



April Newsletter

Vol 8 Issue No. 4
2023

A needy family receives clothes from MPC



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Dear Partners, Supporters, Family and Friends,

We had great news in April that our neighbouring school in Mukuru informal sector, St Mary's Viwandani, could possibly reopen in May. This school closed in 2020 due to flooding from the changed direction of the river. Unscrupulous people had added tons of soil to the riverbank increasing the land on one side and causing the river to flood over the banks on the other side causing St Mary's school to flood.

Due to the CoVid19 lockdown, the school lacked the income to deal with the floods so it eventually closed. To hold on to the land for educational purposes, MPC paid the monthly security bill in order to stop the school from being vandalized and to keep the land secure for services to the community.

The Sisters of the Incarnate Word had run the school for a number of years but found the ongoing challenges overwhelming. Tony Kitili, Richard and Nancy Noble visited with Sr Mary to collaborate in the work of education for children of the Mukuru informal settlements. She proposed they assist to reopen St Mary's and happily they have agreed to do so. The school is badly needed as hundreds of post-primary students have not been placed in secondary mostly due to their inability to pay fees. The Noble Foundation is willing to finance them and the running costs of the school.

Our social workers have had to work harder than usual since the Covid Pandemic. This is due to increased poverty and hunger in our catchment area. They try to train parents lacking income to feed their children, in running small businesses to keep themselves and



their families. They are also kept busy catering to the needs of victims of the frequent fires with slums.

The health staff are also concerned with nutrition for malnourished children and parents. Thanks to the various friends and donors who help provide food for those in danger of starvation. Trying to enable those in need to find employment or earn their living, is a lasting solution for some needy families. In some families, the single parent is too sick to work. Those families are dependent on food and rent donations. We hope to educate and train the children so the family can care for itself in the future.

Seeing the improvement and developments in the former street boys is very fulfilling. They are busy with their education, sports, and extracurricular activities such as art, music and acrobatics. Some of the successful graduates of the centre return to encourage and mentor the present boys. Due to the increasing poverty in the city, there is a danger of more and more children dropping out of school and joining street life. Our social workers and teachers try to prevent them from dropping out of school. They follow up on absent students to get them back to school before the absence becomes chronic. Thanks to all the donors lending a hand with the boys and their ongoing training and education.

More and more sponsorship is needed as poverty increases. It is sad to see hundreds of students in slums unable to attend secondary and ongoing training. The government used to fund deserving students who qualified for university, but not anymore. Now they need sponsorship to continue. Many have not gone to secondary school due to lack of finance and others joined secondary and dropped out after one term. More and more children are dropping out of primary schools due to the extra fees demanded by headteachers which parents are unable to raise. The authorities are so far turning a blind eye to the situation. News reports and articles highlight the risks to children but no change for the better. Thanks to all of you who are enabling poor children to access education at all levels.

We continue to encourage our staff in Songa Mbele to work in developing each child's ability. We have a lot of frustration accessing hearing and speech therapy for children. The social workers do their best. It is great to see one child access the expertise they need.



This is the last year for the Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE). Hopefully, the new system, which has many blocks still in working well, will work out. Most schools do not have sufficient infrastructure for junior secondary and for the necessary IT to have all children and their class results registered in a National System. The schools don't have the necessary science labs or equipment. We will try to equip our four schools. It's a big need.

St Michael's Secondary School students have participated in more sports, drama, music and science fairs. They need the development such participation brings. We are also trying to send them on educational tours to local industries to know what is available to them in careers and work after school. This is an area that needs development and improvement.

We hope to begin a welding course at the Vocational Training Centre in May. Several students have requested for this course so they can be self-employed or get work. All of the other training courses will continue. We hope to continue to improve the resources and the quality of instruction.

Thanks to all of you who contribute to all of the work of Mukuru Promotion Centre.

Sr Mary Killeen
Director



Social and Health Services

Social Services

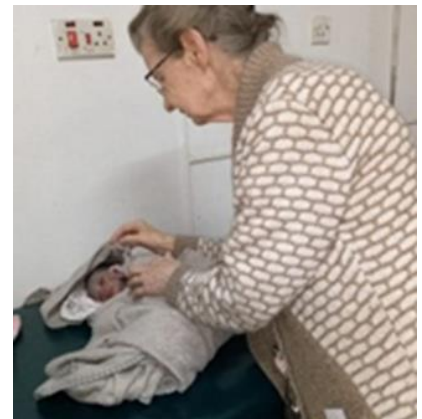
Throughout the month, we conducted various activities to support those needing nutritional assistance. Our distribution efforts aimed to provide food packages to both families in our learning institutions and vulnerable individuals within the community. These food packages were especially crucial for students on a two-week school holiday break. In total, over 600 families benefited from our program, including those participating in our Amaranth initiative, which provides nutritional supplements to individuals with chronic illnesses and malnourished infants.

During this break, our social workers were able to provide mentorship sessions and psychosocial support to students in need. Additionally, we provided girls with hygiene items such as sanitary towels and undergarments as a preventative measure to ensure their safety and prevent them from falling prey to sexual predators due to a lack of access to basic necessities. Through our social office, our vocational students received placement letters to prepare them for the job market.

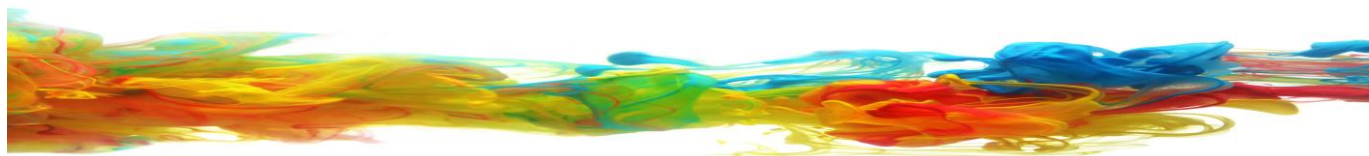
We also conducted follow-ups with our economic empowerment beneficiaries, providing boost-up kits to those whose businesses had been struggling due to tough economic times. These kits have been crucial in helping individuals sustain their businesses. Our social workers continued to create case profiles for our students to enable possible sponsorship in the future.

Our Clinic provided affordable healthcare access to the Mukuru community and waived fees for those who could not afford it. While our statistics for April were slightly down due to the school holidays, children with chronic and terminal illnesses continued to receive medical checkups from external facilities.

One of the highlights of the month was an emergency maternal delivery of a female baby conducted by one of our nurses at the Clinic. Despite not offering maternity services, our medical staff was able to successfully deliver the baby because the mother could not reach a referral facility. This success was due to the competence of our staff and the emergency preparedness of the facility. Sr Barbara from the St Catherine's Social Office was able to provide the baby with donated clothes.

