

| Inside |
|--|
| Minister Brophy's Visit |
| Welfare Services |
| Learnings6 |
| Repairs and Maintenance |
| Donations 8 |
| Sponsored Students10 |
| Social and Health Services Beneficiaries |
| Education Services |
| CBC Assessments |
| Goetz Foundation19 |
| St Michael's Mid-Term Results 20 |
| Skills Centre |
| Announcements MPC24 |

Page | 1

Mukuru Promotion Centre

Empowerment Step By Step

Sponsored by Sisters of Mercy www.mercymukuru.co.ke Nairobi KENYA

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Dear Partners, Supporters and Friends,

August was an unusual month. We had General Elections on 9th August 2022. Schools were closed for two weeks. The General Election results showed one party slightly in front of the other and only barely over the 50% required to govern. People feared the loser would not accept the result. The tension and fear Many residents of Mukuru moved could be felt. upcountry with their children fearing fights between youth on different sides. They feared to be caught in the crossfire. Some physical fighting did break out in the National Election Centre at Karen and there were skirmishes in a few other places. Some tried to block the announcing of the General Election results. The new President of Kenya is William Ruto who was the previous Deputy President.

Some of the Election Commissioners disagreed with the verdict raising even more tension. Eventually calm prevailed, after the Supreme Court of Kenya upheld the General Election result and life slowly began returning to normal for the country. However, it took longer for residents to return home due to the hiking of fares. The time out of school was a great loss especially for those in examination classes.

We were happy to have the visit of Ireland's Minster of State for Overseas Development Aid and Diaspora, Colm Brophy TD accompanied by the Irish Ambassador to Kenya, Fionnuala Quinlan, and other Embassy officials as well as Irish Aid Officials. It is very important that they come to the ground to see the conditions. The Minister and Ambassador accompanied me on a short walk into the slums and saw firsthand the deprivations that the slum dwellers endure each day. They were interested to meet representatives of women who had been helped with funding through the grants to make small businesses to keep themselves and their families after they lost jobs during CoVid19 lockdowns.

We also had a visit from Maria Douglas from the Sisters of Mercy Mission and Development Office. Maria has been to Kenya several times over the years. She had a very short time, but still managed to visit the different MPC Departments such as the Vocational Training Centre, Songa Mbele na Masomo, Rehabilitation Centre and Head Office.

With all the tensions and interruptions, it was great to see all of our Departments get back to work and servicing the needs of the poor. We value peace and stability very highly as we know we need a safe environment for our staff and work to prosper.

Thanks to all of you for supporting the work.

Sr Mary Killeen

Minister Brophy's TD Visit

Mr Colm Brophy TD, the Irish Minister of State for Overseas Development Aid together with the Irish Ambassador, H.E Quinlan to Kenya visited MPC in August to tour the successful implementation of the business empowerment program as well as the impact of support received from Irish citizens. The team was able to interact with three beneficiaries who had successfully started and maintained their businesses. The Minister and Ambassador also visited the Mukuru slums to see first-hand how the slum conditions have worsened since the CoVid19 pandemic.



Ambassador and Minister with Sr Mary

In addition to the pandemic and the war in Ukraine, the Horn of Africa is on track for its fifth consecutive, failed, rainy season (ICPAC - Climate Prediction and Applications Centre). The World Bank estimated 66.4 million people in the Horn of Africa region most probably experience food stress, food crisis, emergency or famine. The Director of IGAD (ICPAC), Mr Guleid Artan, stated that the region is on the brink of an unprecedented, humanitarian, catastrophe. The combinations of disasters drive people to do whatever is necessary for survival. Many people end up in slums.

MPC is very grateful to the Irish Embassy who have offered empowerment opportunities through its small business enterprise program.



Minister Brophy and Ambassador Quinlan on slum walk



Minister and some of the Women Beneficiaries

RTE covered the story on national television in Ireland which led to people getting in touch to donate to the MPC works. We are humbled by their generosity. Thank you.

Welfare Services

Songa Mbele na Masomo Children's Centre

After the disruptions of the General Election, the children in the 4 units participated in different learning activities according to their level of abilities. The Centre enrolled 3 new children with

cerebral palsy and autism taking the total enrolments to 89 being 54 boys and 35 girls with 22 staff to ensure smooth running and management. Extra attention can be provided to the children as the Centre received 10 volunteers under the internship program from Rafa Homecare College; an occupational therapist from Kenya Medical Training Centre (KMTC); Kbit College; and the Frederick Gunn School, Washington.



