

CHPF is located at a blue balloon

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## 1. Introduction

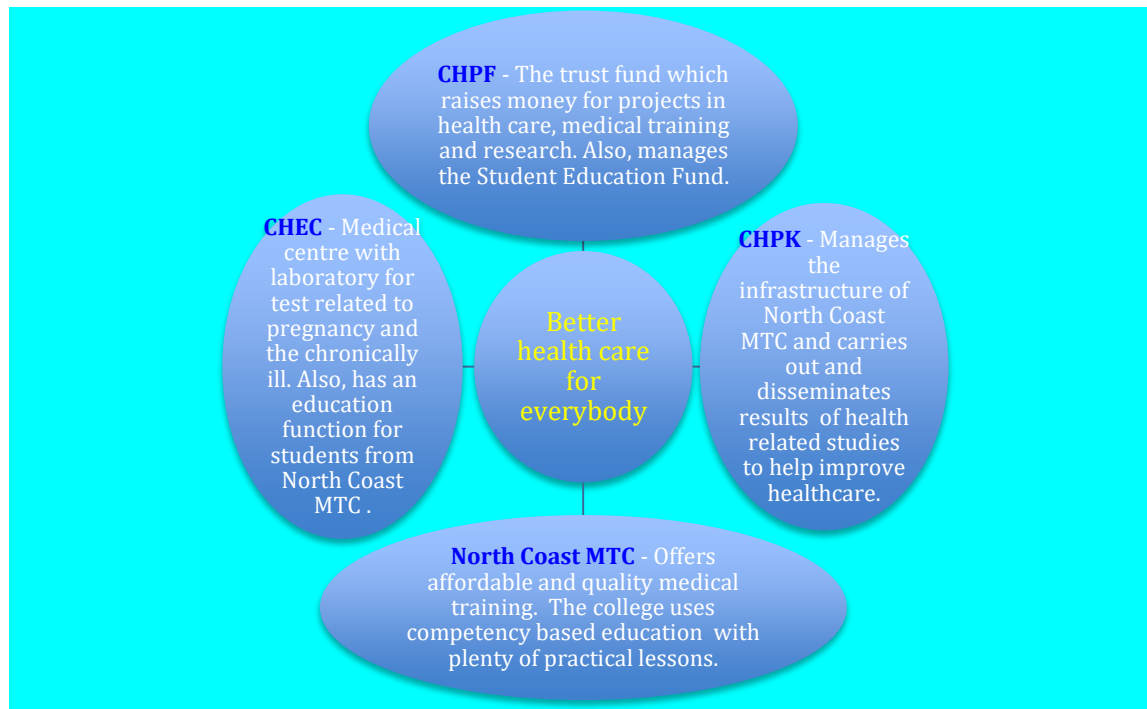
We were shocked to see that it already more than a year ago that our last CHPF newsletter was released! Mid-2017 you might have received our CHPF Annual report. However, it is high time to inform you again about the developments and projects of CHPF. And that is quite a lot in a year...

Therefore, in this newsletter updates on the study fund for medical and paramedical students, the several projects supported by CHPF and the developments in North Coast Medical Training College. A lot of information and pictures; the financial information will follow in our annual report which will be ready around May-June.

2017 was a year of elections in Kenya. Elections made it a difficult year because of the effects on daily life. Tourists and investors were careful and many people who are dependent on seasonal jobs and casual work hardly earned an income. In addition, preceding the elections, everybody wants his or her issues to be addressed first and in hunting for their own interest, sometimes they overlook the interests of other people: strikes in the public sectors, specifically in health and education were plenty and long and the year round. Public hospitals and health centres were closed months in a row, with serious consequences for health of the surrounding communities. Although now, after elections, everything is more quiet and things are starting up again, there is still a lot of discomfort with many people being convinced that the elections were not fair.

