

Malaika Kids Netherlands

Annual Report and Accounts 2021



Contents

Report of the Board of Trustees	3
Introduction / Financial results in 2021	3
Achievements in 2021.....	3
Goal and mission.....	3
Fundraising in 2021	3
Governance	6
Communication with stakeholders.....	7
Looking forward to 2022.....	7
Malaika Kids Netherlands Annual Accounts	8
Balance sheet as at December 31, 2021.....	8
Statement of Income and Expenditure 2021.....	9
Notes to the 2021 Annual Accounts	10
Accounting principles for the valuation of assets and liabilities	10
Accounting principles for the determination of results	11
Notes to the balance sheet as at December 31, 2021.....	12
Notes to the statement of income and expense	13
Other information	14
Compilation report.....	15
Malaika Kids Netherlands contact details.....	16
APPENDIX - The operations in Tanzania in 2021	17
Malaika Kids in Numbers	17
A Year in the Life of Malaika Kids.....	17

Report of the Board of Trustees

Introduction / Financial results in 2021

We are very pleased that despite the continued effects of the COVID-19 pandemic we managed to increase revenues in 2021 to EUR 140,000. This was largely due to a fundraising event organised by Rotary-club Zoetermeer and Rotary-club Voorburg and generous gifts from our loyal supporters. A new fundraising initiative was undertaken at the end of 2021, which we hope will help us achieve our targets in 2022.

Total Dutch spend on objectives (actual spend in the year) increased by 26% compared to 2020 as a result of increased needs from Malaika Kids Tanzania. The result for the year in 2021 has been added to the free reserves.

Achievements in 2021

Our achievements are best reflected in what is happening within the Malaika Orphanage Foundation in Tanzania. This is described in detail after the accounts of Malaika Kids Netherlands in the [APPENDIX - The operations in Tanzania in 2021](#) – on page 17.

Goal and mission

Malaika Kids Netherlands provides support to orphaned and most vulnerable children in Tanzania. We seek to reintegrate those without caregivers into the community and provide a home, education sponsorship, and medical care.

Malaika Kids Netherlands, together with its associated funding foundations Malaika Kids UK and Malaika Kids USA, tries to achieve this goal by providing advice and funding to its associated operational foundation Malaika Kids Tanzania.

Fundraising in 2021

Another year with Covid passed by. Whilst writing this report, Corona in Tanzania is far from over; here in Holland it appears we have seen the worst of it. Let's hope it will stay that way.

In Tanzania the number of children needing our help is growing; thus more money is needed.

We are very fortunate that we have been able to build a very loyal group of supporters around us over the years. About 35% of our income comes from these individuals, many of them using the attractive fiscal facility to donate a fixed amount for a number of years. There is also a group who organise fund-raising events, church collections or ask their friends to donate to Malaika Kids instead of, for example, giving them presents. Thank you all for helping us.

Each year we approach a number of charitable foundations to help us fund specific projects or activities. One of those very important activities is to pay for good education for our children.

In 2021, two foundations who wish to remain anonymous helped us cover a substantial part of those costs.



Another charitable foundation helped us invest in a solar installation for powering our two deep-well water pumps. In the past we often ran out of water as the energy grid in Mkuranga is very unreliable. The solar installation now secures our water supply and using solar energy also saves us money.



For a number of years Rotary Zoetermeer has successfully organized a quiz. Due to Covid they decided last year to organise the quiz via video conference. Fortunately we were selected as the beneficiary. The quiz was a great success.

Rotary Voorburg decided to join these efforts and donated a considerable amount. Thank you, Rotary!

Foundation Malaika Kids Netherlands - Annual Report and Accounts 2021

A grammar school in Zwolle, the Celeanum, has been a true supporter of our work for many years. As a project their students follow the lives of two of our children growing up in the Malaika Kids Children Village. They have organised all kind of events in and around the school to raise money for those two Malaika Kids and all their 'brothers and sisters' growing up in the Village. Last year we were asked to come to Zwolle to receive a cheque for the money raised. To share this moment, we set up a video-link with the Children's Village. The Village Manager James Kalinga told the Celeanum students more about our work and what their donations will be used for. When the cheque was handed to us, we were delighted by the enormous amount collected. Thankyou again for this great support.