Rafa Students on Internship

The children are monitored well and the milestones are measured regularly as they continue with their learning and daily living activities, both at the Centre and at home. One little girl was identified as the most improved child in August. A few years ago, we introduced you to baby Griffin who had multiple disabilities such as mild downs syndrome, skin disorder, webbed fingers and malformed skull. The prognosis for Griffin was dire not because there was no treatment available but because the parents lived in the slums. Baby Griffin is now 6 years old and has progressed from pre-primary 1 to pre-primary 2 class. The various Units at the Centre received good quality learning materials that has enhanced the lessons for the children. The materials have helped the children in numeracy, literacy, animals, plants, and hygiene practices.



4 year old Esther Awino

The extra hands for the therapy program mean that more sessions can be carried out for the 74 children who require physio and occupational therapy to improve their overall conditions. During the month 304 sessions were conducted on 55 children. With consistent therapy sessions the children have a greater chance to reach their milestones.

Some of the therapy activities involve sensory integration to reduce hyperactivity and improve concentration, stretches to expand joint range, body massage for muscle relaxation, resistance exercises for strengthening, weight bearing exercises for stability and balance to build posture and coordination. The social worker and physiotherapist carried out 10 home visits to assess how well the therapy exercises were conducted at home.

The Centre initiated its social responsibility program for parents whereby they assist at the Centre in some way. There were 23 parents who managed to spend some time at the Centre helping in different areas. The Mukuru slum parent's struggle to provide for their families. It is hoped that this program will provide some dignity to the parents. During the month 9 very needy families were supported with food provisions and 31 parents with clothes.

The Head of Mission, Jill Clement from the Irish Embassy and her team visited the Centre to enquire on the progress of the women's small business program. The program commenced 12 months ago.



Sr Mary and Jill Clements



TARDA Members

Members of the British Army and TARDA visited the Centre and assisted with planting Guava trees that will take 3 years to produce fruit.

A few staff attended some training sessions and workshops on safeguarding and promoting quality care for vulnerable children in Kenya. Raising awareness of children living with disabilities in the slums is very important as they are often forgotten in society.

The Centre received much needed food, hygiene materials, toys, clothes, cutlery and plastic chairs from different donors and well-wishers. The impact of the CoVid19 pandemic still ripples through the community. Many parents are simply desperate to do their best with their limitations to provide something for their families. MPC is very grateful to the well-wishers who help with donations of food, clothes and shoes.

Rehabilitation Centre

The learning and personal development continued throughout the month with the 63 boys in resident and the other 16 who were exited but are connected to the Centre through the Sponsorship Office.

| Classes | Accelerated Learning Class | St Catherine Primary | Vocational Training | Secondary School | Totals |
|------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--------|
| Year 1 | 19 | | | | 19 |
| Year 2 | 12 | | | | 12 |
| CBC Grades | | | | | |
| Grade 2 | | | | | |
| Grade 3 | | 5 | | | 5 |
| Grade 4 | | | | | |
| Grade 5 | | 1 | | | 1 |
| Grade 6 | | 1 | | | 1 |
| Grade 7 | | 3 | | | 3 |
| Grade 8 | | 4 | | | 4 |
| Vocational | | | | | |
| Grade III | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Grade II | | | 13 | | 13 |
| Secondary Grades | | | | | |
| Form 1 | | | | 2 | 2 |
| Form 2 | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Form 3 | | | | | |
| Form 4 | | | | | |
| University | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Total | 31 | 14 | 15 | 3 | 63 |

All classes were busy completing assignments and assessments. The St Catherine's Grade 3 students successfully completed their KNEC practical assessments.



The Year 2 boys demonstrate their literacy skills



Library time preparing for upcoming examinations.

The focus for the carpentry students in August was on learning how to operate different wood working machines, technical drawing, construction of joints and wood puzzles. Outside the classroom the students finished the chicken coop and placed the chickens in their new home.



The weekly communal guidance and counselling sessions provide the boys the opportunity to talk about what is important to them, raise topics of interest or just share some stories. The Centre has two new counsellors, one from Strathmore and one from Daystar Universities to assist in the program on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

Staff attended the three day workshop and AGM for the Association of Sisterhood Kenya's (AOSK)



Catholic Care for Children in Kenya (CCCK) in Nakuru. The main agenda item was on reintegration with a strong focus on the home-based care benefits as opposed to residency in the Comprehensive Care institutions (CCIs).