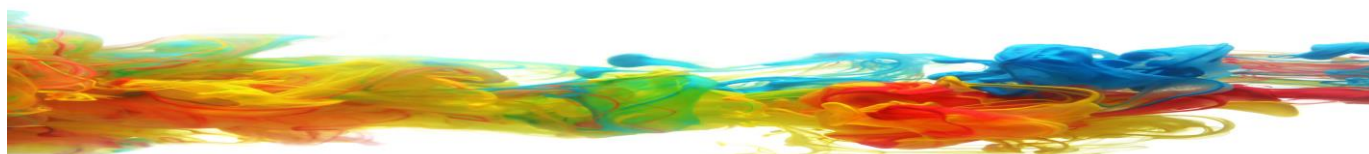


Baby Surprise – Not named yet



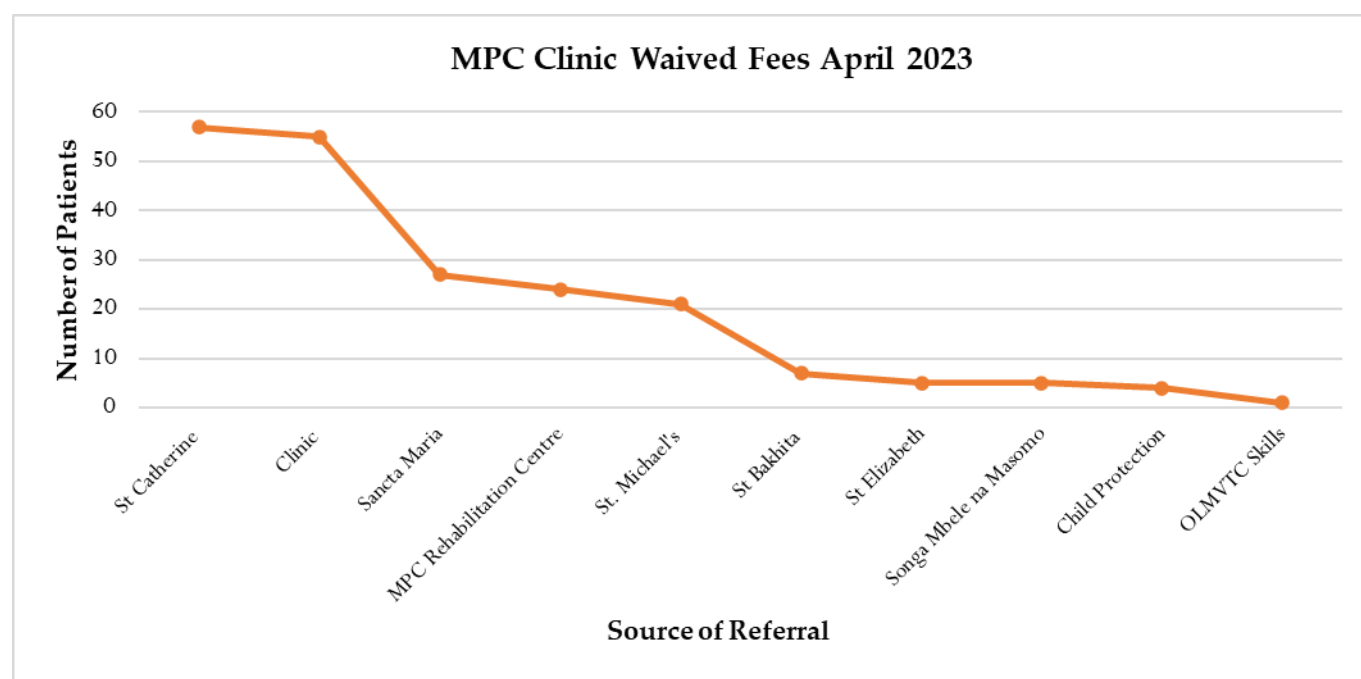
Social and Health Statistics for April 2023

No.	Case type / Activities	Education						Health	Welfare		Child Protection	Total
		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		
1	Abuse Cases	1										1
2	Amaranth Adult Clients		68									68
3	Amaranth Babies & Child Clients		5									5
4	Behavior and Discipline Cases			2	2					5		9
5	Business Startup / Booster	1		1	2	3						7
6	Counseling and Guidance sessions		8	15	5	5				21		54
7	CoVid19 Hygiene Material Resources											-
8	Donations Received		3			1			9	6	3	22
9	Fire and Floods Disaster Assistance	1										1
10	Food Distribution	70	194	80	85	60	103					592
11	Home Visits	1	1	10	8	4			11	21		56
12	Hospital Visits (to other Hospitals)							17				17
13	Malnourished Babies		11									11
14	Medical Cases (to MIC)	7	57	5	27	21	1	55	5	24	4	206
15	Meetings and Trainings	1		1					2			4
16	Mentorship Sessions	1	3	1		2						7
17	Mobilization of Resources											-
19	Needy Families Support (Community)	8	37		3							48
20	Needy Students/Children	18	12	2	5				15			52
21	Networking		4	1	3			9			4	21
22	New Admissions to MPC Institutions								6			6
23	New Teenage Pregnancies cases											-
24	Nutritional Support	1	12									13
25	Placement (Job/Internship)						61			9		70
26	Pregnancy Support Packages	2										2
27	Provision of Sanitary Towels	66		35	6	23	25					155
28	Referrals (except medical)	1		1	2	3	1					8
29	Safeguarding Follow Ups				1							1
30	School Absenteeism/Tuancy		5	3	12	9			46			75
31	Schools Profiles	22	18	20	14	15	8		6			103
32	School Visits									1		1
33	Songa Mbele Therapy Sessions											-
34	Sponsorship Follow-ups		4		59	52	2					117
	Uniform Aid	1	1	2	2	2						8
	Totals	202	443	179	236	200	201	81	100	87	11	1,740



MPC Clinic

In April, the Clinic saw a total of 1,662 patients, with the majority suffering from respiratory tract infections caused by the cold and rainy weather. Out of these patients, 206 were unable to pay their fees (amounting to 33,800khs or €226) due to their families' destitution and were granted a waiver. Many of the patients were referred to other health facilities, including Kenyatta National Hospital, Kijabe Hospital, Lion's Eye Hospital, Mathari Hospital, and PCEA Kikuyu Hospital. Notably, most of the waived fees were for children attending MPC learning institutions who were referred to the Social Offices.

