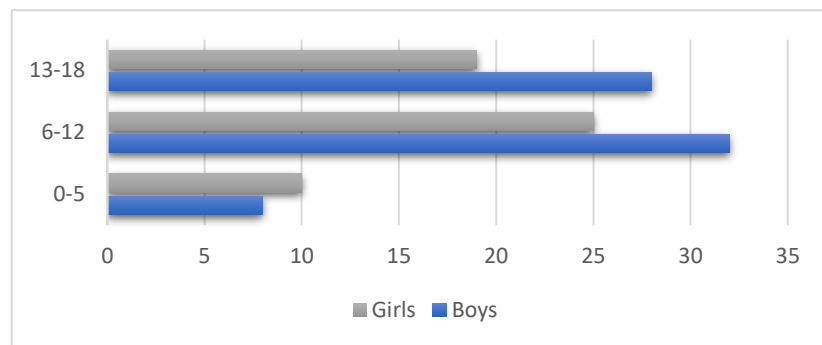
The table below summarizes the numbers and movement of children within the organization during the year 2023.

	Reception Home (RH)	Children's Village Mkuranga (CVM)	Relatives Support Program (RSP)	Total
<b>Number of Children (1/1/2023)</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>208</b>
New Arrivals	+19	+6	+19	+44
Transfers within MOF	+6 (From CVM) -7 (To CVM)	-6 (To RH) +7 (From RH)		
Children reunited with families/ Found new foster homes	-10	-4	-1	-15
MOF Leavers	-3		-6	-9
<b>Number of Children (31/12/2023)</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>228</b>

## 2. Relatives Support Program (RSP)

In 2023 we supported a total of 122 children living with extended families within the community.

Age	No. of Children	
	Boys	Girls
0-5	8	10
6-12	32	25
13-18	28	19
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>54</b>



Our RSP mediators regularly visited these children at home as well as in school to follow up on their progress. Monthly food parcels containing rice, corn flour, beans, sugar and cooking oil as well as fresh vegetables/fruits bi-weekly were provided to these children and their siblings, living with their caregivers. Hygiene products such as soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, sanitary pads and diapers were also provided.



Educational material i.e. school uniform, school shoes, school bags, exercise books and stationeries were also provided to the children who went to school.

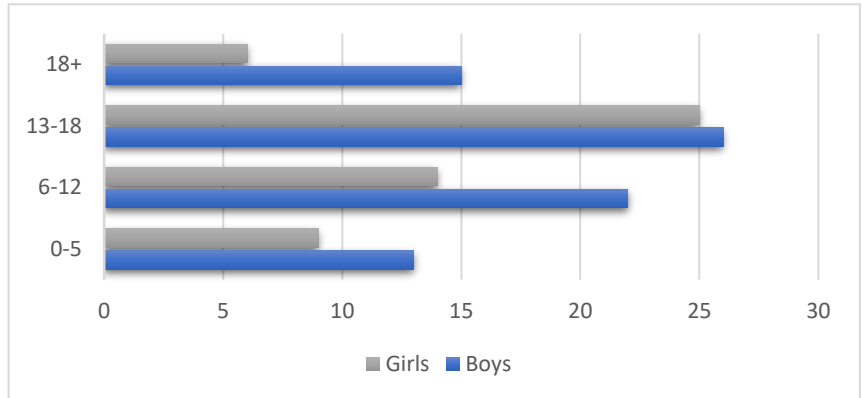


Unfortunately, in 2023 we were not able to provide the children with health insurance due to changes in the registration process of the NHIF Toto Afya kadi. Where in the past we could register our children individually with NHIF, as from 2023 NHIF requires registration via their schools. Most schools that our children go to are not yet registered with NHIF.