Page | 7

As it was reported earlier, the Centre had begun work on projects funded by the Brothers and Sisters in Need. The projects included the chicken shed and the vegetables farm. The boys with the guidance from the teachers have been actively working on the farm to ensure that the crops are managed well. The peas are ready for harvesting and the new crop will be Kales. Lots of healthy options for them.

Sr Louise was kept busy as she supervised the repairs to the entrance of the games rooms, gutters and water tank. The broken slabs were replaced with new ones, old gutters were replaced with the new ones and the water tank foundation was constructed to harvest the rainwater from the roof.







Walkway with new slabs

Water tank foundation

Over thirty years ago a fence was erected parallel to the Dunga Road. Clearly the fence was past its use by date. The new fence is improving security with less intrusions through the holes in the fence.



MIRC new fence



The Head Office security dogs (Boris and Carrie) had a litter of pups a couple of months ago. One from the litter, Nelly, and mother Kelly are now in training to be security dogs at the Centre.

Nelson trains the new puppy.

The visitors were many during the month. Maria Douglas, Mission Officer for the Sisters of Mercy Ireland, Pastor Chris Oyakhilome from the Christ Embassy, Rebecca Bor and Benedict Oduor from Strathmore University Law Clinic and Latewa CBO, Rose Schneider a British Airways crewmember and Team Pankaj who brought donations of food provisions and educational resources to support the operational side of the Centre.



Christ Embassy



Guests from Strathmore University



Maria Douglas



Donated Food Provisions in August









Page | 9

The rugby team has been in training on Tuesdays and Fridays since May when Adelaide Nasambu, the coach, who has been sponsored by Paula Cullen and Friends, started to train the boy. Training does make a difference!





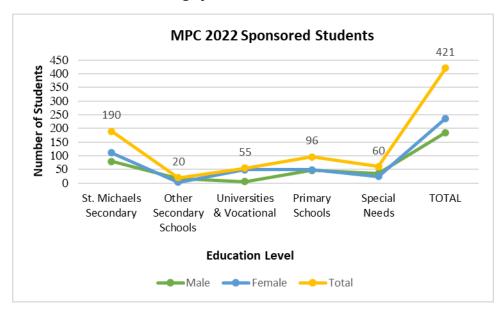
In the other football code, the soccer team participated in a tournament organized by Kennedy Otieno.



Rehab Soccer Team with Coach Kennedy

Sponsorship Office

The educational institution across the country was disrupted by the National Elections where a new president, assembly and representative would be chosen. In recent history the Elections can fuel tensions within the different tribes. To safeguard against any potential violence the schools were closed for a fortnight. The loss of curriculum time just adds to the pressure placed on students this year. The current number of students being sponsored is 421.



Three previously secondary sponsored students gained entrance into university. Now thanks to Peter Crayford and Paula Cullen and Friends they will continue their educational journey at tertiary level. James Kamau will study a Bachelor of Computer Science and Mathematics at Muranga University; Edward Mokua has enrolled in a Bachelor of Technology and Building Construction at Masinde Muliro University, and Emmanuel Wekesa will study for a Bachelor of Economics and Statistics at Kirinyaga University. Needless to say, that the young men are delighted with the prospect of gaining a degree. The hard work begins and we wish them well.



Edward Mokua

James Kamau



Social and Health Services Social Services

Nutritional support has been one of the major activities during the month as the Social Offices have been able to help needy clients from the community with food parcels. The Amaranth program at St. Catherine's Social Office provided both a food package and nutritional porridge flour every two weeks to 76 sick clients with chronic illnesses including adults and children. The malnourished babies' number 10 for August. This has been very impactful to the sick clients in terms of ensuring their immune system is kept at bay. The Clinic assisted a total of 177 needy children through the waiver program and 14 received specialized treatment due to the severity of their conditions and were referred to the appropriate hospitals.

Normal school outreach activities resumed after the National Elections break for the Social Offices such as the follow ups on absenteeism cases, home visits, support for needy students, counseling,

safeguarding for abuse cases and mentorship sessions to mention few. The Child Protection Office continued with the self-defence and awareness sessions for girls at the schools. The self-defence sessions take the girls through basic self-defence tactics to ensure against any unwanted and uninvited encounters.



Self-defence Session

We highly appreciate the continuous support we get from our well-wishers in terms of donations we received. These donations have been channeled towards supporting the needy people from Mukuru community. During the month the department saw an increase in the number of needy clients we supported with various needs. We also supported 20 fire outbreak victims from Kayaaba who lost everything they had to the fire with food, bedding and clothes.