So, a difficult year, but despite that and especially with the support and assistance received for the student education fund, many students were able to continue with their students. Also, we were able to carry out a few activities through which we provided health care for the people in our surrounding community.

## 2. Who we are and how we collaborate



## 3. Student Education Fund

In 2017, the student education fund (SEF) formed our core activity and that will continue to be the case in 2018 because it is fundamental to what we try to achieve: making quality medical training accessible. Thanks to support from this fund, many needy but motivated students who would otherwise be unable, can pursue a medical course. The demand on the study fund of CHPF was again overwhelming and we have, thanks to you, been able to support many students. We received support for this fund from many individuals, Wanawa Foundation, Diorapthe Foundation, Cordaid, and Friends of the Medical Mission Sisters.

Support from this fund is mainly issued as a study loan and a small percentage is issued as a bursary. Therefore, the fund is largely sustainable so that also in future, students can use it when their predecessors refund their loans. In implementation, we work together with the Higher Education Loans Board, which administers the fund and they issuing and repayment of the loans. CHPF does the fund raising and the selection of students who need the support most. In 2017 the issuing of study loans delayed from March to July-August due to all kind of IT problems within the HELB when they changed to a new system. However, that has improved over the last part of



*Ruphince, one of the supported students, with her mother and left the principal Bernard Mosongo and in the middle Lucy Pamba, the CHPF program assistant*

2017 and we are now busy with a new support round for students for this academic year. In 2017, a total of 112 students received a study loan and 16 students an additional bursary.

Donations for this fund are continuously very welcome and can be received through the euro account of Wanawa Foundation in the Netherlands or the euro or Kenyan shilling account of Community Health Promotion Fund in Kenya (for bank details – see end of newsletter) while indicating: **CHPF- study fund**.

## 4. Projects in 2017

### Project: Community Health and Education Centre



*The almost ready laboratory with some of the acquired microscopes*

At the end of 2016 we received support from Wanawa Foundation, “Stichting OntwikkelingsSamenwerking De Ronde Venen” and the Wild Geese Foundation to complete and furnish the Community Health and Education Center (CHEC). We completed most of this work in 2017. The project was to be completed by September 2017 various factors caused some delays. However, by the end of 2017, almost the whole project was completed with only the purchase of some medical equipment for the laboratory remaining. This will be completed in the first quarter of 2018. Aim of the project is to ensure that pregnant women from the surrounding community get easier access to recognize possible pregnancy problems early. In addition, we also want to help to improve the care for the chronically ill. The laboratory will be able to offer some specific tests. In addition, in the beginning of 2017, a collaboration was started together with the Dutch Rotary Doctors and the public dispensary in Bomani to improve care for people with diabetes and hypertension. However, the clinic had start-up difficulties due to the strikes

and the subsequent closure of the dispensary for most of the year. Early 2018, it has re-started and now with more success. Finally, the laboratory will also function as a practical training site for the school. A nice combination of care and education.

### **Project: Delivery sets**

In 2017, we did a fund raising to help to relieve the shortage of delivery sets and related equipment in the public hospitals and centres with which North Coast MTC collaborates. On average, about 40 women deliver every day in the hospitals of Kilifi, Malindi and Mariakani and there was a large shortfall in medical materials to assist during these deliveries and to prevent infections and other complications.



Thanks to the generous support of the “Stichting Voeten in de Aarde” and the “Stichting OntwikkelingsSamenwerking De Ronde Venen” this project was a huge success! In consultations with the hospitals a total of 26 basic sets for deliveries were purchased and issued to the three hospitals as well as two smaller medical centres. Also, 12 sets with extra materials (for stitching etcetera) and some other related equipment like suction machines, weighing scales, waterproof aprons etcetera were donated.