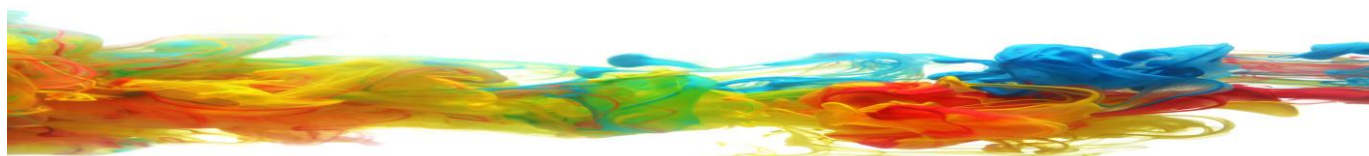


Recently, the Clinic had the pleasure of hosting various Ministry of Health program coordinators. Among them was the Starehe Subcounty Tuberculosis & Leprosy Coordinator who paid a visit for routine support supervision. She recommended the establishment of a support group for all tuberculosis patients in order to improve medication adherence and minimize treatment interruptions, which typically span six months. Additionally, Dr. Gachari from the World Health Organization and Mrs. Mary Munene, the Subcounty Diseases Surveillance Coordinator, helped to sensitize the staff on the importance of reporting any suspected cases of polio and measles. The coordinator must be notified of all suspected cases of Acute Flaccid Paralysis for further testing. Thankfully, the Clinic has not yet encountered any such cases.

The Clinic's health education program remained ongoing, focusing on tuberculosis. By conducting active case searches at different stations, we identified and initiated treatment for 9 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis. Unfortunately, April had the highest number of tuberculosis cases this year.



Patient education in the waiting bay

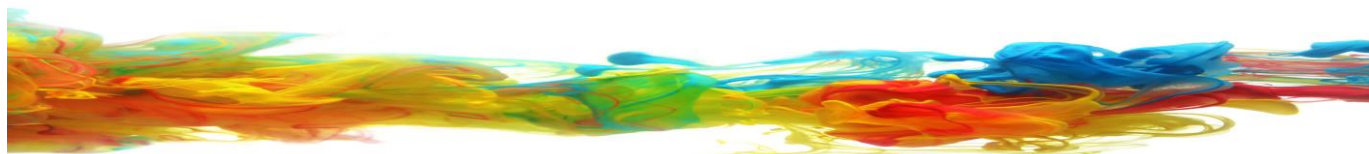


April Registrations 2023

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	92	46	21	159	43	14	3	378
	Male	99	35	23	113	35	18	4	327
Subtotal		191	81	44	272	78	32	7	705
Revisits	Female	197	51	29	191	77	22	3	570
	Male	146	25	34	91	62	24	5	387
Subtotal		343	76	63	282	139	46	8	957
Total		534	157	107	554	217	78	15	1662
Percentage	<i>Female</i>	<i>54%</i>	<i>62%</i>	<i>47%</i>	<i>63%</i>	<i>55%</i>	<i>46%</i>	<i>40%</i>	<i>57%</i>
	<i>Male</i>	<i>46%</i>	<i>38%</i>	<i>53%</i>	<i>37%</i>	<i>45%</i>	<i>54%</i>	<i>60%</i>	<i>43%</i>

Diagnosis for April 2023

Diseases	0-5 Yrs	6-12 Yrs	13-17 Yrs	18-35 Yrs	36-49 Yrs	50-64 Yrs	Above 64 Yrs	Total
Outpatients								
Respiratory	259	51	40	142	56	21	7	576
Gastronintestinal	81	35	17	76	17	12	1	239
Cardiovascular	9	8	5	23	31	18	1	95
ENT	17	18	8	40	8	6	0	97
Genitourinary	5	6	6	130	25	4	1	177
Sexually Transmitted Diseases	0	0	0	8	6	3	0	17
Musculoskeletal	4	11	17	55	40	7	3	137
Integumentary (Skin)	21	11	5	14	7	1	0	59
Dressing	4	2	0	7	11	1	1	26
Other Diseases	14	13	8	39	12	2	1	89
Subtotal Outpatients	414	155	106	534	213	75	15	1512

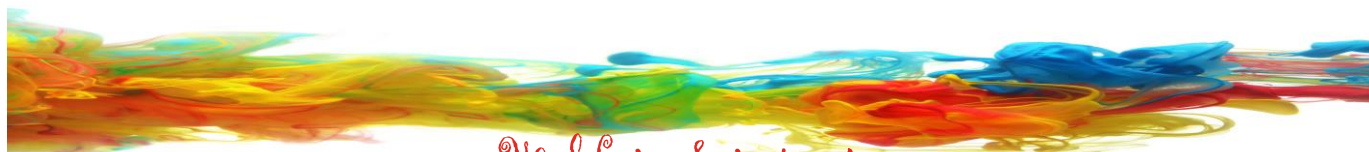


April Clinics

ANC			3	56				59
Immunizations	140							140
Nutrition	100	1		9				110
Comprehensive Care								0
Tuberculosis								0
Non Medical (Mental)				1				1
Referrals to Medical Facilities								0
<i>Subtotal Clinics</i>	<i>240</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>66</i>				<i>310</i>
Total	654	156	109	600	213	75	15	1822

April 2023 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				19	2			21
Anti-streptolysin O test (ASOT)		1		1				2
Bilirubin Levels								0
Blood Group				4				4
Blood Sugar (R.B.S/F.B.S)	1		2	3	16	12	2	36
Brucella					1			1
BS for MPS (Malaria)	14	4	5	23	10	3	0	59
Calcium Levels	4							4
Creatinine levels								
Du test								
Full Haemogram	27	12	5	36	9	7	1	97
HbA1c								
Helicobacter Pylori		8	8	20	12	2	1	51
Hemoglobin Levels	2		1	4	2			9
Hepatitis B (HBsAg)				1				1
High Vaginal Swab Microscopy			1	16	7			24
Lipid profile								0
Liver Function Test						1		1
Pregnancy Test			1	11	3			15
Rheumatoid Factor				1	3	1		5
Salmonella				2	0			2
Stool Analysis	11	21	11	30	8	3		84
UEC's (Urea, Electrolytes and Creatinine)			1		1	1		3
Uric Acid								0
Urinalysis	3	4	4	5	20	6	4	46
Urine Culture								0
Urine multudrug test								0
VDRL/Syphilis				2		1		3
Total	62	50	39	178	94	37	8	468
<i>Average Tests Per Day</i>								<i>26</i>



Welfare Services Rehabilitation Centre

In April, the Rehabilitation Centre provided ongoing educational and social development activities for the 63 boys in residence and 20 who are sponsored. The Home Tracing program was also initiated for new recruits to uncover their true situations. Through this process, it was discovered that some boys were younger than originally thought and others had not registered for the KCPE exam. Home tracing visits were conducted for some of the new recruits.



Brian Magomery with his Aunt.



Wekesa with his uncle (L) and father (R)



Abdiraham and his father



Lamec with his family

Trocaire sponsored the Home Tracing and Economic Empowerment programs, which have provided a significant boost to four operating businesses. The beneficiaries are delighted with the progress their businesses have made, as it will enable them to support and reunite with their sons after they complete the residential program. The beneficiaries are delighted with the progress their businesses have made, as it will enable them to support and reunite with their sons after they complete the residential program.



Mary Wangari at her shop.