Fire victims receive clothing aid





Parents affected by fire receive food, clothes and shoes

The faces of those who received some form of assistance during the outreach activities in August.









Sick client

Teenage Mother

School Home Visit

Former Students Food parcels

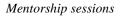






Distribution of sanitary towels, masks and school bags to girls at Sancta Maria, St Michael's and St Elizabeth schools







Food provisions from Queen of Peace Parish South B



Small Business Grocer



Socks at the Rehab

Month of August 2022

| | | Education | | Health Welfare | | elfare | | | | | |
|-----|---------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--|------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-------|
| No. | Case type / Activities | St Bakhita | St Catherine | St Elizabeth | Sancta Maria Kayaaba | St Michael's Secondary | Vocational Training Centre SKILLS | MPC Clinic | Songa Mbele na Masomo | MPC Rehabilitation Centre | Total |
| 1 | Abuse Cases | | | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 2 |
| 2 | Amaranth Adult Clients | | 68 | | | | | | | | 68 |
| 3 | Amaranth Babies & Child Clients | | 8 | | | | | | | | 8 |
| 4 | Behavior and Discipline Cases | | 3 | 8 | 6 | | | | | 11 | 28 |
| 5 | Business Startup / Booster | 1 | | | 1 | 2 | 1 | | | 8 | 13 |
| 6 | Counseling and Guidance sessions | | 6 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 4 | | | 9 | 39 |
| 7 | CoVid19 Hygiene Material Resources | | 153 | | | 112 | | | | | 265 |
| 8 | Donations Received | 1 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 14 | 24 | 49 |
| 9 | Fire and Floods Disaster assistance | 4 | | | 14 | | 1 | | 1 | | 20 |
| 10 | Food Distribution | | 73 | | | | 45 | | | | 118 |
| 11 | Home Visits | 4 | 23 | 36 | 17 | 7 | 1 | | 10 | | 98 |
| 12 | Hospital Visits | | | | | 1 | | | 1 | | 2 |
| 13 | Malnourished Babies | | 10 | | | | | | | | 10 |
| 14 | Medical Cases (to MIC) | 3 | 34 | 3 | 24 | 18 | 5 | 55 | 3 | 29 | 174 |
| 15 | Meetings and Trainings | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | | 3 | 3 | 10 |
| 16 | Mentorship Sessions | 10 | 1 | 3 | 2 | | 2 | | | | 18 |
| 17 | Mobilization of Resources | | | | | | | | | | - |
| 18 | Needy Families Support (Community) | 4 | 78 | | 7 | | 1 | | 85 | | 175 |
| 19 | Needy Students/Children | 10 | 19 | 14 | 17 | 2 | 1 | | | | 63 |
| 20 | Networking | | 3 | 2 | 4 | | 1 | 12 | 5 | 1 | 28 |
| 21 | New Admissions to MPC Institutions | | 1 | 5 | | 2 | | | 3 | 3 | 14 |
| 22 | New Teenage Pregnancies cases | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| 23 | Nutritional Support | | 15 | | 16 | | | | | | 31 |
| 24 | Placement (job/internship experience) | | | | | 1 | | | | 2 | 3 |
| 25 | Pregnancy Support Packages | | 1 | | | | | | | | 1 |
| 26 | Provision of Sanitary Towels | 14 | | 33 | 48 | 75 | | | | | 170 |
| 27 | Referrals (except medical) | | | 1 | 11 | 1 | | | 1 | | 14 |
| 28 | Safeguarding Follow Ups | | | | | 2 | | | | | 2 |
| 29 | School Absenteeism/Truancy | 15 | 6 | 15 | 22 | 17 | | | 55 | 1 | 131 |
| 30 | Schools Profiles | 13 | | 2 | 9 | 10 | | | | | 34 |
| 31 | School Visits | | | | | | | | | | - |
| 32 | Songa Mbele Therapy Sessions | | | | | | | | 304 | | 304 |
| 33 | Sponsorship Follow-ups | | | | | 30 | 6 | | | | 36 |
| 34 | Uniform Aid | 4 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 1 | | | | 59 | 73 |
| | Totals | 84 | 510 | 134 | 213 | 289 | 69 | 67 | 485 | 150 | 2,001 |



Jill Clements at Songa Mbele

Page | 14

During the month MPC hosted Jill Clements, the Director and Head of Mission at the Irish Embassy who spent time touring Songa Mbele na Masomo and saw firsthand the works at the Centre.