*Issuing of delivery sets to a public dispensary in Bomani*

### **Project: Furniture for North Coast MTC**

With support from the Wanawa Foundation we could provide some additional assistance to North Coast MTC through helping them to purchase some furniture. This was a combined effort in that North Coast MTC also paid part of the costs and then CHPF could top-up. For example, CHPF purchased five double-deckers and North Coast MTC paid for the mattresses; CHPF supported benches for the students and North Coast MTC paid for the tables. CHPF also supported the purchase of some equipment for the “Hanze Kitchen”, the school kitchen, where students in nutrition and dietetics do some of their practicums and where staff of the college take their meals. We purchased a freezer, a microwave, and serving dishes.



*De nieuwe keukenmaterialen & Esther – de chef en praktijkbegeleidster*

### **Project: Borehole for water provision**

Like the purchase of the furniture, also the construction of a borehole was done with co-funding from CHPF. With a donation from the “Heilige Hart Zusters” (Sisters of the Holy Heart), North Coast MTC was finally able to have the water supply guaranteed. This will really help the school as water supply from the public water and sewerage institution often does not function, sometimes for one or two full weeks in a row. Currently, the school has 30,000 litre water storage capacity, which was sufficient for the standard water rationing (normally the college gets supply twice or thrice per week) but not for longer periods. With more than 300 students, many of them who are also boarding, this created crisis after crisis. With the donation and the funds that the school was able to allocate from its own funds, we succeeded to dig a borehole; a deep (210 feet), relatively narrow (diameter 6”) pipe through which water from lower ground water levels is pumped to the surface. The more superficial reservoirs which we could have reached with a normal well, were not large enough and digging a well was actually more expensive than drilling a borehole. The school now finally has a reliable source of water.

### **Project: Improving the facility and a “pregnancy care day” at the Bomani Dispensary**

In September, CHPF and North Coast MTC collaborated closely with “Mama na Mtoto” a British NGO which aims to improve the mother and child care at the local dispensary. As an initiation of the same, in September and October, an underground water tank was built, the incinerator (for potential infectious waste) was repaired, and a placenta pit was dug. In addition, an open day was organised for pregnant women and their partners, where several informative sessions were conducted (about pregnancy, delivery, recognizing signs of (sexual) abuse in children, contraception) and where babies and pregnant women were assessed. The day was a big success, more so because many women were already far in their pregnancy but had never attended antenatal clinics because of the closure of public health facilities. We are exploring how we can continue to improve the care for children pregnant women at the facility and how we can help to improve the knowledge among the population, and specifically the youth, about pregnancy, menstruation, and contraception.



*North Coast MTC students ready to assist during the “pregnancy care day”*

### **In-kind donations**

Besides financial support we also received plenty and very welcome support in the form of direct donations. Through various channels many medical books arrived in Kenya and are now accessible for students in the library! Other support arrived as well: various shirts and coats which are now used by various staff working in the facility management and in the garden; kitchen utensils that are being used in the college kitchen; medical instruments; computer materials and replacement parts for Skillslab models. We also know that the Hanze

University team will carry with them many microscopes, among other items, which is very nice now that the laboratory has been expanded.

#### **What we had wanted to do but did not: Project fire safety**

The distance between the nearest fire station and the village of Bomani is approximately 40 kilometers. A huge distance and in case of fire, very dangerous. We would have liked to support North Coast MTC in acquiring fire equipment and training of students and the community around in fire safety. However, we have not yet succeeded to raise funds for this project – we hope to succeed in 2018.

## **5. Ontwikkelingen in North Coast MTC**

North Coast MTC ondervond een drietal negatieve effecten van de Keniaanse verkiezingen: Veel meer problemen met betaling van schoolgeld door nieuwe leerlingen, een kleinere aanwas van nieuwe leerlingen (dit was een gegeneraliseerd effect; aan al het tertiair onderwijs was de toestroom van eerstejaars zeer laag - de opening van het academisch jaar viel midden in de verkiezingstijd en veel ouders hadden of geen geld of waren onzeker over het verloop van de verkiezingen of allebei, en hielden hun kinderen thuis), en problemen met de rotatie van studenten in de ziekenhuizen en gezondheidscentra omdat die een groot deel van het jaar gesloten waren.