It was also the 10th time we were able to organise our Malaika Kids Open Golf event. This time it was The Dutch who let us organise our event on their fabulous course. The participants enjoyed a great day and the betting against the pro, the lottery and the auction left us with a most welcome sum for our charity.



The Prize winners of the event

For many years there has been a group of very dedicated supporters of Malaika Kids living in Laarbeek. From the start they helped us not only with fundraising but also with collecting and shipping all kind of materials for the construction of the Malaika Kids Village. They called themselves 'Malaika Kids Laarbeek'. Due to age, the group had to decide they had to stop their local fundraising activities. They transferred their last collections to us which helped us in achieving last year's results.



A big thank you Tonny, Martha en Betsi and all volunteers in Laarbeek who have helped us for so many years.

And of course, thanks to everybody who made it possible to give 200 orphaned children a chance to a better life.

Governance

Composition of the Board and management team of Malaika Kids Netherlands:

- Ton Willemsen (Chairman)
- Ted Koch (Secretary)
- Maarten Steemers (Treasurer)

The board members received no remuneration for their services.

The Board of Trustees in the Netherlands met 4 times during the year. The overall development of Malaika Kids internationally and the specific role and responsibility for Malaika Kids Netherlands were discussed and translated into operational objectives. The board realises that, given the fact that all 3 board members have been trustees of Malaika Kids Netherlands for a long time, new board members and volunteers are required, but finding candidates for the board functions has proven to be unsuccessful to-date. Within Malaika Kids Netherlands, there is a small group of volunteers helping in specific areas such as fundraising, marketing, social media, etc.

Malaika Kids Netherlands is a large part of our international effort. When we look at our finances overall, we have 3.4 years of continuity reserves earmarked in our international combined accounts.

This is sufficient to continue and even grow the present operations.

Ton Willemsen, Chairman, and Maarten Steemers, Treasurer, are in regular contact with the Tanzanian organisation to discuss local operations and the wellbeing of the children.

Due to Covid there has been no visit to Tanzania by one of the Dutch Board Members on 2021. However, regular meetings were held by video conferencing.

Communication with stakeholders

Communication with stakeholders takes place through our website, MailChimp newsletters, regular contacts with our major and regular donors and reports to donors on specific projects.

Looking forward to 2022

In 2021 our organisation in Tanzania has been directly affected by Covid. Unfortunately, one mother died of what was almost certainly COVID-19. Also, two members of the management team were infected, but luckily, they survived albeit with certain Long Covid symptoms. We shall see what 2022 brings – we are in good shape to receive new children, while continuing to look after and educate the kids we already have.

The overall number of children taken care of by Malaika Kids Tanzania grew over the past year from 174 to 192. The Reception Home in Dar es Salaam houses currently 19 children and is close to full capacity, so shortly extra space nearby the Reception Home is necessary. All this means an increase of funds required.

Malaika Kids Netherlands as well as its sister organisations in the UK and the USA have set higher fundraising targets for the coming year.

There is no governmental support for Malaika Kids in Tanzania. We are reliant on our loyal supporters and donations from trust funds from outside Tanzania every year in order to continue our work. Not an easy task as charitable foundations can donate less as due to the continuing low interest rate, their income and reserves are considerably reduced during the past few years. So, as we wish to continue to help more children, we need to expand our fundraising activities towards private donors and organise more fundraising events.

As we work solely with volunteers, approximately 95% of donations we receive go directly towards helping our children in Tanzania, giving them a stable and caring upbringing. Malaika Kids Netherlands is within the Malaika Kids Network a relatively small organisation for which finding new enthusiastic and committed volunteers is not easy. We have decided to secure the long term of our Foundation by working more closely with our sister charities.

With all this in place we are confident that for the near future our capital base is strong enough to provide the help necessary to give our orphans a better future.