MPC Clinic

When the country has its General Elections, many services can be disrupted. The first half of the month experienced a drop in patient numbers as many people would travel upcountry to ancestral lands.

The Clinic organized and conducted two training sessions for the Community Health Volunteers sponsored by Slovak Aid. A total of 64 CHVs attended the sessions. The training focused on proper hygiene, sanitation and good nutrition practices for the residents of Mukuru as a preventive measure to prevent water borne diseases and malnutrition. Raising awareness of communicable disease, will hopefully facilitate a decrease in the diseases in Mukuru slums residents.



CHV session at Mariguini Hall

Summary Treatments For August 2022

| Diseases | 0-5 | 6-12 | 13-17 | 18-35 | 36-49 | 50-64 | Above | Total |
|---------------------------------|-----|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| Diseases | Yrs | Yrs | Yrs | Yrs | Yrs | Yrs | 64 Yrs | Total |
| Outpatients | | | | | | | | |
| Respiratory | 116 | 31 | 22 | 44 | 41 | 16 | 0 | 270 |
| Gastronintestinal | 48 | 12 | 14 | 35 | 14 | 6 | 5 | 134 |
| Cardiovascular | 33 | 22 | 23 | 69 | 37 | 24 | 6 | 214 |
| ENT | 8 | 4 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 25 |
| Genitourinary | 3 | 2 | 4 | 110 | 15 | 4 | 1 | 139 |
| Sexually Transmitted Diseases | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| Musculoskeletal | 11 | 16 | 12 | 31 | 24 | 11 | 3 | 108 |
| Integumentary (Skin) | 16 | 10 | 7 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 49 |
| Dressing | 0 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 14 |
| Other Diseases | 10 | 11 | 8 | 17 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 55 |
| Subtotal Outpatients | 245 | 109 | 94 | 340 | 151 | 65 | 19 | 1023 |
| Clinics | | | | | | | | |
| ANC | | | 4 | 48 | | | | 52 |
| Immunizations | 129 | | | | | | | 129 |
| Nutrition | 34 | | 10 | | | | | 44 |
| Comprehensive Care | | | | | | | | 0 |
| Tuberculosis | | | 0 | 2 | 1 | | | 3 |
| Non Medical (Mental) | | | | | | | | 0 |
| Referrals to Medical Facilities | | | | | | | | 0 |
| Subtotal Clinics | 163 | 0 | 14 | 50 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 228 |
| Total | 408 | 109 | 108 | 390 | 152 | 65 | 19 | 1251 |



The other training sessions held by Mission for Essential Drugs (MEDS) in August for the staff, incorporated a 3-day workshop on Hospital Acquired Infection, Prevention and Control. The training developed guidelines to enhance prevention of nosocomial infections.

MEDS Training



Donations received in August came from the Mater Misericordiae Hospital who donated paracetamol syrup for children.

August 2022 Laboratory Tests

| Laboratory Tests | 0 - 5 Yrs | 6-12 Yrs | 13-17 Yrs | 18-35 Yrs | 36-49 Yrs | 50-64 Yrs | > 64 Yrs | Total |
|---|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------|
| ANC Profile | 0 | 0 | 0 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 18 |
| Anti-streptolysin O test (ASOT) | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Bilirubin Levels | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Blood Group | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Blood Sugar (R.B.S/F.B.S) | 1 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 26 |
| Brucella | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| BS for MPS (Malaria) | 19 | 6 | 4 | 11 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 43 |
| Calcium Levels | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Creatinine levels | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Du Test | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Full Haemogram | 21 | 15 | 10 | 30 | 17 | 2 | 4 | 99 |
| HbA1c | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Helicobacter Pylori | 0 | 1 | 8 | 15 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 38 |
| Hemoglobin Levels | 8 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 15 |
| Hepatitis B (HBsAg) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| High Vaginal Swab Microscopy | 0 | 0 | 0 | 18 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 21 |
| Lipid Profile | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Liver Function Test | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Pregnancy Test | 0 | 0 | 1 | 19 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 21 |
| Rheumatoid Factor | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 6 |
| Salmonella | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| Stool Analysis | 5 | 19 | 12 | 28 | 11 | 2 | 2 | 79 |
| UEC's (Urea, Electrolytes and Creatinine) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Uric Acid | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Urinalyses | 3 | 10 | 7 | 82 | 21 | 6 | 3 | 132 |
| Urine Culture | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Urine multi drug test | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| VDRL/Syphilis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Total | | | | | | | | 520 |
| Average Tests Per Day 24 | | | | | | | | |

