

M.H.C.D.

MISSION IN HEALTH CARE AND DEVELOPMENT

(Mission en Soins de Santé et Développement)

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MHCD 2017 GENERAL REPORT

PRESENTED BY:

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MHCD DIRECTOR

APPRECIATION:

I appreciate and thank all MHCD friends and supporters who supported us in 2017. Thank you very much for all your efforts, sacrifice, love, care and support. You have been a great blessing to us. To those who donated and we knew them personally, we are very grateful and also to those who we never knew them, thank you so much. Am proud of you all and I love you very much.

SPECIAL THANKS:

This goes to all who have sacrificed their all in fighting for the betterment of lives of vulnerable people through MHCD. Thank you very much for all your prayers, advice and support.

DEDICATION:

We dedicate this report to all the children, women and vulnerable people who received treatment at the Luvungi MHCD Hospital especially the women who were suffering from goitre and were operated on successfully. Their testimonies gave us the strength and courage to continue serving others.

INTRODUCTION

We are very happy to present to you the MHCD 2017 report. We were successful in carrying out various activities with direct and great impact on the communities. Projects like electrification that had given us lots of challenges is one of them. It had taken us quite along time but in the year 2017 we managed to install power at the Luvungi MHCD Hospital and streetlights in the village. We also faced so many challenges but we thank you so much for standing with us.

There were many activities that we carried out in the year 2017 that have not been included in this report. We have outlined main activities here and we believe you received our emails on other activities that we haven't included here on our monthly updates.

I believe that in you reading this report you will get to know the activities we carried out and the many lives that were saved. You will also get to know missionaries and volunteers who sacrificed their time and money to visit MHCD and helping out in various ways. We were so happy for the time we spent together and got to learn from them.

1.LUVUNGI MHCD ELECFRIFICATION PROJECT

This is one of the big projects that MHCD carried out.The objective was to provide power to the MHCD Luvungi Hospital,schools and streetlights in the villages.

Am very happy to inform you that my vision of electrifying Luvungi and the MHCD Hospital has become a reality.We started the project since 2012 and we began with the construction of the micro hydro power station that had technical problems and we never succeeded in getting power.By good luck we received an engineer from Belgium who came to visit the Micro hydro power,he found that there is lots of sunlight in Luvungi and he advised that we put solar station and street lights other than completing the micro hydropower project because the solar station is cheap and doesnt have many complications with maintainance and he was very sure that the project will be a success .

He put me in contact with a Belgium Chinese company specialised in solar stations and street lights who came and researched and directly i ordered equipments from China.I visited Australia and was in contact with Pastor friends from Bethesda Ministries international Australia(Pastor Darren,Dean and Steve) based in Sydney who were also electricians and they accepted to come and train congolese technicians on Electricity and reassembling solar equipment so we can get street lights.The team from Australia came and began their work in Luvungi.They taught congolese technicians on a wide variety of topics and helped them technically in reassembling the street lights and installing them on the avenue.They also did wiring of the mortuary and one hospitalisation ward.



STEVE, DARREN,DELICE, LUC,DEAN AND PETER .

For the success of the project and its maintainance,I had opened a training centre on Electricity in Luvungi at MHCD Compound,we picked two youths and electricians from different villages and centres of Uvira who came and trained for 3 months on Solar and Electricity.We signed a partnership contract with a national government institute called INPP national institute for proffessional preparations that helps congolese youths in doing different trainings on technical jobs.They came and trained our youths with their equipments that were of great help.We had 15 students amongst them one lady.They spent the three months and had a good experience in helping them supervise and do all activities on the electrification at the Hospital.



The MHCD Students with Dr. Luc, Delice, Peter and the Electricians from Australia

Before the solar station,it was very difficult to carry out tasks at the Luvungi Hospital at night.Doctors carried out operations by use of torches,women gave birth at the maternity by use of torches,consultation and administration of medicines at night was very difficult,even women coming to the Hospital at night was a big problem because of lots of insecurity.



MHCD Doctors operating using a torch.

By good luck I invested so much energy,time and finances in this project and we managed to purchase equipments that helped solve the above problems.We were blessed to get Electricians from Australia who came to volunteer and gave their time so we could get electricity.Engineers from china and Belgium came and installed the solar station and street lights we had ordered from them.



Assembling of solar street lights



The Container from China arrive in Luvungi

When the container full of solar equipment and street lights arrived,the Luvungi population was very happy.They danced and jumped the whole day and they escorted the container upto the MHCD Headquarters.When they saw me,they were filled with so much joy and they lifted me for more than 2 kms singing and dancing because they never believed that the container can come.It was like a surprise because they had been waiting for Electricity in Luvungi for more than 5 years.The container was unloaded at the MHCD Luvungi for free.



Luvungi community lifting up Dr. Luc because of so much joy



The container arriving at MHCD Headquarters, people are celebrating.



The Luvungi community offload the container

Engineers from Australia together with the technicians from Congo were very happy to work together and the Luvungi population was very glad to see them installing the poles on the avenues. Engineers from China continued with the installation of the street lights from China on the national road number 5 which is a centre town of Luvungi and they installed the solar station. Luvungi community were very happy to see the input of different nationalities come to help them put electricity in their town.