### 3. Reception Home (RH) & Children’s Village Mkuranga (CVM)

In 2023 for different lengths of time we cared for 130 children at both our children’s homes in Kinondoni and Mkuranga

Age	No. of Children	
	Boys	Girls
0-5	13	9
6-12	22	14
13-18	26	25
18+	15	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>54</b>



While most children have been with us for longer periods, some were temporarily placed after either being found lost on the streets, had been physically or sexually abused or orphaned. 13 of these children were reunited with their families after their cases had been worked on. All basic needs such as nutritious meals daily, clothing and shelter were provided to children in our care both at the reception home and children’s home.



9 older young boys and girls who are still under our care and studying at college/university levels lived in hostels or rented rooms. During the year, 3 older children left our care to live independently.

### 3.1. Education

Educational support was provided to all children in our care. Tuition fees were paid and all the necessary educational materials such as uniform, books and stationeries were provided to all children.

11 children were in nursery school, 46 children attended different primary schools, 1 attended a special school and 20 children different secondary schools. 12 children attended different vocational training courses or work experience in carpentry, welding and fabrication, electrical installation, heavy duty mechanics, etc. 11 children were studying different courses such as accounting, clearing and forwarding, social work, economics and finance, pharmaceutical sciences, etc. at different colleges in Dar es Salaam.



In 2023, 10 children did their standard seven examinations, 4 children did their form four examinations and 1 child completed form 6. They all performed well and will be joining secondary school and different colleges/vocational training in 2024. One child completed his vocational training course in carpentry and had begun working.

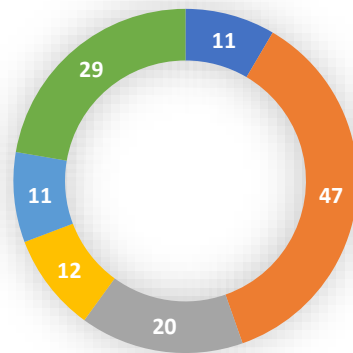




10 babies who were not of school age yet did not attend school. On-site educational programs and support was provided to 14 children who stayed at the children’s homes briefly before being reunited with their families. 5 children had begun working, 3 of which left our care during the year.

The chart below sums up the data provided above.

Education Level	No. of Children
Nursery	11
Primary & Special School	47
Secondary	20
Vocational Training	12
College	11
Not in school	10 (not of school age) 14 (Temporary placement) 5 (Working)
<b>Total</b>	<b>130</b>



Several school visits were made where the academic progress of each child was discussed with their teachers as well as the challenges they face and the way to alleviate them. We have special programs for children who were not doing well academically and need extra guidance especially those who had missed out on schooling earlier.



At the children’s village we have a computer room where we conducted computer classes for all children twice a week. We also have a library with over 2000 children’s books and school textbooks.



Islamic and Christian religion classes were also conducted for the children in order to develop good morals through faith and develop love to God and amongst themselves.

Our children actively participate in house chores such as helping mothers with cooking, cleaning, washing, small maintenance work as well as helping at the farm



In addition, during some of the weekends and holidays we take our children out for different study and recreational tours such as to the national museum, forest reserve in Mkuranga, the beach etc. This is so as to invigorate and let them see new things as well as socialize of behaving.



We have also been using this as a reward for children showing remarkable improvement academically as well as recommendable. Apart from this, different programs to motivate children in education were conducted. This motivated children to work hard academically as well as improve their behaviour.

### 3.2. Health and Well-being

All necessary hygiene products such as soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, sanitary pads, etc. were provided to all children in our care. Apart from minor viral infections we did not have any serious health cases. For such cases children were treated at the local hospitals.

Some children with complicated health cases were referred Muhimbili National Hospital where they saw specialists for special attention and care. One of the main challenges we faced in 2023 was the change in the process for acquiring Toto Afya health insurance from the National Health Insurance Fund. Since health insurance can now only be applied for through schools, most of our children were not insured during this period. Most schools were not aware of this and some did not meet the requirements for registration. Babies who had yet to begin school had no way to acquire health insurance. This in turn increased hospital bills especially for children with complicated cases who needed to be admitted and undergo tests such as MRIs.