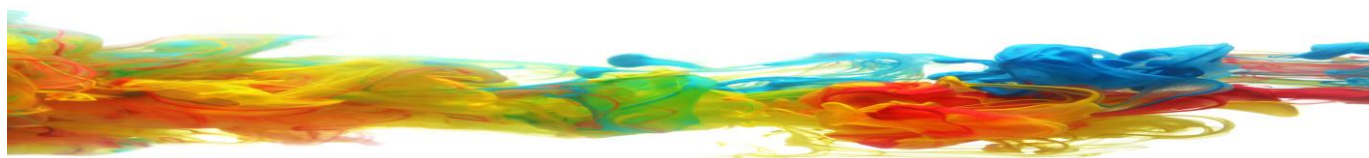


Karen Okoth sells chickens

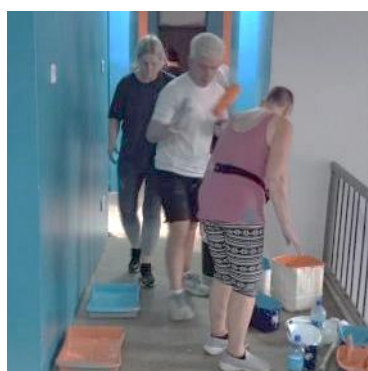


Onyango Agan sells charcoal.

Recently, the Centre commemorated the International Day of the Street Child. The life of a street child is fraught with danger, as they are often subjected to various forms of abuse. Regrettably, there are approximately 120 million children residing on the streets globally, with 30 million of them located in Africa. The issue is complex, with familial, economic, social, and political factors all contributing to their plight. While it's challenging to pinpoint one specific cause, MPC endeavours to uplift their condition by increasing awareness and providing support during difficult times.



The Whistle Team from Ireland visited the Centre in April and came to help out with some renovations. With 80+ boys each year it is not surprising that things need repairing. The team painted the dormitory, fixed the electrical plugs and sockets, placed a new ceiling in the library which greatly reduces the heat during the day and repaired the toilets and bathrooms. After the arduous work was completed and ably assisted by the boys, the team held a pizza night.



Members of the Whistle team in action.



Inspection is underway

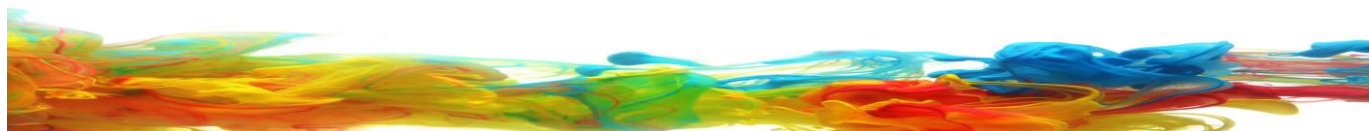


One section is finished.



The boys painted a mural portraying life on the streets to a fully reformed person. The other mural depicts the strength of people touching lives.





It's crucial to acknowledge and celebrate even the smallest accomplishments in one's life. The boys were fortunate enough to receive cake from the Mercy Education Office, with the help of Sr Mary Kanyi. Paula Cullen and her companions generously supplied the pizza and sodas for celebrating the International Day for Street Children.



Sr Mary and staff cutting the cake.

The boys' physical education program at the Centre is thriving, with rigorous training and participation in tournaments. In April, the boys took part in two rugby and soccer tournaments. While the soccer team lost against KAFOCA Mukuru at Studyville, they emerged triumphant against St Mary's, earning them the trophy.



The Rehab Soccer Team

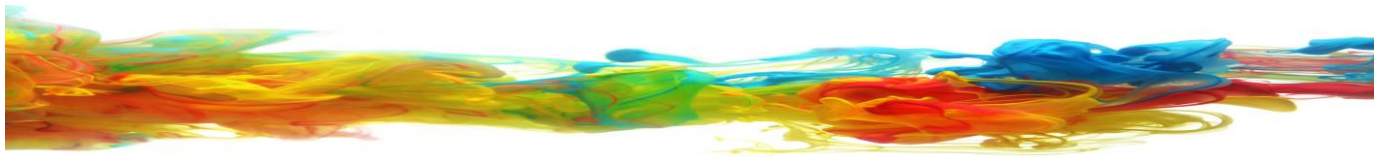


Kelvin, Kiprotich and Lukman



First Place: Rehab Under 9s Rugby Team

The Rehab Rugby Teams recently competed against Shama Kibera, Shama Uthiru and Kihunguro. Unfortunately, one team lost both matches, but the Under 9s were successful in winning all of their matches. It seems that there is some notable talent emerging which could have a positive impact on the Kenya Rugby 7s team in the future.



During the month of April, the Rehabilitation Centre was fortunate enough to receive numerous donations that have greatly improved the overall atmosphere of the facility. In particular, the provision of high-quality, nutritious food - including some treats - has helped each boy to maintain good health and avoid potential health issues in the future. The team at MPC is immensely grateful to the following donors: Team Pankaj, Paula Cullen and Friends, Action and Focus, Pembe Industry, Shanghai Ltd, and Mr. Waweru. Their generous contributions of vegetables, cereals, meat, and fruit have made a significant positive impact on the boys' wellbeing.



Shanghai Ltd.



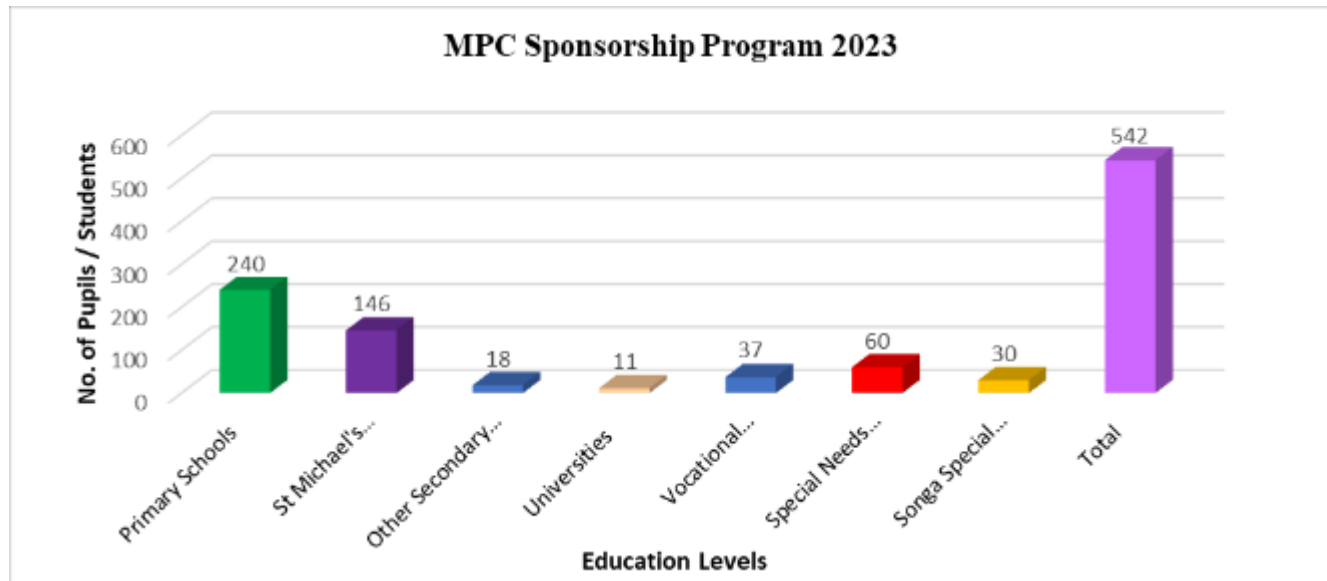
Action and Focus



Team Pankaj



The MPC Sponsorship Program has made significant progress in 2023 as the numbers increased to support 542 disadvantaged students from Mukuru slums at various levels of education.