Dean and Congolese electricians are installing street lights poles and wiring one of the hospital wards.



Engineer Ling from China installing streetlights in the main street of Luvungi.



The community is celebrating electricity for their first time in Luvungi.

After 6 months (3 months of training and 3 months of working), finally Luvungi has been electrified by street lights for more than 4 kilometres and there is electricity 24 hours at the Hospital. Doctors no longer operate using torches, they have electricity. Women are delivering in good condition even at night and all medical equipments are working. Women and sick children can safely come to the Hospital at night because there are street lights that light from 6pm to 5 am. At night on every pole women and youth are carrying on with their business of selling food and this reduces hunger and poverty and improve economy and living standards.



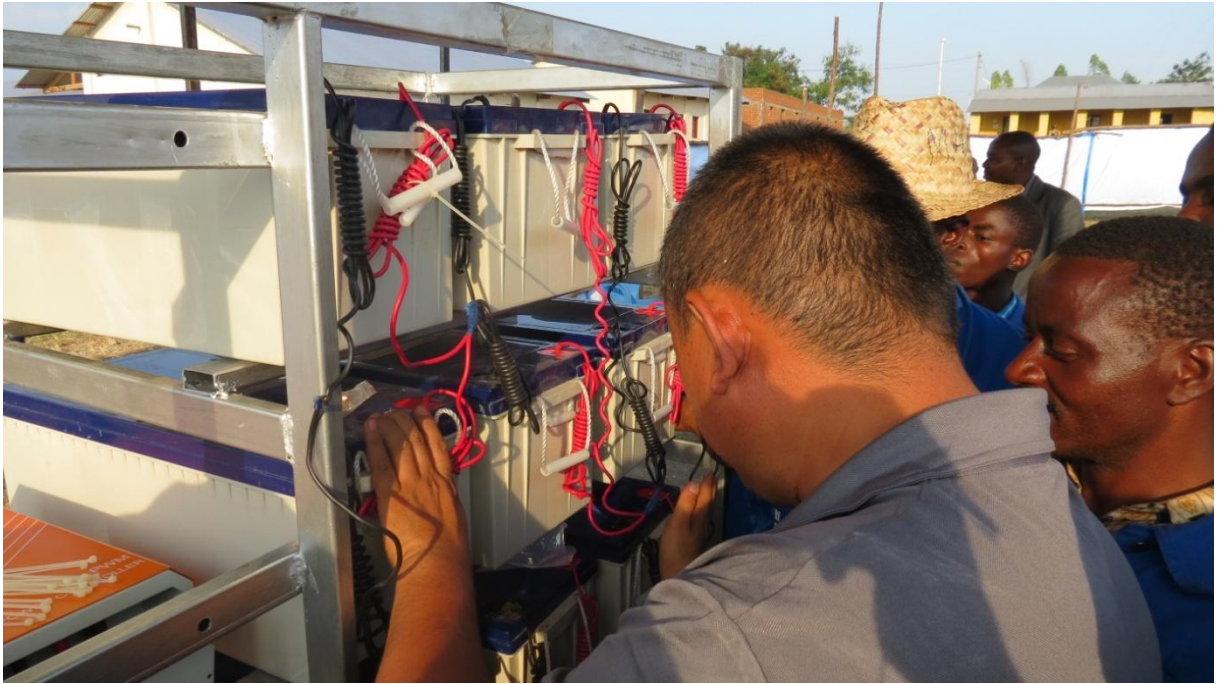


Street lights has brought about improvement in economical activities.As you can see from the above photos,their are people selling different merchandaise on every pole.This helps in reducing hunger and poverty and make women and youth busy.

This is one of the big realizations that MHCD has done in Luvungi because electricity is the key to development.We do not believe ourselves that this could be a reality.Thank you very much for all your advice,love,care and support that has led us this far.Today Luvungi is electrified.Its looking like a small town at night.Solar lights has brought hope,prosperity and development in the town.



Eng. Ling from China and congolese technicians installing the solar station.



MHCD Doctors operating by use of power from Solar power Station.



The mortuary that MHCD received recently uses solar power 24 hours. Its the only mortuary in the Ruzizi valley and the Bafuliru mountains that helps the community in conserving bodies.



The MHCD medical officer checking up the microscope that also uses solar power. All equipments in the laboratory are now functioning with the help of the solar energy.



The electrical students with their instructor plus the chinese Engineers for a family photo.They worked day and night so that Luvungi maybe lit.



MHCD Solar street Light

2, EMERGENCY NEEDS AT LUVUNGI MHCD HOSPITAL

I would like to thank all who read our report on the emergency needs we had at the MHCD Luvungi General Hospital. Your prayers and support helped solve some problems and save lives of so many people who were hospitalised. The first who benefited from the support is Furaha, a young 9 year old girl who had a bullet wound when she had wanted to save the life of her mother who was being raped by the Burundian rebels. If you can remember the report that we wrote, she had come because the bullet ripped her intestines and MHCD Doctors carried out an operation on her and they were Hospitalised. We also received many patients from affected villages and they were Hospitalised. Those at the intensive care unit were using antibiotics that were very expensive and it was difficult for us to manage. Many didn't have food and clothing and life became very difficult for them.