Malaria being one of the greatest tropical diseases highly spread in Mkuranga was well managed. We experience less cases compared to 2022. This is because we had 2 main fumigations and several minor fumigations within the village. More than that we made sure mosquito nets were used and children were well dressed.

Children continue to participate in different sports and games to keep them active and strengthen their health. For 1-2 hours every evening, all children and staff participate in different sports and games such as football, volleyball, netball, board games, etc. We had inter-house competitions where children competed with each other as well as competitions with children from the community. We also have a small playground for the younger kids.



Clean water is essential for maintaining good health and preventing waterborne diseases. When the old borehole serving the children's village began to dry out, it presented a pressing concern for ensuring access to clean drinking water in the village. In response to this critical need, a new borehole had to be drilled. With the installation of the new borehole, the children's village can once again rely on dependable source of clean drinking water, ensuring the continued health and welfare of the children.



Apart from physical health, the mental well-being of children in our care is paramount to their overall development. Recognizing this, different structured programs were implemented to address the mental needs of the children. These programs included different guidance and counselling sessions. This helped understand the unique needs and challenges faced by the children and was crucial for providing support systems. Some of these programs were provided by volunteers from organizations within the community.





#### 4. Young adults leaving our care

After completing their education and having found a paying job, we support the young adults by paying 6 months rent and providing them with the necessities to start living independently. They are always welcome back to visit or when they require any assistance. We have had cases where children leave our care and later lose their jobs. We try our best to support and assist them on a way forward.

5 children under our care had completed their courses and began working. 3 of these children left our care in 2023.

#### 5. Agriculture

At the children's village in Mkuranga we have a farm where we grow different crops as well as keep livestock to supplement our food requirements and teach our children. The crops include cassava, banana, pineapple, different type of greens, eggplants, cashew nuts, maize, coconut, tomatoes, papaya, and passion fruits.

We had positive experience, achievements and some challenges in 2023. We continued to supply greens, fruits, eggs and other farm produce to the children's village. We attempted to keep 100 hybrid chicken. Due to high feeding costs, this did not turn out to be a sustainable project. It was not good year for cashews. Heavy rains during the harvest period caused the cashews to rot or germinate from the trees. Due to this the harvest was very limited. We managed to add more trees (with shallow canopy) in several open spaces within the village. This will help provide more fruits and shade in coming years.



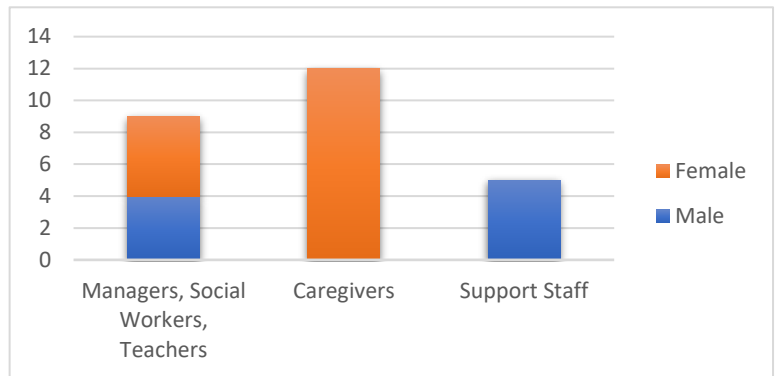
Furthermore, we had different volunteers who came in to teach us different skills such as making organic manure as well as mushroom farming. We have implemented these skills and hope to reduce costs of manure and harvest mushrooms the coming year.



Generally, we are happy that we were able to grow greens to feed the village for the whole year and that our children keep learning different methods of agriculture and have been always active participants.

## 6. Staff

	No. of Staff	
	Male	Female
<b>Managers, Social Workers, Teachers</b>	4	5
<b>Caregivers</b>	0	12
<b>Support Staff</b>	5	0
	<b>9</b>	<b>17</b>



All members of staff attended a 3 days training session on different topics such as child development, externalizing and internalizing children's problems, collaboration and exchange and communication with children, to mention a few. Different methods such as discussions, games and presentations were used in order to ensure active participation.