Traditionally, at the end of each term, to show their appreciation and accountability the pupils and students write letters to update their sponsors on their achievements and challenges. The letters and academic reports were scanned and placed on the sponsorship database. This helps the students remain on track and serves as monitoring for students' progress.

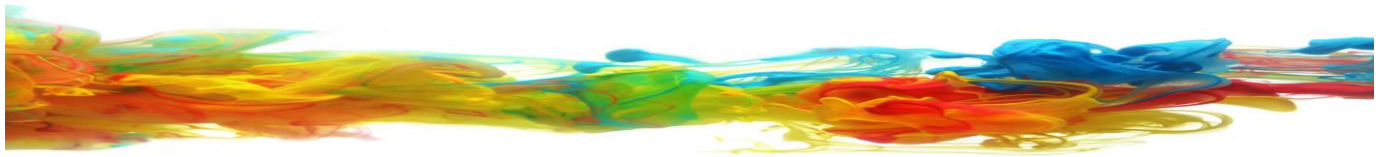


Appreciation Letters



Community Service Program

The students also engaged in community service activities to demonstrate their social responsibility and leadership skills. Some of the tasks were assigned to them from various MPC Departments for 5 days. Just outside the Head Office, Sponsored students participated in the Community Service holiday program.



Over the holiday break, MPC organized a Sensitization Session for all sponsored secondary students. The event saw an impressive turnout of around 120 students. The guest speaker, Chakava Mmasi an MPC Accountant, spoke about important topics such as time management, study plans, goal setting, and discipline. These areas were identified by the students as needing extra support to help them excel in their studies.

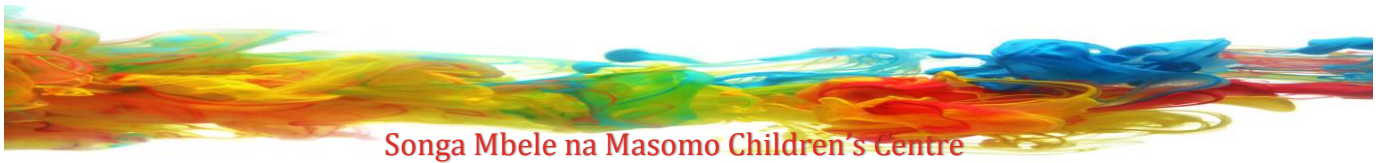
During the session, students are provided with the opportunity to seek assistance from the available social workers and counselors if they need someone to talk to about any issues that may be bothering them.



Sensitization Session

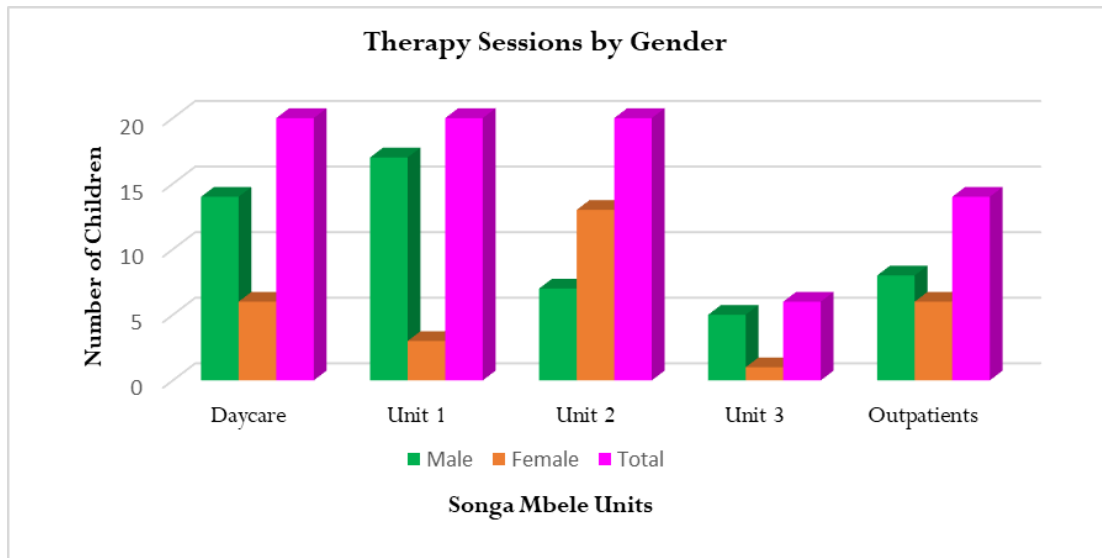
Based on the student's feedback, it appears that they found the day informative and valuable. They expressed enthusiasm for implementing the knowledge they gained, and shared some of their ideas, including creating a practical timetable, utilizing open-ended questions to enhance their comprehension of various subjects, and implementing effective strategies to stay focused and avoid distractions.

Poor students, never underestimate the power of education. They are immensely grateful for your belief in them and the opportunity to succeed that you provide.