Through your prayers and support, we managed to purchase medicines, consumable medical materials and some food that we administered and gave them respectively and God was very merciful such that all of them survived. There are some who have already gone back to their homes while others are continuing with treatment. Furaha and the mother are going on very well, the operation was very successful and she is continuing with the medication. She can now walk on her own, eat and even go to the toilet alone. When she came she was in a very bad state and she needed help to do everything. When eating the excreta had to be removed manually from the stomach and it was very painful.

The mother couldn't walk on her own because of pain and she had continued bleeding from her vagina. She was very traumatised and stressed and could cry for the whole day. Both didn't have clothes to change, the mother had to wash her cloth at night and remain without clothes so she could have a clean cloth in the morning. They were in so much pain and struggles. We are so grateful to God because both of them are going on very well. They are still at the Hospital but in a few days they will be going back to their home. Again I am grateful to all those who were touched to help them in their time of need. Thank you very much for all your efforts and sacrifice that gave hope to the less fortunate. You have been saving lives of so many people who had given up hope in life.

We really thank Dean Christensen for sending us medicines all the way from Australia to Luvungi. My sincere appreciation goes to Peter Frogley and Ginnindera Christian Church, Stella Darmody, Dr. Elaine and John Dietsch, Rhonda Boyd, Sam Cookes, Susan Donaldson, Milly Hancock, Sue Datson and all those who sacrificed their time and money to support MHCD when they read the report.

To all those who supported us in loading the container in Perth and Zonta clubs that contributed clothes and shoes. The clothes that came in the container were of great help to the patients who were Hospitalised. Most came without clothes while those

with clothes only had one because of the rebels who stole everything from them. Through your support each one went with at least 3 clothes.

Thank you so much for everything you are continuing to do for us, thank you for your continued prayers, we really appreciate all your efforts and sacrifice. The people you helped have Australia imprinted on their hearts.

Attached are photos explaining all the above.



MHCD Doctors with Luc receive a box of medicine from Australia



MHCD Luvungi General Hospital Pharmacy full of medicines.



Furaha and Her mother in a joyous mood after receiving medical care and a gift of clothes from MHCD. They are feeling well and ready to go back home.



Furaha with her Mother receiving a gift of clothes and medicines from MHCD.



Dr Luc Mulimbalimba in Consultation room with medicines.

3. CONTAINER OF LOVE FROM WHEELCHAIRS FOR KIDS PERTH AUSTRALIA .

In July 2017 we were lucky enough to get a container full of wheelchairs, computer and laptops, medical equipments, clothes and other materials from Perth Australia. We are grateful to the wheelchair for kids that coordinated the packing into the container and facilitated until the container reached us. The container came at a good time when Luvungi MHCD Hospital was full with people in need of special medical care and clothes.

The Luvungi community was very very happy to see the container and they went to receive it with motorbicycles from the border to the MHCD Headquarters. The community in Luvungi jumped with joy when they saw it coming.

They came and helped unload the container and in less than two hours the whole container was offloaded.

Am so grateful once again to all MHCD friends and supporters who donated their time and brought items to be packed. I really appreciate all your efforts and sacrifice.



Container on its way to Luvungi



Container arriving in Luvungi and the youth have come to receive it with motorbicycles.



Luvungi women are very happy to receive the container.



Children of Luvungi community are very happy to see the container



Luvungi community have begun offloading the container



Children of Luvungi create a dancing club and are dancing before the container thanking the Australians who donated goods for MHCD.

WHEELCHAIRS FOR KIDS :

We received 176 wheelchairs that we will be distributing to physically handicapped children who have suffered for long without any support. Wheelchairs are very expensive here in DRC and many families cannot afford to get them and it's a big challenge to those with physically handicapped children. We give out the wheelchairs for free and we help the children in rehabilitation that enables them to have hope and they forge ahead with their education through this program. I was very surprised to see their parents coming from villages very far around 60 or 70 kms to come help in offloading the container. When I asked them as to why they are coming from very far, they said it was the only way for them to help MHCD so that their children can be helped. When I heard the testimony I was very touched. We are now organising the distribution of the chairs and we will be sending you the reports on distribution when we have done that. We have already selected the children who shall be receiving them from different Districts of South Kivu province.



Luvungi community offloading wheelchairs from the container.

COMPUTERS AND LAPTOPS :

We were Lucky to receive laptops and computers from Computer for Congo Australia that's headed by Tom Cecil. We are also grateful to other volunteers who too donated computers. The computers will aid in increasing the numbers of computers in the training centre and our medical school. We shall open computer training centres in other villages and centres for the sake of assisting the youths to be self sufficient. It will also be a microfinancing project since some youths will be setting up computer bureau so it might be income generating in the long run. They will give MHCD some percentage that will help others too to run the program. The laptops helped computerise the Hospital, school, community centre and impact Radio. Each staff now has a computer that helps them work easily. Dr. Luc and Tom Cecil have a vision to develop the training centre so that in future it can be able to hand out diplomas because we are giving out certificates for now. The computer and laptops have helped to change lives of youth who before had been very idle.