August Registrations 2022

| Category | Gender | 0-5 Yrs | 6-12 Yrs | 13-17 Yrs | 18-35 Yrs | 36-49 Yrs | 50-64 Yrs | Above 64 Yrs | Total |
|------------|--------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|-------|
| New cases | Female | 55 | 23 | 23 | 123 | 33 | 20 | 4 | 281 |
| | Male | 49 | 22 | 15 | 58 | 26 | 7 | 3 | 180 |
| Subtotal | | 104 | 45 | 38 | 181 | 59 | 27 | 7 | 461 |
| Revisits | Female | 131 | 29 | 28 | 137 | 58 | 21 | 6 | 410 |
| | Male | 129 | 39 | 31 | 62 | 49 | 18 | 8 | 336 |
| Subtotal | | 260 | 68 | 59 | 199 | 107 | 39 | 14 | 746 |
| Total | | 364 | 113 | 97 | 380 | 166 | 66 | 21 | 1207 |
| Percentage | Female | 51% | 46% | 53% | 68% | 55% | 62% | 48% | 57% |
| | Male | 49% | 54% | 47% | 32% | 45% | 38% | 52% | 43% |

Education Primary Schools

August is usually the holiday time for pupils in a normal academic year. However, this August was characterized by a number of activities that impacted children's learning especially the Grade 6 and Grade 4 CBC assessments. The political campaigns for the national elections were on their last days. The schools were closed for 2 weeks to pave the way for elections, as many primary schools officiated as polling stations.

Part of the new education system requires Grade 6 pupils to select up to 12 junior secondary schools of their choice with the following composition:

2 National 2 Regional 2 County 4 Sub-County and 2 Private schools

The on-line process will take 2 weeks. There is an expectation that the pupils will be guided by their parents during the selection process so that they get schools within their locality. The private primary schools have appropriate facilities to hold junior secondary but they are few.



Grade 6 pupils are currently carrying out their domestic animal rearing projects. This project is supposed to take 2 months and the marks need to be sent to KNEC. This class is also expected to carry out other projects concurrently from other areas such as Art and



Craft – making a marionette; Home science - making beef or chicken stew; Music - solo performance folk song; Physical education - forehead throw or front crawl (swimming); Science and technology – model a human circulatory system.

The Kenya National Examination Council (KNEC) has given the guidelines on how primary schools will conduct assessment tests under the new competency-based curriculum. Schools are expected to download the assessment tools, instructions, scoring guides and sheets from the KNEC website. The required material for assessments should be obtained from the immediate school environment or be improvised as much as possible. The mock written assessments for Grade 6 will cover 2 weeks.

The Government has released a circular in preparation for the Grade 6 and Class 8 examinations. Any school with less than 30 candidates will be required to merge with another private or public school. The private school, Daystar Academy, will combine with St. Bakhita Grade 6 and Class 8.

Two of the school kitchens were repaired as they had chimney issues which were affecting cooking. St. Catherine's kitchen was the most affected where two chimneys were not functional. After 11 years of constant use preparing meals for over 1,000 children each day. St Bakhita was the other primary school which is only 6 years old and prepares meals for around 800 children per day. MPC repaired the broken chimneys to reduce the smoke and improve the working environment for the cooks.



St. Catherine's Kitchen Chimneys



St Bakhita's kitchen chimney



Sancta Maria Kayaaba



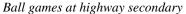
St Bakhita Primary

The schools continue to enjoy the hot lunch supported by Team Pankaj. The feeding program helps keep children in school to ensure constant learning is achieved. MPC is grateful to all donors for their generosity.

The interviewed teachers, by the County, attended one week induction training, planned by the county. The one week orientation for County funded ECDE teachers took place in August to help them understand the County system and expectations. Only one of the ECDE teachers at the MPC schools was retained which just adds to the crisis of teacher shortage.

The Makadara Sub County schools held their ball games and Music festivals in August. The Ball Games were held at Highway Secondary School, only a short distance away. The Music festivals was hosted by St. Patrick Primary School. The pupils who did well with the dances are qualified to proceed to the regional level in all the four schools.