The Hague, 24th June 2022

Ton Willemsen, Chairman
Ted Koch, Secretary
Maarten Steemers, Treasurer

Malaika Kids Netherlands Annual Accounts

Balance sheet as at December 31, 2021

ASSETS	Note	2021	2020
CURRENT ASSETS		€	€
Receivables	A	2,692	0
Cash and cash equivalents	B	388,187	382,134
Total		390,879	382,134
RESERVES, FUNDS AND LIABILITIES			
RESERVES	C		
Continuity reserve		367,500	272,000
Restricted reserves		0	79,000
Other reserves		10,879	6,134
Total reserves		378,379	357,134
FUNDS			
Restricted funds	D	8,500	25,000
Current liabilities		4,000	0
Total reserves, funds and liabilities		390,879	382,134

Statement of Income and Expenditure 2021

	Note	Actual 2021	Budget 2021	Actual 2020
		€	€	€
INCOME				
Donations private individuals	E	72,530	45,000	40,281
Donations businesses	F	14,905	15,000	14,426
Donations charity funds	G	52,932	50,000	61,567
Total income		140,367	110,000	116,274
EXPENDITURE				
Spent on objectives	H			
Reception Home		15,918	16,000	15,144
Relatives Support Programme		14,294	15,000	8,620
Children Village Mkuranga		62,114	60,000	46,121
Construction Children Village		0	0	2,400
Management Malaika Orphanage Foundation, TZ		16,900	17,000	28,239
Education		17,250	0	0
Total spent on objectives		126,476	108,000	100,524
Cost of fundraising	I	8,380	10,000	11,491
Management and administration	J	717	1,000	335
Total expenditure before financial income/charges		135,573	119,000	112,350
Financial income	K	-49	0	-107
Result for the year		4,745	-9,000	3,817

ALLOCATION OF RESULT 2021/2020

	€	Actual 2021	Budget 2021	Actual 2020
		€	€	€
Continuity reserve		95,500	0	24,000
Restricted reserves		-79,000	0	-19,000
Other reserves		4,745	-9,000	-1,183
Restricted funds		-16,500	0	0
Total		4,745	-9,000	3,817

Notes to the 2021 Annual Accounts

General

The annual accounts 2021 have been prepared in accordance with the Dutch Directive for Annual Reporting for small fundraising organisations (RJK c2, as revised in 2017). Foundation Malaika Kids Netherlands (official name Stichting Malaika Kids Netherlands, hereinafter also referred to as Malaika Kids Netherlands) acts as fundraiser for a sister foundation in Tanzania, Malaika Orphanage Foundation, where the activities in respect of childcare are carried out. Malaika Kids Netherlands is liable for the debts and obligations of Malaika Orphanage Foundation up to the amount of its available reserves.

The accounts are presented in Euros, the functional currency of the foundation.

Reporting period

These annual accounts cover the book year of the foundation, which coincides with the calendar year.

Accounting principles for the valuation of assets and liabilities

The valuation of assets and liabilities and the determination of the results are done in accordance with the historical cost convention. Assets and liabilities are valued at nominal value, unless stated otherwise. Income and expense are accounted for on the accrual's basis.

Foreign currencies

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into the Euro at the rates of exchange prevailing on the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at the rates of exchange approximating those at the date of the transaction. Resulting exchange differences are taken to income currently.

Use of estimate

The preparation of the annual accounts require that the Trustees make estimates and assumptions about the application of the accounting principles and the reported values of assets, liabilities and obligations, and of income and expenses. The actual amounts may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on a regular basis. Revisions of the estimates are reported in the period in which the estimates are revised, and in future periods in which the revisions have consequences.

Accounting principles for the valuation of assets and liabilities

Receivables and prepaid expenses

Receivables are valued at nominal value less any provision for non-collectability. Provisions are determined on an individual basis.

Continuity reserve

Because the Malaika Kids foundations do not have committed ongoing source of funds, the trustees of Malaika Kids internationally have decided to hold a minimum continuity reserve equivalent to approximately 3 years of the future liabilities for taking care of the children in our care, and to limit the growth of the operations in Tanzania in line with the combined continuity reserve in the books of Malaika Kids Netherlands, Malaika Kids UK and Malaika Kids USA. Malaika Kids UK and Malaika Kids

Foundation Malaika Kids Netherlands - Annual Report and Accounts 2021

Netherlands are now close to that required level, and expect to reach the combined minimum continuity reserve in 2022. The required level will be reviewed each year.

Restricted reserves

The spending of the restricted reserves is determined by the Trustees. It does not constitute a contractual obligation, and the Trustees may lift the restriction at any time.

Other reserves

Other reserves are the balance of the reserves and are freely available.

Restricted funds

Restricted funds are funds acquired and especially restricted by the donors. As at December 31, 2021 and 2020 a number of funds were received from donors which were not yet spent for the purposes as earmarked.