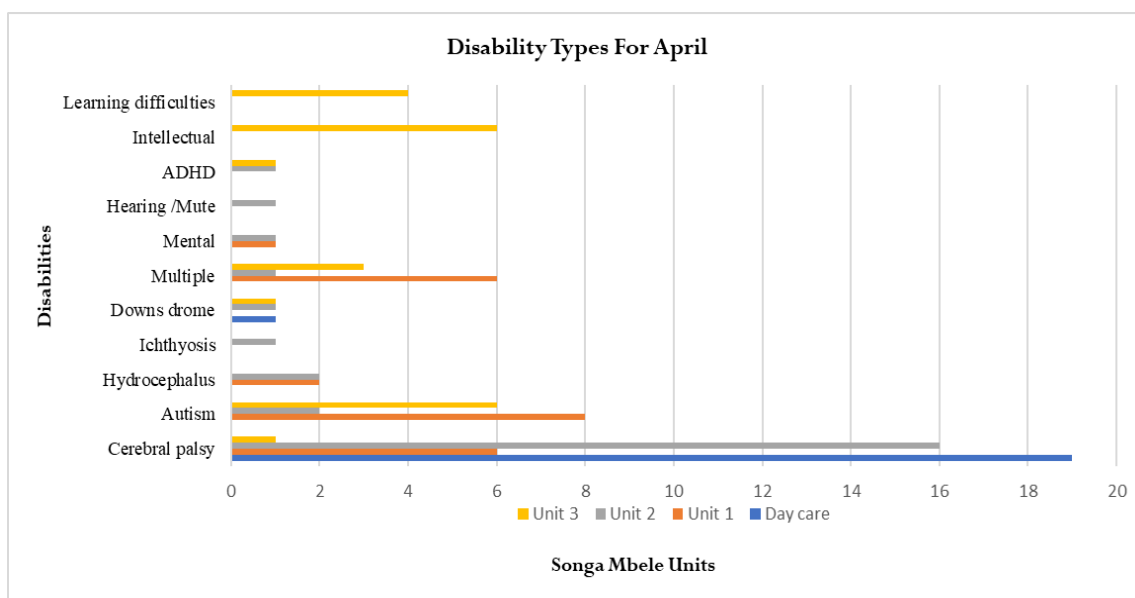


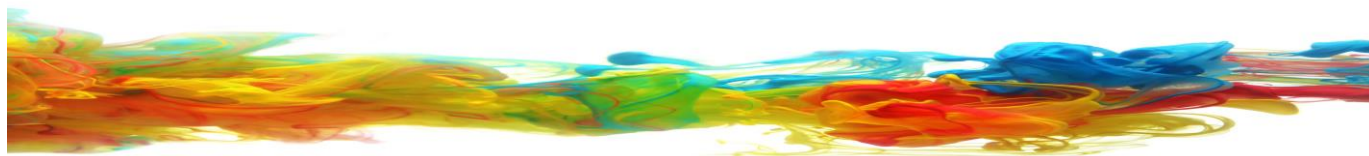
Songa Mbele na Masomo Children's Centre

In April, we had 2 new enrolments and 4 external therapy clients, bringing the total number of children to 91, consisting of 56 boys and 35 girls. Out of the different units, 66 children received physiotherapy and occupational therapy, and we assisted 14 external clients every month. The total number of physiotherapy sessions conducted was 264, with 29 children receiving at least 5 sessions in April. Notably, the majority of those children were boys. There is no clear answer to indicate why there is a higher number of boys than girls apart from the composition of enrolment numbers.



In April, there were 124 speech therapy sessions with over 70% of the attendees being boys. Unit 1 and Unit 2 had the highest attendance levels, with 67% of the 40 children receiving more than 3 sessions each during the month.





During the first month back from the two-week holiday break, all classes continued to make progress in developing the intellectual abilities of their students. The teachers and caregivers were instrumental in this success. Among the students, there were a few who stood out for their achievements. Robert in Daycare showed improvement and was more engaged when viewing pictures. Jane from Unit 1 made great strides in effective communication, which helped her improve her social skills. Ann, who is autistic and in Unit 2, showed impressive progress in conducting activities of daily living despite her hyperactivity. Faith, a student in Unit 3, demonstrated improvement in her numbering, language, and life skills. She is now able to write her own name and enjoys mat-making which has given her newfound confidence when interacting with others.



Ryan in class

Congratulations to Ryan and Salma for their progress in therapy this month! Despite having cerebral palsy, Ryan has made great strides in his abilities to grasp toys, control his head movements, and maintain independent sitting and crawling positions. Meanwhile, Salma has also shown significant improvement in her muscle strength, posture, balance, fine motor skills, and ability to use both hands and stand with support. These achievements are a credit to the children and their supportive parents.



Salma exercising

In April, our staff conducted 9 home visits to check how well parents were coping with their children being away from the Centre. During these visits, our staff observed that many families lacked essential household items and basic necessities. This is understandable as most parents do not have any employment. However, we are grateful to know that the children and parents are receiving daily nourishment at the Centre, thanks to the generosity of kind individuals who provide food provisions.



Education Primary Schools

The school terms have returned to normal and so have the National Primary Schools' Games Competitions. The Ministry of Education released a calendar for 2023 with athletics to be the first sporting event held in April. Qurity Nasiche, a pupil at St. Catherine Primary School managed to take part at three different levels: Zone, Sub-county, and was later selected to represent Nairobi County at the National level in a 5,000m race at Narok County. The best 3 athletics champions were awarded Naivas (supermarket) vouchers.



*Head Teacher, Mrs Zelipher Wanjohi with pupils:
Albert Nyakundi, Derrick Abobo, Wycliffe Shuu*



Qurity Nasiche

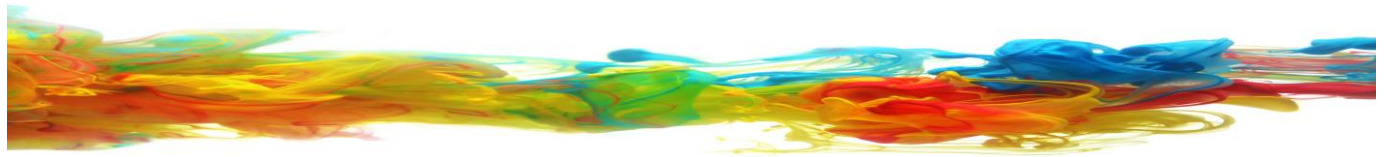
The pupils sat the End of Term Assessments in the primary schools during the month. Each classroom teacher was responsible for the ongoing assessment of the pupils' progress and achievement. Teachers were advised to use a variety of assessment methods to support them in assessing pupils' abilities. The Ministry eliminated the placement of pupils from first to last in the classroom. Now it's based on measuring the performance of pupils by providing a profile of their progress and reporting the test scores. The categories of progress are reported as 'exceeding expectation', 'meeting expectation', 'approaching expectations', or 'below expectation'. The categories of assessment will take some time for parents and teachers to understand as it doesn't inform the parents of where their child is positioned within the cohort.

The Kenya National Examination Council (KNEC) released the nominal rolls for 2023 KCPE candidates, to confirm details as to avoid any errors. The schools were given two weeks to confirm before the final compilation. Under the supervision of teachers, the candidates had to verify their registration details and choices of subjects before returning to KNEC.

The Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD) will be providing in-servicing to the BoM and PAs on the Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC) to effectively contribute to implementation at the schools. In partnership with the Mercy Education Office, MPC organized for the BoMs and sponsor representatives to take part in the sessions at the Resurrection Garden Centre.



JSS Training Workshop



The Ministry of Education has released funds for the Free Secondary Education program for Junior Secondary School students for term one of 2023. Each learner will receive Khs 4,457.00 (€30) to be used for learning resources. Head Teachers have been given guidelines to follow and are expected to comply with them.