Music festivals at St. Patrick Primary School

Goetz Foundation Project

The Goetz Foundation Project has been supporting girls' education at the secondary and vocational levels from 2021. The girls at St Michael's Secondary received necessary school resources such as uniforms, shoes, writing materials, stationery, mathematical sets and calculators. In addition, they were also supported with hygiene materials such as hair combs, towels, underwear, sanitary towels to reduce their absenteeism. All of the necessities add up to a major cost and as most of the girls have to fend for themselves which hinders them from attending regular lessons, this has given them a great boost.





St Michael's Girls Students

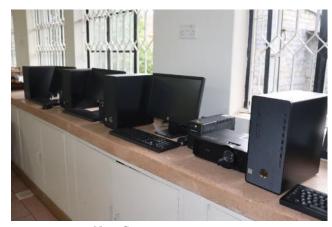
The 10 young girls who are under the Foundation's 'Internship Program' have been undertaking their duties and they were rotated to other departments to gain practical experience.

The vocational training girls who are enrolled in one of the courses such as Catering, Hairdressing and Beauty and Front Office were assessed on their first term practicals and theoretical examinations. The results indicated that they are progressing well.

The Foundation has committed to a major upgrade on various equipment for the different courses at the Centre. The refurbishing and renovation of the catering kitchen included two large new cookers. The computer laboratory was expanded to include 12 new computers with software, data projector, antivirus and battery power backups.



New Cookers



New Computers

Another element to the Goetz Foundation Program is the Girls Empowerment Program (*Mentorship Program*). The Form 3 and Form 4 girls attend sessions with internal and external mentors with group discussions on various topics. The external mentors come from a range of professional backgrounds.







Girls Empowerment Mentor Sessions

St Michael's Secondary School

After a pandemic that caused major disruption to the academic calendar, there was another disruption, the General Elections, which meant that students only received 15 days of classes in August. The scheduled meetings for parents and teachers were rescheduled. The examinations and co-curricular activities were postponed until September. However, with some creative maneuvering the students sat their mid-term exams prior to the directive from the Government to close schools for a fortnight. The exams were conducted early in the morning and late in the evening so we could teach during the day to push the syllabus.

At the beginning of each term St Michael's organizes a celebration of the Mass to help the students understand their gifts and how they can be used the way God intended. The students actively participate in the Mass and appreciate having the priest come to the school. Fr Binu from Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish provided some inspiring thoughts for the students to consider especially given the upcoming General Elections.



Fr Binu

If the pandemic has taught us one thing it is to be flexible and utilize technology as much as possible. The parents/ guardians received the results and report forms on their phones via SMS and or online thanks to the new 'Zeraki Analytics System'.

The Form 3 parents meeting was held and they were briefed on the expectation as their child will transit to Form Four in the next three months. The parents were encouraged to participate as much as possible in their child's development as the next 6 months can be very stressful to the Form 4 candidates.



Form 3 Parents Meeting

Mid-Term Examination Summary Results

| Form 4 Mid Term Results | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------|---------------|-------|--|--|--|--|
| Subject | Students | Mean Marks | Grade | | | | |
| Form Average | 84 | 44.6 | C- | | | | |
| Geography | 42 | 68.2 | В | | | | |
| History And Government | 41 | 57.4 | C+ | | | | |
| Kiswahili | 83 | 56.3 | C+ | | | | |
| Computer Studies | 24 | 53.5 | C | | | | |
| Business Studies | 33 | 50.8 | C | | | | |
| Biology | 41 | 41.7 | C- | | | | |
| Agriculture | 21 | 44.8 | C- | | | | |
| English | 82 | 44.2 | C- | | | | |
| C.R.E. | 82 | 39.3 | D+ | | | | |
| Chemistry | 83 | 33.4 | D+ | | | | |
| Mathematics | 82 | 27.4 | D | | | | |
| Physics | 38 | 16.5 | D- | | | | |

| Form 3 Mid Term Results | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------|---------------|-------|--|--|--|--|
| Subject | Students | Mean Marks | Grade | | | | |
| Form Average | 105 | 44.3 | C- | | | | |
| Business Studies | 27 | 65.7 | В | | | | |
| Computer Studies | 35 | 62.9 | B- | | | | |
| Geography | 37 | 61.4 | B- | | | | |
| Agriculture | 33 | 60.7 | B- | | | | |
| C.R.E. | 98 | 58.2 | C+ | | | | |
| History And Government | 51 | 49.3 | C- | | | | |
| Biology | 53 | 42.8 | C- | | | | |
| English | 100 | 47.1 | C- | | | | |
| Physics | 54 | 36.1 | D+ | | | | |
| Mathematics | 102 | 31.8 | D+ | | | | |
| Chemistry | 102 | 29.1 | D | | | | |
| Physics | 102 | 32.9 | D | | | | |