Accounting principles for the determination of results

Donations from private individuals

Donations from private individuals received are reported in the year in which they are received.

Donations from businesses and charity funds

Donations from businesses and charity funds received are reported in the year in which they are received or granted by the businesses and charity funds.

Expenses

Expenses are reported in the year using the accruals basis.

Personnel

The foundation did not employ any personnel in 2021 and 2020.

Allocation of expenses

Expenses are allocated to the objectives, expenses for fundraising and management and administration on the basis of the following allocation keys:

- Directly related expenses are allocated to the respective expense category
- Not-directly related expenses are allocated as follows:
 - Fundraising expenses and Publicity and communication: 25% allocated to each of the objectives Reception Home, Relatives Support Programme and Children's Village and Cost of fundraising
 - General and office cost: 50% to each of cost of own fundraising and management and administration.

Notes to the balance sheet as at December 31, 2021

A. Receivables

Receivables at the end of 2021 are short-term and received in January 2022.

B. Cash and cash equivalents

All balances are freely available.

C. Reserves

	€	December 31, 2020	Allocations 2021	Utilisations 2021	December 31, 2021
	€	€	€	€	€
Continuity reserve		272,000	95,500	-	367,500
Restricted reserves					
Reception Home Dar es Salaam		15,000	-	15,000	-
Relatives Support Programme		9,000	-	9,000	-
Children's Village Mkuranga		46,000	-	46,000	-
Management Malaika Orphanage Foundation, Tanzania		9,000	-	9,000	-
Total restricted reserves		79,000	-	79,000	0
Other reserve, freely available		6,134	4,745	-	10,879

D. Funds

Restricted funds	€	December 31, 2020	Allocations 2021	Utilisations 2021	December 31, 2021
	€	€	€	€	€
Farm Operations		-	-	-	-
Education		25,000	-	16,500	8,500
RSP-CBR		-	-	-	-
Total restricted funds		25,000	-	-	8,500

Notes to the statement of income and expense

E. Donations from private individuals

Income from private individuals consists of cash donations received from private donors. Total donations in 2021 increased compared to 2020 as a result of a Rotary fundraising event earmarked for Education.

F. Donations from businesses

Donations from businesses in 2021 consist of cash donations received from companies and remained stable as compared to 2020.

G. Donations from charity funds

The donations from charitable foundations decreased in 2021 with € 11,000 as compared to 2020 due to a decreased number of applications for specific projects.

H. Spent on objectives

The explicit intention of the Trustees of Malaika Kids is to engage in activities only to the extent that donations are received. Commitments for projects are only made if and when the funding for an identifiable part of the project is secured.

Percentage of spending

The spending on the objectives as a percentage of total income is as follows:

	€	2021	2020
Total cash spend on objectives		126,476	100,524
Total income		140,367	116,274
Percentage of actual cash spending		90.1%	86.5%

The total actual cash spend on objectives may vary depending on donations made by Malaika Kids UK, Malaika Kids USA and other donors, directly to Malaika Kids Tanzania. In our opinion the total actual cash spend on objectives plus the movements in reserves present a better insight in spending versus income, as follows:

	€	2021	2020
Total cash spend on objectives		126,476	100,524
Movement in restricted reserves and funds		4,745	-
<i>Total actual cash spend plus movements in restricted reserves and funds</i>		<i>131,221</i>	<i>100,524</i>
Total income		140,367	116,274
Percentage of actual cash spending plus reserve and funds movements		93.5%	86.5%

I. Cost of fundraising

Cost of fundraising consists of publicity materials such as flyers and banners, web and server services and subscription fees for charity events.

J. Cost of management and administration

Cost of management and administration comprises costs for the registration of the Malaika Kids name and logo, notarial costs, audit fees, bank charges and other general costs incurred.

K. Interest income

Interest income is earned on the balances with the banks (current accounts and internet savings

accounts). As a result of the negative interest on total bank balances charged by the banks interest income is negative.

L. Remuneration of Trustees

The Trustees receive no remuneration for their activities for Malaika Kids Netherlands.

The Hague, 24th June 2022

The Trustees:

Ton Willemsen, Chairman

Ted Koch, Secretary

Maarten Steemers, Treasurer

Other information

Notification regarding the absence of an auditors' report

The foundation has no statutory requirement for an audit. Hence, an auditors' report is absent.