Preparation for CBC Agriculture practical



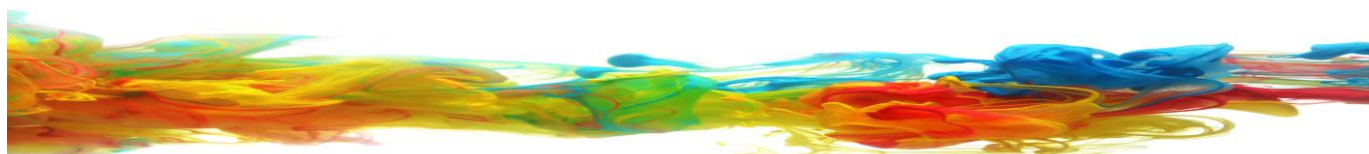
USIU Students Visit St Bakhita Primary



Kenya Red Cross visit St Catherine's Primary School.

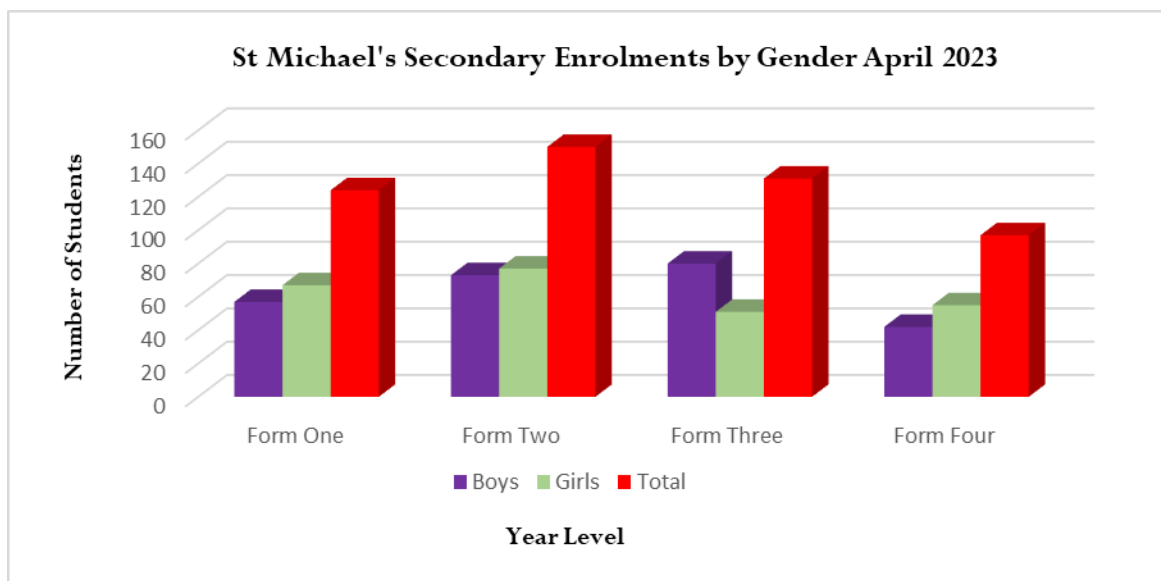


St Bakhita Pupils after a mentorship presentation.



St Michael's Secondary School

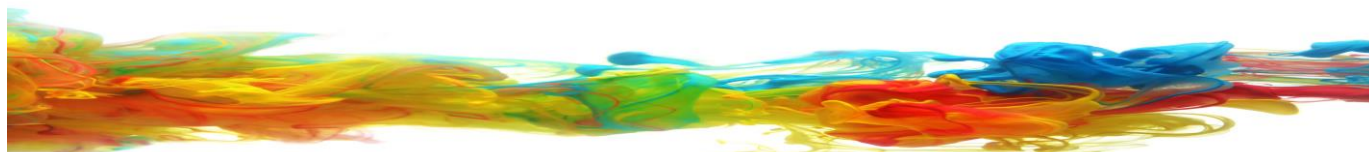
The Form One admissions now number 124 students bringing the total enrolments to 502 at St Michael's. By the end of the year, it's hoped to have 550 students attending secondary school.



Brenda Karim, facilitated the workshop for the Bakhita Partnership for Education (BPE) that was sponsored by The Association of the Sisters Kenya (AOSK). The school-based workshop provided an opportunity to train teachers on leadership development, life skills development, and gender-sensitive training methodologies. By the end of the workshop, the teachers developed a few strategies for implementing their learning lessons.



BPE Workshop



Another workshop held during the month was titled ‘Sensitization on Safe Community Linkages For Internet Safety sponsored by the LISP (Life Skills Promoters). The objective of the sessions was to strengthen the Kenyan Government agencies’ capacity to prevent and respond to Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (OCSEA) by improving children’s self-protection skills with the support of caregivers and communities. Rose Mwangi, Director of Child Investigation, facilitated the workshop, which was attended by St Michael’s Deputy Principal, Loice Chege.



Life Skills Promoters Training

The County Games competitions were held in April. St Michael’s sent 7 students to participate. Although there were no first-position winners, the students performed well considering the host of students participating. In the 5,000m athletics race a Form Two student came 4th. In the cross-country event, 3 Form 2 students completed the grueling race and secured 12th 13th and 17th positions. The older boys in Form 3 came 6th in the 5,000m race. This is the first time since CoVid19 pandemic that students have participated in country athletics competitions. It was a good effort by all the students.



Cross Country Race getting underway at Nairobi School Grounds



St Michael's had the opportunity for the first time to participate in the Science Fair Competition at the Regional level at Moi Girls High School, Nairobi. Mr Mbogo and Peter Machoka accompanied 15 students. The Physics students submitted 3 projects, while chemistry students submitted 1 project. The first project, a helicopter by 2 brothers, Ian and Evans, came 15th at the regionals. The other two projects in the Physics category were judged in 33rd and 40th positions. Even though the students did not progress to the National level, the experience they gained was first-rate. The students are already talking about next year.



Science Fair and Engineering participants listen keenly to judges at Moi Nairobi Girls School



After the final examinations in April, the school held the mentorship program for both boys and girls separately. The major topic for the day was hygiene and relationships.

Mentorship Presentation

St Michael's also received a visit from the World Youth Alliance (WYA) which is composed of young men and women from all over the world. In cooperation with the United Nations and the European Union, the WYA is committed to building free and just societies through a culture of life. The team led by Paula Smith gladly shared the journey of her successful life. St Michael's plans to start a club to become champion promoters of human dignity and solidarity.



WYA President Paula Smith and St Michael's Students.



This time of the year the Form 4 students undergo pre-mock examinations which try to give an indication of how the students will perform in the National KCSE exams. This year St Michael's has 97 candidates who will complete their final year of secondary school and gain entrance into a university or vocational training course. The results indicate that the 2023 cohort is tracking better than last year's students' group. A projected summary shows that the school will achieve its end-of-year target of +1.2. Currently, 9 candidates have a high probability of gaining entrance into university. Over the next couple of months, St Michael's will endeavour to increase the number to 28 students. There are 37 students eligible for a vocational course and we would like to increase this to 54. Time will tell.