Youths are happy to see laptops and they are offloading them from the container.



The community offloading computers from the container and they are very happy to see many computers donated from Australia.



Leaders of a local organisation in Uvira are very happy to receive laptops with which they will open a computer bureau and training centre. This is a microfinancing project.

INCUBATORS :

We are very grateful to Donations for kind inc.rotary Perth in donating two incubators and other medical equipments for Luvungi MHCD general Hospital. Our Hospital has been promoted by the Ministry of health to become a general and refferal Hospital and this has made it possible for premature babies to be transferred to MHCD. Since before we never had incubators, many children lost lives and today we are very happy to have the incubators. They came at the right time when we have power from the solar station and it began work immediately. As am writting this report the incubators are saving lives of babies in Luvungi.



Community offloading the incubators and above they have already been installed in the hospital.

CLOTHES :

We are so grateful to zonta clubs Perth that donated clothes and some shoes which too arrived at the right time when Luvungi Hospital had many internally displaced persons who had run away from their villages due to insecurity and they did not have clothes or shoes. After receiving them, we distributed to the patients and their guardians including the children in the maternity and paediatric wards. More than 250 people received the clothes.

We received also some uniforms from Rotary club perth that we distributed to the MHCD staffs and other people. They were nice shirts and pair of trousers that they are putting on and its helped them to have clothing. The patients and all of them were very happy to receive the gifts from Australia.



The above women gave birth at the Luvungi MHCD Hospital and they were very happy to receive their clothes and those of their babies plus the covers.



Dr.Luc with MHCD staffs distributing clothes at the women ward in Luvungi MHCD General Hospital. Most of the women are displaced from villages affected by insecurity and they did not have clothes. This container was of great help to them.



The children in the Paediatric ward are happy to receive clothes. The mothers received clothes too.



The above lady has been Hospitalised after operation and she also received clothes. She is very happy.



The above lady was also operated on and she was hospitalised at the Hospital. After receiving the clothes they really danced on their beds because of joy



Dr Luc with MHCD staffs are happy to receive shirts .We distributed the same shirts to different people .



The shoes we received ready to be distributed.



The above lady is happy to receive shoes and clothes from the container.

SCHOOL CHAIRS :

We are very grateful once again to the DIK rotary Perth for donating 148 school chairs. MHCD has a technical college and midwifery school and classes have increased for this year so the chairs will be added to classrooms that didn't have chairs. The community was very happy to see the chairs their children will be sitting on.



On the right side of the container are the chairs for schools that we receive.

ULTRASOUND MACHINE :

In the container we had the privilege of getting a very nice ultrasound machine. The women were very happy to learn of it and they themselves offloaded it from the container. It's one of the best ultrasound machines we have in the whole of Uvira District. We are very grateful to rotary club Perth for donating the machine to us.



Women from Luvungi are very happy to receive their ultra sound machine .

OTHER EQUIPMENTS AND MATERIALS RECEIVED :

We were grateful to receive other equipment and materials like physiotherapy aids, walking aids, adult wheelchairs, consummable medicals like gloves, mattress cover, plastic kidney dishes, blood analysers and 2 hospital beds.

We are so so grateful to all those who sacrificed their time so we can get the above. They have been of great help to the Hospital and the patients and even improved lives of very many people at large.



Boxes of different medical materials that we received.

SOLAR PANELS :

We were lucky to receive 16 solar panels in the container. MHCD has a solar station that helps in running the medical equipments we have at the Hospital. The solar panels we received will help increase the capacity of power at the Hospital. We are grateful to the organization that donated the solar panels. We shall send the photos after installing them and their capacity.





The community offloading solar panels from the container and they are very happy to see them.

Thank you for sacrificing your time to go through this report .We are so grateful for all efforts and sacrifice you are putting in so that MHCD may continue saving lives of very many vulnerable people.The container was a blessing for us and it has helped in improving lives of many people especially women and children.

May you not tire in supporting the less fortunate.We shall make sure every cent or goods reach the correct people.

Again many thanks for all the sacrifice and efforts and may God bless you.

4. NEW MEDICAL EQUIPEMENT FOR LUVUNGI HOSPITAL

We are very happy to inform all MHCD friends and supporters who contributed towards the medical equipments we were in need of at the Hospital that we have successfully acquired them.If you can remember well,during last year a vehicle was involved in an accident on the Bukavu Uvira road and people lost their lives and by bad luck when the bodies were brough at the Hospital they found we had no mortuary and this caused us alot of stress and challenges.We decided to purchase a mortuary unit of four body space with other medical equipments.

In the whole of Uvira District,there are only 2 mortuaries,the first is ours at the MHCD Luvungi Hospital which is private and the other is at Uvira General Hospital which is a government unit.Both have the same capacity the only difference is that ours has 24 hours power supply because of the solar station while at the general hospital they use a generator due to frequent power cuts and the deceased relatives have to

purchase fuel for the generator. From Luvungi where our Hospital is to Uvira town is 60kms. Uvira District has a population of more than eight hundred thousand habitants and the two mortuaries serve the whole population. You can see the impact of our mortuary in the region.