| Form 2 Mid Term Results | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------|---------------|-------|--|--|--|--|
| Subject | Students | Mean Marks | Grade | | | | |
| Form 2 Average | 127 | 49.6 | C- | | | | |
| Kiswahili | 123 | 70.2 | В | | | | |
| Business Studies | 120 | 60.6 | B- | | | | |
| C.R.E. | 119 | 58.8 | B- | | | | |
| English | 123 | 57.3 | B- | | | | |
| Chemistry | 124 | 49.2 | C+ | | | | |
| Geography | 124 | 53 | C- | | | | |
| History And Government | 124 | 51.7 | C- | | | | |
| Agriculture | 121 | 41.3 | C- | | | | |
| Computer Studies | 120 | 42.3 | D+ | | | | |
| Biology | 121 | 32.7 | D+ | | | | |
| Physics | 124 | 31.9 | D | | | | |
| Mathematics | 126 | 28.4 | D | | | | |

| Form 1 Mid Term Results | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------|---------------|-------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Subject | Students | Mean Marks | Grade | | | | | |
| Form 1 Average | 150 | 52.2 | C | | | | | |
| Biology | 145 | 53.6 | C+ | | | | | |
| Agriculture | 147 | 57.7 | C+ | | | | | |
| Business Studies | 147 | 56.4 | C+ | | | | | |
| Kiswahili | 149 | 54.6 | C+ | | | | | |
| Chemistry | 149 | 49.5 | C+ | | | | | |
| Physics | 147 | 48.6 | C | | | | | |
| Mathematics | 149 | 47 | C | | | | | |
| Computer Studies | 142 | 51.1 | C | | | | | |
| English | 146 | 50.8 | C | | | | | |
| History And Government | 148 | 50.1 | C | | | | | |
| Geography | 149 | 48.9 | C | | | | | |
| C.R.E. | 149 | 46.5 | C- | | | | | |

The above results indicate that while there are a few bright lights, especially with Form 4 students, many will not reach the C+ average necessary to obtain university entrance. All subject areas have one more term to improve.

Our Lady of Mercy Vocational Training Centre

Like all learning institutions in the Country, August was another month with learning disruptions. After a 3 week break the classes resumed. One of the largest classes at the Centre is the Hairdressing and Beauty course with an average enrolment of 50 students per year. The British Airways crewmembers often donate various products for the class.



BA Crewmember, Rose Schneider





Back to learning - Classes recommence



Alfresco Section for Catering Course

The computer laboratory received a major boost with new computers. Each of the 3 computer packages classes had 100% capacity. A total of 62 students were admitted to take the three



Unpacking the new computers

A video project dubbed 'Don't mess with my rights' was conducted with weekly zoom sessions. The Austria Team from the associations of Die Schweigende Mehrheit, and Berufsschule Linz 7 and MPC were guided by Loyola Centre for Media and Communication. The project connects two vocational training centres where the youths will be able to learn different aspects of life from each other. The theme based on child rights will run until November 2022.

months course.

Announcements

Head Office

There are many activities that continue throughout the month that are not reported under the departments but are very necessary to maintain the outreach services of MPC.

- A few potential collaboration meetings were held as some agencies have expressed a willingness to partner with MPC on issues such as anti-human trafficking and gender base violence.
- The Missionaries of Africa Community donated some firewood.
- MPC was able to send an official complaint to the sub-location chief of the area about the digging of holes and land grabbing going on behind the St. Bakhita perimeter wall, at the banks of the river. KfW Development Cooperation Bank (Germany) spent millions of shillings in 2017 on a multi-level retaining wall to ensure that the villagers would not be harmed if the wall collapsed. The land grabbing is illegal and again poses a security and safety threat.
- One MPC staff member, Stellah Mathe, Sponsorship Program Coordinator, was sponsored by Mercy International Association (MIA) to attend the Mercy Emerging Leaders Fellowship (MELF) program to empower young leaders. The group consisted of 6 young women from different countries and were hosted by an Australian Sister of Mercy, Sr Denis Coghlan at Mindol Metta Karuna in Siem Reap, Cambodia. The group experienced the works of Mercy on Peace and Reconciliation especially on the campaign, 'Stop Use of Mines and Cluster Bombs'.



Stellah presents



MELF Group Cambodia