Ondanks de moeizame tijd, maakte North Coast MTC weer een goede groei door. In totaal vonden 125 nieuwe studenten hun weg naar de school. Daarnaast zijn we wederom betrokken in de opleiding van Somalische vluchtelingen in Kenia. Binnen een programma van de International Refugee Committee (onder meer gesponsord door de Nederlandse organisatie Stichting Vluchteling) trainen we in een kort programma van acht maanden negentig jongeren. Hiervan zijn er zeventig vluchteling en sinds september bevinden zich continue een aantal van onze medewerkers in het vluchtelingenkamp voor training op locatie. Daarnaast zijn er ook twintig Kenianen uit de omgeving van het kamp die ondersteund worden en die een vergelijkbaar trainingstraject volgen, maar dan in de school.

Naast nieuwe aanwas natuurlijk ook studenten die ons verlieten omdat ze hun studie hebben afgerond. In juli 2017 vond de tweede feestelijke diploma-uitreiking plaats voor vierentachtig studenten en sindsdien zijn er alweer rond de zestig studenten met groot succes door hun nationale examens gekomen. Een klein beetje trots zijn we wel want binnen de klinische geneeskunde opleiding haalden alle studenten hun examen en bovendien vond voor de eerste keer een beoordeling van scholen plaats en staan wij op de tweede plek van de vijfendertig scholen! Ook alle voedingsleer studenten haalden



*Speech van Reuben Waswa, één van de directeurs, tijdens het afstuderen*



*Natuurlijk ook muziek, dans, zang en poëzie tijdens het afstuderen!*

het nationale examen en bovendien scoorde één van onze voedingsleer- studenten het hoogste cijfer in het nationale examen. Het nationale examen voor verpleeg- & verloskunde is wat anders georganiseerd en bestaat uit vijf individuele examens. Ook dit werd heel goed gedaan; negenentwintig studenten haalden alle examens in één keer en zeven studenten moesten één van de vijf examens opnieuw doen en haalden dit allemaal in de herkansing. Naast deze drie opleidingen, waar we in 2012 en 2013 mee begonnen, zijn er twee opleidingen bijgekomen: openbare gezondheidszorg en een opleiding trauma en gipstechnieken.



*De drie groepen afstuderende studenten – klinische geneeskunde in groen, voedingsleer in geel, en verpleeg- en verloskunde in blauw*

We werken nog steeds hard aan de verbetering van de kwaliteit van het medische onderwijzend personeel. Hiertoe werken we momenteel samen met de universiteit van Maastricht en de Hanze Hogeschool. In samenwerking met SHE (School of Health Professions Education) van de universiteit van Maastricht en tezamen met een aantal specialisten in medisch onderwijs in Kenia zijn we een opleidingstraject “Enabling Learning”, een opleiding om gezondheidszorgpersoneel dat betrokken is bij onderwijs een stevige basis in onderwijs te geven – een goede dokter is nog niet automatisch een goede docent!

*The trainers of the “Enabling learning” course*



A team with staff members of the Hanze University of Applied Science will visit North Coast MTC for two weeks at the beginning of March. Twelve of them will coach the college staff on competency based education; nine others will assist with the construction of extra accommodation at the school. Besides those direct objectives, it will also be a period to exchange many many other things – everyone is looking forward and exchange has started extensively already on the Whatsapp!

Besides expansion of the accommodation, the expansion of lecture halls, classrooms and offices is another priority and we are happy to have gotten a loan for this. We will start this month with the first phase of the construction.