Before we had a mortuary in Luvungi, many people used to cross over into neighbouring Burundi to conserve the bodies. This was very expensive in terms of money, time, documents and distance. Now, courtesy of the mortuary at the Luvungi Hospital, the people are no longer crossing into Burundi.





Luvungi Hospital Mortuary Freezer

We also managed to purchase medical laboratory test equipments that help the Doctors and nurses carry out different diagnosis. Our laboratory is well equipped for now.





Another challenge we had was of a radiography. Most people who were coming to the Hospital who had survived an accident or had broken bones, we used to refer them due to lack of a radiography machine. Today we are very happy because we purchased a new radiography machine that works also 24hrs by solar power. We thank all MHCD friends and supporters who payed for us and contributed financially so we could get the machine.



Below is the operation light that we managed to purchase and install in the Luvungi Hospital theatre room. One of the Doctors is keenly observing them. So no more torches in the theatre room. The other photo shows how Doctors are operating 2 individuals at the same time. The theatre is powered by the solar station 24hrs.



We had the chance to purchase an echography machine together with the bank blood fridge. Women and patients who require it are usually tested very well and we have a place to conserve blood for blood transfusion. This is also powered by the solar station.



All these equipments are very new and we ordered them from a belgium company with a factory in China.They came in the same container that had the solar equipments.



Luvungi General and Referral Hospital /MHCD





We are very grateful to God because through the above equipments plus others we got from Australia, the Ministry of Health DR Congo promoted our Hospital to a Luvungi General and Referral Hospital. It's the one leading in the region.

5. THE JOY OF BIRTH IN THE MIDST OF A GREAT SADNESS

I'm very sorry to inform you that the South Kivu province is in mourning over the loss of 15 people who died in a road accident this week. A truck was driving from Bukavu to Bunyakiri (a town located in Kalehe Territory) containing people and goods. The road there is horribly unmaintained, almost undrivable and there was a very old and damaged bridge near the town. When the truck came into town, part of the bridge broke, sending it tumbling down the cliff, rolling multiple times, killing 15 people immediately and injuring 20 others. The local leader and territory administrator called me and told me this bad news. The Governor of South Kivu was not in Bukavu but on a mission in a neighbouring territory called Indjwi and therefore not able to assist.



This is the truck that fell off the cliff.

I contacted the UN peacekeepers in Bukavu and they sent two helicopters and 3 ambulance which allowed us to bring 12 of the badly injured people from there to the Bukavu general hospital. Thanks to the Monescu (UN in DRC) help, they arrived in 30 minutes and 11 of them are now recovering in hospital. Unfortunately though, one lady died from her wounds. However, we thank God for the lives that were saved and people in the South Kivu Province are happy that we all assisted so quickly with this disaster.





This is the UN rescue team who brought the injured people to hospital.

The following day I took my car and went to comfort the families and relatives of the deceased people. I drove on the same road which the truck went on and I saw just how bad it was. I had decided to take this road rather than a helicopter so that I could see the road for myself. Bukavu to Bunyakiri is only 75km by road but it took me 12 hours to traverse, leaving at 7am and arriving after 6pm. The road got so bad that I decided to leave my car there in the forest and walk for over 10kms before taking a motorbike the remainder of the way to Bukyakiri.



This is our vehicle driving on the road to Bunyakiri.

On the way I found another truck heading back to Bukavu and among the passengers had been a pregnant lady. She was on her way to the Bukavu hospital to deliver because she had delivered twice before by Caesarian section. She was expecting to deliver at any time so had commenced her journey to the city of Bukavu, however the poor road conditions were preventing her from reaching her destination. The truck was getting bogged and the passengers were trying to push but they were hardly progressing at all. At this point the woman started having contractions and the passengers left her on the side of the road for fear that she would die giving birth.

I came along with my car and found her crying, alone and looking for help, so I told my team to place her in our vehicle and take her with us. Whilst trying to get to the village, we ourselves then got bogged and in a few minutes she started screaming that the baby was on it's way. So I told the driver to pull over and we took her out to a bush on the side of the road. Thank God I had a birthing kit in the car and was able to deliver a beautiful baby girl right there in the forest! My assistant midwife was none other than Lavie who is an MHCD staff member working at Impact Radio and TV and is one of the midwifery students in the Training of Trainers program. After delivering the baby, the woman didnt have any clothes for her so Lavie and I took our shirts and one of the policeman's towels and we covered the baby. Thankfully, we were able to save the lives of this woman and her baby.

We then found a motorbike which could bring them the health center and both of them are now doing very well. The woman then asked me for my wife's name and named her new baby girl Delice Mulimbalimba after her.

Because people had been passing us whilst this was going on, when they reached the village they told everyone the good news. So in a few hours, the whole vilage of Bunyakiri was aware of the news and celebrating. When we arrived, they came singing, dancing and welcoming the woman and her baby and they thanked me and my team very much. This situation caused the people of the village to praise God for this miracle and for a time forget the pain of their horrible loss with the accident.



This is the pregnant woman in our vehicle.