The compilation report is included on the next page.

Compilation report

The logo for Bollard Accountants & Belastingadviseurs, featuring the word 'bollard' in a lowercase, sans-serif font with a stylized orange wave underneath.

ACCOUNTANTS ✓ BELASTINGADVISEURS

Jan van Nassastraat 125
2596 BS Den Haag
T: +31 (0)70 3508624
E: info@bollard.nl
I: www.bollard.nl
Btw. NL8191.17.249.B.01
K.v.k. 27314820
Bank: NL05RABO0307583279

ACCOUNTANT'S COMPILATION REPORT

To the Board of Trustees

The financial statements of Stichting Malaika Kids Nederland at 's-Gravenhage have been compiled by us using the information provided by you. The financial statements on page 8 to 15 comprise the balance sheet as at December 31, 2021 and the statement of income and expenditure for the year 2021 with the accompanying explanatory notes. These notes include a summary of the accounting policies which have been applied.

This compilation engagement has been performed by us in accordance with Dutch law, including the Dutch Standard 4410, "Compilation engagements", which is applicable to accountants. The standard requires us to assist you in the preparation and presentation of the financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the Netherlands, including the Dutch Directive for Annual Reporting for small fundraising organizations RJk C2. To this end we have applied our professional expertise in accounting and financial reporting. In a compilation engagement, you are responsible for ensuring that you provide us with all relevant information and that this information is correct.

Therefore, we have conducted our work, in accordance with the applicable regulations, on the assumption that you have fulfilled your responsibility. To conclude our work, we have read the financial statements as a whole to consider whether the financial statements as presented correspond with our understanding of Stichting Malaika Kids Nederland. We have not performed any audit or review procedures which would enable us to express an opinion or a conclusion as to the fair presentation of the financial statements.

During this engagement we have complied with the relevant ethical requirements prescribed by the "Verordening Gedrags- en Beroepsregels Accountants" (VGBA, Dutch Code of Ethics). You and other users of these financial statements may therefore assume that we have conducted the engagement in a professional, competent and objective manner and with due care and integrity and that we will treat all information provided to us as confidential.

The Hague, June 24, 2022.

Bollard Accountants ✓ Belastingadviseurs

S.C.M. Dalmulder AA RB

Malaika Kids Netherlands contact details

Registered Address: Stichting Malaika Kids Netherlands
Beukplein 13
2565 ZE Den Haag

Bank: NL56 INGB 0009 6949 38; BIC INGBNL2A

ANBI number: 53564

RSIN/Fiscal number: 816803845

Email: info@malaika-kids.org

Web: www.malaika-kids.org/nl



APPENDIX - The operations in Tanzania in 2021

The next part of this report describes what has been happening in Malaika Kids Tanzania in 2021.

Malaika Kids in Numbers

A summary of the number of children being cared for by Malaika Kids Tanzania.

	Reception Home	Relatives Support Programme	Children's Village	Total
Children at beginning of 2021	13	89	72	174
Incoming – external	+16	+22	+5	+43
Moved from Children's Village	+5	0	-5	0
Placed with family	-6	-7	-4	-17
Moved to Children's Village	-9	-2	+11	0
Left Malaika Kids	0	-5	-3	-8
Total at end of year 2021	19	97	76	192

- The overall numbers of children helped at year-end has continued to grow to 192 – and will probably exceed 200 in the near future.
- In addition, 17 children were helped on a short-term temporary basis, before an appropriate home was found.
- The Reception Home is close to full capacity. We may shortly need to rent extra room for older children doing courses near to the Reception Home.
- We help nearly 100 children through the Relatives Support Programme. These children are supported in the community, often cared for by a grandmother.

A Year in the Life of Malaika Kids

Our priority during 2021 was to keep our staff and children safe from Covid-19 and we substantially achieved this goal. We feel we have overcome the worst and face 2022 with excitement and enthusiasm. Here follow some of the highlights of 2021.

January

Our Malaika Kids had a good Christmas break in the Children's Village. Each child lives in a family unit of up to 10 children, looked after by a live-in mama. This model provides a consistent base for those children who attend special and boarding schools. When they return home for the holidays, they really do return home to their Malaika family and mama.