Pre-Mock Examination Distribution 2023		
Subject	Points	Grade
Computer Studies	8.17	B-
History and Government	7.79	B-
Business Studies	7.00	C+
C.R.E (Christian Religious Education)	5.96	C
English	5.59	C
Geography	4.88	C-
Agriculture	4.32	D+
Kiswahili	4.16	D+
Biology	3.81	D+
Physics	3.68	D+
Mathematics	2.17	D-
Chemistry	2.56	D

During the month, food provisions were provided to parents of St. Michael's Secondary School to assist them with the financial pressures they are facing due to unemployment.



Some parents from St Michael's Secondary

Our Lady of Mercy Vocational Training Centre

As one year group concluded another group began. The Class of 2022 held a closing ceremony where the candidates received a motivational talk by Charles Maina before they received their result slips and awards for the best students. The Class of 2023 prepared for the NITA examinations.

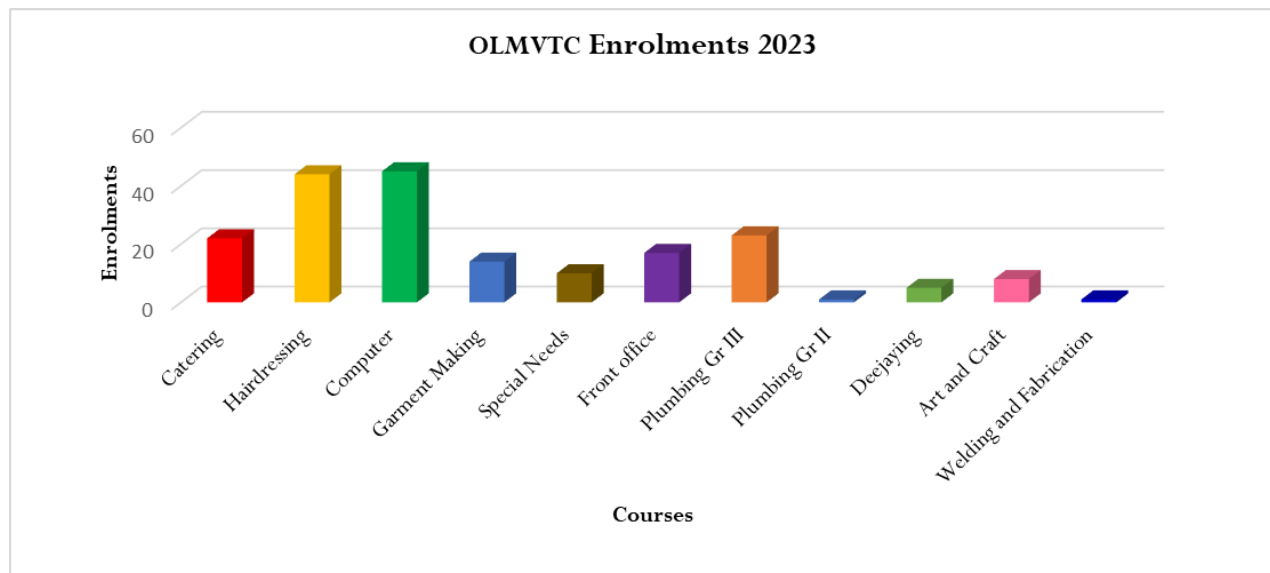


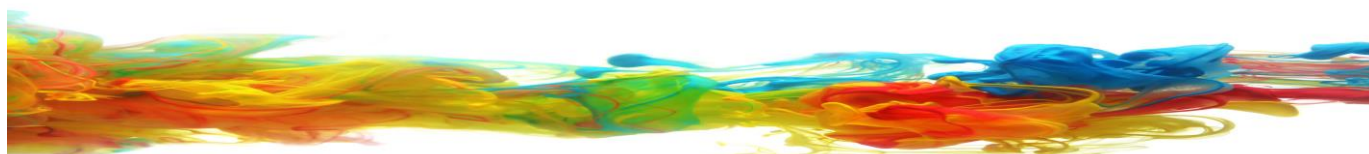
Class of 2022 Closing Ceremony



Charles Maina

As one year concludes another year begins. The new student enrolments for 2023 courses numbered 190 in April. The gender ratio is two-thirds female and one-third male.





The NITA examination was held in April for the Plumbing and Masonry, Dressmaking and Tailoring, Catering and Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy courses. The exams went smoothly and the assessors were gentle with the candidates. For the first time, the newly renovated catering kitchen was used for the NITA examinations.



Hairdressing



Catering



Dressmaking



Plumbing

The Fidel Goetz (47), Irish Aid (25) and Elizabeth Kuezl (6) sponsorship for vocational students is very much appreciated. All sponsored students are from very needy backgrounds and do not have the capacity to enroll in such courses. The 78 students are learning new skills on one of the 11 courses on offer at the Centre. Over 60 female students received food parcels from the Fidel Goetz Foundation.

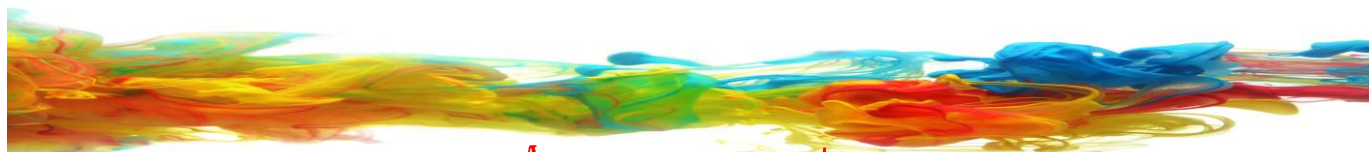


Sponsored Students with food provisions from Fidel Goetz Foundation

The Kenya Wine Agency (KWAL) and Tamarind Teams visited the Centre to propose a new program with MPC for the catering students. KWAL sponsors the students to attend the renowned Utalli Hotel where hospitality training is conducted. Given the difficulties of OLMVTC students getting from A to B, the Teams proposed to send their experts to OLMVTC to train them at the Centre. There may be changes to the length of the course and the TVET registrations but it would enable the students to have a more detailed training.



KWAL and Tamarind Team



Announcements

Throughout the month, numerous essential activities are crucial for the upkeep of MPC's outreach services, although they may not always be reported under a particular department.

- St Catherine's land case was postponed until May 2023.
- Richard and Nancy Noble from the Noble Foundation visited the Office, to ascertain if the Foundation can support St Mary's Viwandani Secondary School. St Mary's School is near MPC and used to operate with an enrolment of 450 secondary students. The school has been closed since 2022.
- Volunteers, Sandra Neuberger from Austria will be assisting at Songa Mbele.
- British Airways Crewmember, Holly Sykes donated goods for MPC.
- Australian Opera singer, Breanna Stillman visited MPC to discuss the upcoming concert consisting of Kenyan Opera singers and musicians.



Richard and Nancy Noble



Sr Mary and Holly

Mukuru Promotion Centre

Empowerment Step By Step

Sponsored by Sisters of Mercy

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