This our MHCD team and police assisting the lady so that Dr. Luc can deliver the baby.



Dr. Luc has already delivered the baby and both mother and baby are safe.



The mother is very happy and holding her brand new child.



Lavie with MHCD staff handling the baby.

I went to visit the accident site with the community and the following day we buried the 15 people who died. The local government decided to cover all their funeral expenses which was a great blessing for the mourning families. It was the first time the village had a minister come and stay with them during a difficult time and they thanked me for that.

I also found other problems in that village such as malnutrition, which many children and even women are suffering from. Because of a lack of jobs, some of the youth have gone to join the rebel groups in the area, adding to their issues. However, there is some prosperity in the village and I found that the people have hope and are hard working. Most of the people who died were women and they ran small businesses which involved going to Bukavu and buying goods to sell in their village. I also found that they left many orphaned children, most of them aged from 3 to 9 years old. MHCD is currently looking at going back to the village and assisting the community by caring for the orphaned children and opening a computer training centre and tailoring school for the young men and women so they would not join the rebel groups. I have talked to the people and they are willing to work hard so that they can bring more hope and prosperity to their village.



Dr. Luc and the MHCD team are walking with the baby for over 10km so that they can get to the health centre and continue to care for the baby.



The lady and her baby at the health centre.



Dr. Luc visiting the accident site in Bunyakiri and the villagers came to congratulate him after receiving the good news of the new born baby.



This is one side of Bunyakiri village.



Dr. Luc with some of the UN emergency rescue team after saving the live of people in the accident at Bunyakiri.

6.LUVUNGI EDUCATIONAL FUND

A wise man once said instead of giving me fish to eat,teach me how to fish and when I know I will be eating fish everyday .On the basis of the above,we at MHCD Mission in Health Care and Development , Democratic Republic of Congo have come up with the education fund for the sake of equipping vulnerable women ,orphan and youth with basic education skills that will make them profitable to the outside world.

War,diseases and hunger brought about many deaths in D.R.Congo.UN reports that more than 5 million people lost their lives.Uvira District is one of the Districts of D.R.Congo that was much affected.Many young girls and women were raped,men,women and children died and many single mothers and widows who are going through life tough because of poverty.Many children are orphaned and some of the teenagers and youths are resorting to unwanted societal behaviours all that due to poverty and lack of education.

When MHCD saw this gap in the society of non active youths who were turning rowdy,Dr.Luc Mulimbalimba together with MHCD started the MHCD Luvungi Educational fund that will be able to cater for the education of the very many orphans,vulnerable girls and single mothers plus the street children and the youth.

We built a secondary school in Luvungi that offers technical skills like tailoring,mechanics,information technology,social studies,agriculture and electricity.

The programs are very good because they are prepairing the students for the job market and most of them when they finish they will be able to be self sufficient in a small period of time.

The Luvungi technical college has over 800 students in dire need of education .Most of them have taken up full responsibilities for their sibilings and its tough for them because their parent died during war or in other circumstances .Educating them will be saving their lives and that of the whole families .

Machozi joins the tailoring school.She had been raped at the age of 8 years by 3 rebels.She was very traumatised and rejected by the community.She is an orphan too because she lost her parents during war.She had been going through very difficult times taking responsibility of her 3 sibilings.Due to insecurity in her village she was forced to come back to Luvungi where there is security and she got enrolled into the tailoring school and currently she is looking for wellwishers to fund her education.

Mapatano is an orphan.He is 13years of age and at the second year level at the Luvungi MHCD polytechnic school.He used to miss school every now and then.When we tried to find out why,he said he spends most days without any food and he even doesnt have a uniform and he is embarrassed to wear his tattered rugs to school.He said when the hunger bites hard he goes local restaurant to wash dishes so he can be given some small meal of 20 cents.He says if he doesnt go to look for food he never gets it and he does the same thing again to help with his education which has

proved very difficult to him because he works hard and misses class and cant even get 10 dollars to pay per month at the school.

We have many stories like this and each one is unique. Most of our students come from very poor backgrounds and are going through unimaginable difficulties. This is why the objective of the fund is to look for well wishers who will help fund education for these poor and vulnerable students.

Education fees for one student is USD120 per year. The technical program for those coming direct from primary schools is 6 years because the secondary school curriculum for students is 6 years. For those who never completed secondary school its 3 years. We also have a certificate course for those who never got a chance to attend secondary school that runs from 6 months to 1 year .



MHCD Technical college student

Testimonies :

My name is Bora, am 23 years old .I was raped when I was 9 years of age. Rebels came at home and I was raped in front of my parents and they even raped my mother in front of our father and us the children. This affected so much the marriage between my parents and they separated. Men in our village never wanted to see me and everywhere I went I was rejected. My life was so painful and I cried everyday. I was forced to move out of my village to another village so I could live a peaceful life but it was impossible. I continued to suffer until I heard from the impact Radio that a technical college has been opened in Luvungi and its helping raped girls and women. I took courage to join the college for a certificate course and I studied electricity, I finished after 6 months and as at now I have my job. Am leading a peaceful life, people in my community respect me and am taking care of my siblings. Am so grateful to MHCD for supporting my education.