One group wrote, 'It was a very nice Christmas holiday and Christmas day we ate very good foods like chips, chicken, pilau, samosa, donuts, chapatti and we drank soda and a very good milk tea. And also, we have some music and we danced and enjoyed very much.'

Another told us about their outing to the seaside. They said, 'We enjoyed a lot on the beach and we learned how to swim so that we can immediately help if someone sink in water... we visited beach of Barakuda and enjoyed so much to swim in the very big ocean. We played music and other very good games.'

February

Because of Covid-19 reports, we in Europe have encouraged the staff in Tanzania to give these health concerns their top priority and take all appropriate measures. We suggested these should include:

- Stopping travel between the Children's Village in Mkuranga and Dar es Salaam – using phones instead.
- Avoid field visits related to the Relatives Support Programme – make food collections as safe as possible.
- Continue to send kids to school if legally obliged but require masks and social distancing wherever possible.
- Defer 'regulatory compliance' actions (e.g. with the Occupational Safety and Health Authority) that involve external visits by our staff or external people visiting MK premises.
- Try to ensure that buying and selling of food, etc., is done with minimal external contact.



March

Over the past 15 years, the number of children we support has gradually risen to what is now an all-time high of 174. However, this total gives only a very partial picture of the work that we do.

The Reception Home is where traumatised or abandoned children are brought to us by Welfare. Sometimes this is only temporary. Initially, we utilise the local television station, which has a programme designed to try to unite families.

We try hard to find a family member who can look after these children in the community, with help from us with food, school costs including uniforms, and health insurance. This is organised through our Relatives Support Programme, (as pictured on this report's front cover).

There are many children for whom we cannot find a suitable family. When this is the case, we transfer them from the Reception Home to our purpose-built Children's Village in Mkuranga.

As they become adults, older children leave the Children's Village and move to the Reception Home in Dar es Salaam where they continue with their learning.



For example, 12 are at present undertaking training courses in, among other things, accountancy, carpentry, law, social work and teaching in Dar es Salaam. We look forward to them joining their brothers and sisters in employment in the next few years.

Even though they had a difficult start in life they are now making a positive contribution to society.



April

For some months the children were unable to go to school due to Covid-19 regulations and were 'home schooled' by us. And there has been no serious health issue for any of our children or staff so far. Sadly, one of our supporters, a carpenter (pictured below on the right) who made a number of desks for the local primary school and trained up two of our children, died of 'pneumonia.'



Former President Magufuli died in March 2021. He was immediately succeeded by his Vice President, Samia Suluhu Hassan, the first female to hold this office.



May

Najma has been looking after children for 'as long as I can remember.' She brought up six of her own as well as taking care of children who had no one else to turn to. For many years this meant opening her own house behind the vegetable market to three or four or five children who would otherwise be begging on the street.



She says, 'It was like a dream come true to hear that a whole village would be built to care for vulnerable children. I would be able to help so many more kids now.' The Children's Village was officially opened by a former President of Tanzania, Dr Mwinyi, in 2010.



When she visits during the holidays she is mobbed by small children on her arrival. After disentangling herself she gets down to work, talking to each of the ten Mamas and advising on any problems they may have. For example, children who have recently joined us are often traumatised by events in their past life, and bedwetting is commonplace until they settle down. Some children have never slept in a bed before.

June

In Tanzania, the school year runs from January to December, and the month of June is always a holiday month. The Children's Village is very busy with an overall total of 71 children as young as 2 and as old as 19 years.

Foundation Malaika Kids Netherlands - Annual Report and Accounts 2021

The younger children thoroughly enjoy the new playground equipment that your generous donations have enabled us to buy. The old equipment had lasted for ten years and was becoming very rickety and unsafe.



The secondary children have each been busy writing us a short essay. 'The year is 2025. Describe a day in your life.' Some have very high expectations – seeking to become a doctor or a lawyer is popular. Generally, we would ask for a more 'realistic' objective, but the girl who wants to be a pilot is startlingly clever and we would not rule it out! Others have more modest ambitions, such as becoming a shopkeeper. In this case, we try to explain that a formal apprenticeship or college qualification after leaving school will always be useful.

July

The government has now begun to be open about the pandemic. President Hassan said earlier this month, 'The third wave is already in the country'.



