



## **CHILDREN'S SUPPORT CENTRE EMUREMBE**

### **ACTIVITY REPORT 2009**



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## ACTIVITY REPORT 2009

### Opening

The Children's Support Centre opened in Emurembe at the beginning of August 2009. The name of the Centre was changed from the "Children's Centre Kilingili" at the request of the District Ministry of Health for the simple reason that Kilingili market falls under the jurisdiction of Kakamega district. The Centre is actually located about 1km from the market place so falls under Emuhaya district and the authorities wanted the name to reflect the actual village in which it is located even though there is no signpost showing that Emurembe exists – to the local people it is an important distinction.

### Day-to-day running

The day-to-day running of the Centre is overseen by registered nurse, Millicent Imbira, who was also interviewed in July by the District Public Health Nurse for Emuhaya. She is assisted by two full time house-mothers; one part time assistant as well as support staff. She has around 15 years of nursing experience including 4 ½ years at the Aga Khan private hospital in Kisumu. At the same time, Millicent was born only a few kilometres from the Centre so speaks the local dialect; she has been able to establish an excellent rapport with the many grandmothers, single moms and destitute families who bring their children to the Centre.

### Registration

As advised by Dr Nyakiangora (former Medical Officer for the district) the Centre was registered with Social Services as a project. It is supervised by Community Outreach Centres, a Kenyan registered NGO. The buildings were sponsored by ConnectSwiss.

### School Health Days

Since it opened, the Centre has run several health days for the local primary schools, which include Emurembe, Kilingili, Ikumu, Ebubayi and Ebungangwe. This is also a key element in identifying children who need to be admitted for malnutrition.

### Collaboration with other health partners

The Kilingili Health Centre has assisted in testing some of the children for HIV. The Emuhaya occupational therapist also visited and advised on exercises for certain children who had trouble walking because they had jiggers for so many years.

### Treatment

Typically children who stay at the Centre, spend between 4 and 8 weeks at the Centre and their parents / guardians are given counselling on how to improve nutrition, hygiene and general handling of the child. Where there are signs of abuse, Provincial Administration assists in counselling the guardian on how they need to handle the child in future. The Centre also carries out home visits after children go home to monitor their progress and continue to encourage the families. In almost all cases who have returned home, it is found that the family is making considerable efforts to maintain the improvement in their child's health. At the same time, the Centre is always willing to readmit a child from a problem home as it continues to strive to find a long-lasting solution for their ongoing wellbeing.

*A PowerPoint presentation is also available of some of the case studies during the last 5 months of 2009.*

The attached summary report (Appendix A) gives the statistics of the number of children seen. Initially, many parents brought children who had acute infections. They were advised to take their children to hospital in the usual way. Now the community understands better the type of services offered. The Centre also held two public meetings in North East Bunyore in August and in East Bunyore in November, which were both very well attended.

### Visitors

The Centre has had many visitors from overseas as well as local dignitaries such as the Member of Parliament for Emuhaya, the District Commissioner, many of the local chiefs, church leaders and village elders.

**APPENDIX A**  
**Statistics**

<b>Summary report</b>	<b>Aug.</b>	<b>Sep.</b>	<b>Oct.</b>	<b>Nov.</b>	<b>Dec.</b>	<b>Totals</b>
<b>Out-patients</b>						
No. of children with ringworm	197	217	403	69	90	<b>976</b>
No. of children with jiggers	25	25	37	11	9	<b>107</b>
No. of children with malnutrition	19	5	29	7	5	<b>65</b>
No. of children with scabies	17	3	18	6	9	<b>53</b>
No. of children with skin fungal infections	9	22	23	8	6	<b>68</b>
No. of children with wounds	6	30	32	7	3	<b>78</b>
No. of children stitched	2	0	0	0	0	<b>2</b>
No. of children with eye problems	12	13	9	7	5	<b>46</b>
No. of children with ear problems	4	3	5	3	3	<b>18</b>
No. of children with genetic problems	3	2	0	0	0	<b>5</b>
No. of children referred to hospital	39	14	10	6	7	<b>76</b>
No. of vulnerable children	5	5	10	7	3	<b>30</b>
No. of children with burns	0	2	0	0	2	<b>4</b>
No. of children with cavities	0	2	0	0	0	<b>2</b>
No. of children with septic sores	0	0	0	15	18	<b>33</b>
<b>Total number of children seen</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>1429</b>

*All children seen were also dewormed*

**Admissions**

No. of children admitted with malnutrition	9	1	12	7	2	<b>31</b>
No. of children admitted with jiggers	14	14	18	6	3	<b>55</b>
No. of children accommodated	1	0	1	0	1	<b>3</b>
No. of children re-admitted	0	1	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
<b>Total number of children admitted</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>78</b>

**HIV/AIDS**

No. of children tested	5	9	12	0	0	<b>26</b>
No. of positive tests	1	1	0	0	0	<b>2</b>



APPENDIX B.  
Some 2009 photos of the Children's Centre



*Malnourished baby being weighed on admission*



*Same baby with his mother on discharge*



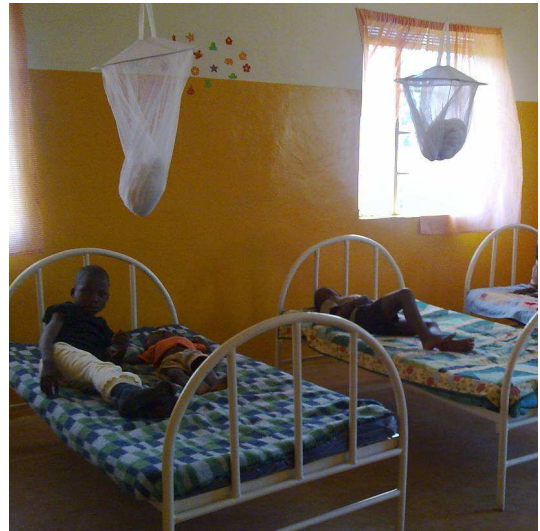
*Jiggers' clinic – removal of these feet parasites is a service that no hospital or health centre provides yet they cause untold misery for young children*



*Child who had jiggers, learning to walk*



*School health day with visiting Spanish nurse*



*Nap time in one of the boys' bedrooms*



*In-patients enjoying some soccer and, in a quieter moment, some puppets.*



*In the dining hall, weekend activities for in-patients*



*With staff, singing on the way to lunch*