My name is Belinda, am 17 years of age. We used to stay in a town called Goma in the North Kivu province with my parents. Goma is almost 500km from Luvungi. In

2013 M23 rebels came into Congo from Rwanda and seized Goma town and the surrounding villages. Many people died. When there was too much shooting and bullets in Goma, we had to run for our lives. I was 12 years old then. While we were running, we lost contact with each other as a family as there were very many people. I had known from earlier childhood stories that my parents came from Uvira so I decided to go to Uvira to look for my family and I walked for over 500kms on foot eating from bushes leaves and if am lucky wild fruits. Sadly on my way at some point I met with 3 men who at first appeared to sympathize with my situation little had I known what they had on their minds. In a twinkling of an eye I was being raped. This affected me a lot and has traumatised me from ever since. It was so bad such that if I saw any man whatsoever I could run for my life thinking I will be raped once again. I tried my best to walk with all that pain till I reached Uvira. By good luck some good Samaritans told me stories of how good the Luvungi MHCD Hospital was in helping people and I decided they take me there and I was treated for free. When I was completely healed, it was hard for me to survive because I knew no relative and I have never known the whereabouts of my parents up to today. I think maybe they died. MHCD were very sympathetic and they accepted to enrol me in their technical college where am learning social studies today and they have also given me accommodation at the compound. They have become a family and right now am in my fourth year secondary school. My vision is that when I finish I may be able to help girls in situations like I was in and who are going through unexplainable moments. Am at peace now and very joyous and I feel at home with the MHCD fraternity. The only problem is that I don't have any scholarship and am requesting people with generous and compassionate hearts to support me and very many other students whose situations are even difficult than mine.



Thank you very much for reading this newsletter concerning MHCD Luvungi educational fund. The school has been a source of hope, peace and encouragement to many girls and youths and we are so proud of that. Since there are very many girls and single mothers with similar situations, our finances are limited and our hearts break for the girls. This is why we are coming before you to request for your support in this, to help restore peace, joy and a future to very many girls who otherwise could have been wasted by the past bad happenings in their lives.

Below is a bank account number details should you wish to support this educational program. And we say thank you so much in advance. We will make sure that every cent sent towards the educational program of the students will be used for the same purpose. Kindly please too may we know through email of your contributions and sponsorship and we shall gladly say thank you. We shall also keep you informed of the progress of the students and school.

Bank account details :

Bank : NAB National Australia Bank

Account : MHCDASA

BSB : 085436

A /C : 39 842 6510

7. TROPHY OF HUMAN RIGHTS, PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

We are pleased to let you know that Dr. Luc Mulimbalimba, the MHCD Director has won a trophy as the best human rights leader in the DRC. After investigations and research, an organisation called International centre for human rights and development found that Dr. Luc Mulimbalimba together with MHCD as an organisation sacrifice a lot in the fight for human rights and promoting community development in villages especially in helping vulnerable people ie women and children. Medical activities that Luvungi General Hospital has been striving to offer cheaply, education to the orphaned and street children for free, supporting the vulnerable women and traditional midwives through microfinancing and recently giving back land to the poor people that the rich had stolen from them and promotion of security in many parts of south Kivu province is what prompted them to give him the price and certificate of excellency.

The activities took place at Elizabeth Hotel before the civil society leaders, government leaders, association of physically handicapped persons, human rights leaders and many other leaders of national and international organisations. His family was also present. He is the first development leader and government official to receive the price in DRC. The ceremony took place on Thursday 11th January 2018.



The Director of Human Rights South Kivu province presenting the Excellency certificate and Trophy to Dr .Luc Mulimbalimba before the Government and civil society leaders.



Dr Luc Receiving the Human Rights and Development Trophy at Elizabeth Hotel in Bukavu.

On Friday 12th January 2018 at the UN Monusco Headquarters in Bukavu, Luc Mulimbalimba received another trophy as the provincial minister for internal security for all the work he have done in the promotion of security and fighting for the rights of vulnerable people in South Kivu province. UN peacekeepers from Egypt who were going back and others coming in to replace them are the ones who gave him the trophy. This happened in front of the UN Director for the South Kivu province, The UN General for police the whole of DR Congo, Vice Governor for South Kivu province and many UN Peacekeepers.

In two days Dr. Luc received two trophies and this shows that the world recognises the good work he is doing in saving the lives of vulnerable people in DR Congo. All staff and the people of DRC are very proud of him. In his speech, Luc Mulimbalimba thanked so much the Australian government and its people for all the support, love, sacrifice and advice they have continued to extend to him and the entire MHCD.



UN Monusco peacekeepers at the UN Headquarters in Bukavu presenting their honours to the UN and Government leaders.



Dr Luc with the General of the UN Peacekeepers Interpol at the ceremony.



UN Peacekeeper official giving Dr.Luc the trophy.



Dr Luc with Government and Un Monusco Leaders taking a family photo for remembrance.