Our children are young and healthy and are not at great risk. But we worry for some of our older staff and in particular for the carers of the children in our Relatives Support Programme, many of whom are grandmothers and most of whom live in Dar es Salaam.



We have made sure that they understand the dangers of the infection and have provided them all with masks.

At the beginning of July, the children returned to school after a month's holiday; one of our mothers gave birth to a healthy baby boy, and two more orphaned children joined our Malaika Kids family. One older boy is getting ready to leave us to go to college in September.

August

Over the past month, we have had an unusually high number of children – six – moving into our Children’s Village, perhaps as a result of the increasing strain on the Welfare system.

Our latest arrivals are three-month-old twins whose mother recently died. They came to us earlier this week. Both are being looked after by the same mama. Last week a two-year-old girl joined us from an orphanage that only looks after babies and tries to find more permanent homes for their children when they grow older.



Earlier this month we were joined by a brother and sister who had been abandoned, first by their parents and then by their grandmother. Despite what must have been a very traumatic time for them, they are academically gifted and we are delighted that the fee-paying, English-speaking primary school next door to the Children’s Village has agreed to accept them in years 4 and 5.

We have also taken in a child whose mother is mentally ill and unable to look after him properly. His teachers were concerned for his safety and contacted the Welfare Department, who in turn contacted us.



September

14 children are resident in the Reception Home, studying at college or on apprenticeship schemes. Two children are doing particularly well, and we have hopes that they will both go on to Bachelor Degrees in Social Work and Accountancy. We have four undertaking carpentry courses, one doing work experience in a local workshop (see below). Others are learning hairdressing skills.



Three children moved from the Children's Village last month and are in the process of finalising their courses. All have O level qualifications and so will be studying challenging subjects such as freight and port management, marketing, and pharmacology.

October

Violet, one of our mothers in the Children's Village, sadly died, almost certainly of Covid-19, although her death certificate stated 'pneumonia'.



She had received the vaccine only a few days before she became ill, not enough time for it to be effective. Violet had been in hospital in Mkuranga for 2 weeks, some of the time on oxygen. She was then discharged back to her own mother's house. Unfortunately, she deteriorated again and died before she could be moved back to hospital. She was 48 years old.

Violet had worked tirelessly for Malaika Kids for over 6 years. She was loved by everybody and had an infectious warm smile that seemed to light up not just her face, but her entire body. She looked after 10 children with ages ranging from three years old all the way up to 19. These children all came to us as orphans and in a sense, they have now been orphaned for a second time.



They are heartbroken and being supported by all the other mamas in the Children's Village who are also mourning the loss of a very dear colleague and friend.

November



Malaika Kids Tanzania owns 25 acres of land of which the village takes up about half. Since the start of the building of the village, we have been working hard to develop the uncultivated land and grow our own vegetables and fruits. Typical vegetables are okra, sour tomatoes, green pepper, cassava, maize and onions. The soil is not very rich so growing crops takes quite some doing.

Last year the final plot of land was cleared and prepared for agriculture. The children in the village are actively involved in the whole process of growing, maintaining as well as harvesting.

In cooperation with a group of Masters students at the RAU (Royal Agricultural University) with input from their professor Ms Cannon, an Agro Forestry Plan was developed and the first phase of phase was implemented We started planting a number of different fruit trees and a few other species which help the fruit trees to grow and prosper. Typical fruits are bananas, mangoes, oranges and cashews. Pothole planting is used to make best use of the limited availability of water. We hope that with a combination of annual crops and fruits from the trees, the output of the available land will increase.



December

Our Children's Village is full of chat and laughter as all 34 primary school children, plus 17 secondary school boarders, return for the December holidays. And our nursery school children have been busy drawing their favourite animals, particularly lions and giraffes.

Our Relatives Support Programme has had a busy year. For example, one eight-year-old lives with her grandmother who is now very frail. Her mother died giving birth to her while her father is a drug addict and absent from the household.

The parents of a thirteen-year-old boy are both dead, the mother recently in a car accident. He lives with his grandfather who cares for five other children. The grandfather takes on small plumbing jobs when he can; at present he is unable to find work.



A twelve-year-old girl lost her father to illness five years ago. She now lives with her mother who is unable to walk. Her neighbours, themselves very poor, have been paying her bus fare so that she can attend school.