## **6. Other events**

Op het vlak van gezondheidszorg hebben we in 2017 geprobeerd onze activiteiten uit te breiden via ondersteuning van de lokale overheidskliniek en door ons laboratorium uit te breiden. Hierdoor zijn de klinieken voor suikerziekte en hoge bloeddruk op gang gekomen. Nederlandse artsen komen hiertoe vrijwillig naar diverse klinieken in Kilifi County onder Rotary Dokters Nederland en sinds 2017 komen zij ook naar Bomani. Een begin is gemaakt, maar door de sluiting van de kliniek voor een groot deel van het jaar vanwege stakingen en periodes waarin de dokters afwezig waren vanwege negatief reisadvies (vanwege de verkiezingen) is deze start nogal moeizaam geweest en was de patiëntenopkomst laag. We verwachten dat dit in 2018 beter gaat lopen.

Het al eerdergenoemde project met Mama na Mtoto heeft als doel de zwangerschapszorg te verbeteren. Daarnaast zijn we momenteel ook hard aan de slag met de Rotary Club om te kijken of we de infrastructuur in de lokale kliniek kunnen uitbreiden en zo geschikt kunnen maken voor bevallingen. Om een duidelijker raamwerk voor samenwerking met de overheid in gezondheidszorg voor de omgeving te creëren, is er in 2017 een proces opgestart om een “memorandum of understanding” op te stellen. Dat heeft nogal wat politieke voeten in de aarde gehad, maar het lijkt nu dan toch in een gevorderd stadium te zijn – de juristen van Kilifi County zijn aan het beoordelen of het memorandum wettelijk goed in elkaar steekt.



Tenslotte zijn we sinds 2014 bezig met onderzoeksactiviteiten op het vlak van op het vlak van personeel in de gezondheidszorg, reproductieve gezondheidszorg en diverse aspecten van gezondheid op gemeenschapsniveau. Nadat de resultaten van ons eerste onderzoek waren meegenomen in een beleidsdocument voor diverse Oost- en Zuid-Afrikaanse landen, hebben we in november de resultaten van het tweede onderzoek verwerkt in een artikel waarvan we hopen dat het in de loop van 2018 gepubliceerd zal worden. Bovendien kregen we goedkeuring voor de financiering van vier kleine lokale onderzoeksprojecten in een naburige regio. In 2018 zullen we deze onderzoeken uitvoeren en kijken we ook uit naar meer samenwerking met andere organisaties en Kilifi County op dit vlak.

*Groep Clinical Officers Reproductive Health tijdens de presentatie van de onderzoeksresultaten*



## **7. Volunteering and internship possibilities**

We like hosting volunteers and interns who can contribute in one way or another to the quality of education and professionalism of the school, the health centre, or any other area where we are involved. Management, teaching staff and students are all very interested in working with people from other places, so *karibuni* (welcome)! Contact us if you would like to discuss possibilities: [info@cphfund.org](mailto:info@cphfund.org).

**Donations are very necessary and can be sent as follows:**

If you are based in Kenya directly to **Community Health Promotion Fund**

Bank: **Commercial Bank of Africa**

Branch: **Nyali**

Account: **7676210018 (Kenyan Shilling)**

Name: **Community Health Promotion Fund**

Donations from the Netherlands can be made with tax exemption through our Dutch ANBI-approved partner, the Wanawa Foundation: account number: **NL24 RABO 011 04 55 657** quoting **CHPF**.

It is also possible to donate with tax exemption through the Hanze University Foundation. Rekening **NL60RABO0149152868**. Quoting: for **CHPF**.

**Donations in EUROS direct to Kenya:**

Bank: **Commercial Bank of Africa**

Bank address: Upper Hill, Commercial Bank Building, Mara & Ragati Roads - PO Box 30437 – 00100 Nairobi, Kenya

SWIFT Code/BIC: **CBAFKENX**

Account: **7676210023**

Name: **Community Health Promotion Fund**



Website: [www.chpfund.org](http://www.chpfund.org) | Email: [info@chpfund.org](mailto:info@chpfund.org)

 <http://www.facebook.com/NorthCoastMedicalTrainingCollege>

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