MHCD and Dr.Luc Mulimbalimba are very grateful to all those who sacrificed their time,money,efforts and energy in one way or another for the sake of supporting and promoting MHCD for all the years.Your efforts and sacrifice are immeasurable considering the many lives that got saved in DRC especially Uvira District and the fruits are very much visible because Dr .Luc has received two trophies in two days.Its not easy in Africa to be a Minister and get a trophy of Human rights but through the work he has done and continuing to do of dsaving lives of the vulnerables and speaking for many people are what have brought about the recognition.This is a good example for other congolese and african politicians to see that a good politician fights for the rights of his people and bring development to the communities.We are grateful to Dr.Luc for his sacrifices and wish him all the best in all his endeavours.Kindly may you not tire in supporting Dr.Luc and MHCD at large so that we can be able to reach out to other many people.We appreciate so much all the sacrifices and efforts many Australians have extended to MHCD and we pray that this collaboration may increase more this year and coming years for the sake of Development .

8. PIG RAISING AND FISH POND PROJECT

WAGGA WAGGA ROTARY CLUB AND MHCD PROJECT

This project is being carried out in Uvira District,SouthKivu province,Democratic Republic of Congo.Its a project that was initiated by the Rotary Waggawagga club and MHCD and funded by Rotary International.Rotary club of Bukavu are heading the project .The projects aim to improve maternal and child health in the South Kivu province,establish and ensure sustainability of the microfinancing projects ,poverty reduction and fighting malnutrition and hunger amongst children.

The project has been very instrumental and in line with the UN development goals thus;

1. Establish small individual and community development projects to provide them with a sustainable source of income to reduce the incidence and impact of poverty;
2. Provide food security (with a focus on meeting the protein needs of growing children) as well as a sustainable source of income by providing individual women and /or women in village communities with the means to establish a pig breeding program;
3. Introduce fish ponds (community projects) in villages with limited access to a sustainable source of protein; properly engineered and maintained fish ponds also reduce the incidence of malarial infection as the fish (most likely tilapia) eat the mosquito larvae. Any fish surplus to the village women and dependent needs can be smoked and dried and sold at nearby markets;
4. Enhance maternal and child health through addressing poverty which is at the core of the unacceptably high maternal and child mortality rates in this most disadvantaged area of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC);

Those who benefitted from this project are:

- individual women and their dependents (pig farming projects);
- community groupings of women and their dependents (fish ponds).

We selected 12 villages namely Luvungi, Lubarika, Katogota, Mutarule, Makabola, Sange, Karinge, Bwegera, Ndolera, Buheba and the pigmee villages of Mulenge and Lemera. These villages were so much affected during war, most women used to walk many kilometers with luggage on their backs and heads which resulted in many complications and even death, some of the women were raped and others are widows and traditional midwives. There are some villages that were affected by massacres like Mutarule, Makabola and Katogota.

Women from the villages were very very grateful to hear that they had been chosen for the pig rearing and fish keeping project. Most of them had led very difficult lives, getting food was a problem and even many children were suffering from malnutrition. So they could get food, they had to work very hard like manually ploughing farms, carrying logs of wood and heavy luggages for very long distances. This led to many women suffering from various diseases while others losing their lives.

ACTIVITIES WE CARRIED OUT

Firstly we identified the different women and carry out investigations on their capabilities of being able to take care of Pigs and fish. We then sensitized them plus the communities so they may accept the project and take it as their own.

Thirdly we assembled all of them together at MHCD grounds and trained them on taking care of pigs and fish. They formed committees that will be following up the project. Each committee had the chair, vice chair, secretary, treasurer and two advisors while the rest are members

After training them we visited the sites for the projects and to see in reality if they will get food.

Before giving them the pigs and fish ponds, we called committee members to come meet with the Bukavu Rotary club that's heading the project. Rotary Bukavu informed them where the money for the project had come from and asked them to take good care of the pigs and fish ponds. We had a meal together and that marked the beginning of the project.

Rotary Bukavu gave MHCD the funds, MHCD then purchased the pigs, constructed pens for them and gave out money for the fishponds and fingerlets. We then called the Bukavu Rotary club who came and launched the project by distributing pigs and ponds to some of the groups.

IMPACT OF THE PROJECT

When they were given the pigs and ponds, they were very happy. On that day the women sang, danced and jumped because of the immense joy. They sang saying they have started a new chapter in their lives and that they will never be affected by poverty again. This words touched many peoples heart such that some of the people who were around cried tears of joy.

The first impact was seeing the women accepting the project and being very happy. When they took away the pigs, some were expectant and in less than two months they gave birth. One has given birth to 8 piglets while others six. When the piglets became a little bit of age, they sold them and divided the profit right now some of the women are doing small businesses. They have food everyday, pay school fees and buy clothes and leading normal lives. This is a very big impact and the women have greatly challenged the others to take good care of the pigs everyday.

All the pigs we gave out are going on very well and fishpond project is ok too. We were surprised to see men joining the project and helping women take care of the ponds. In each club there are women and men and they collaborate very well and this has brought about impact in the whole community.

PROJECT CHART

There are the villages that we refer to as antene. Each village has 10 clubs. Each club has 7 women and 2 men to help them. Each club has a committee and members. Each village received one fish pond and 20 pigs therefore each club received 2 pigs.

Below is the chart showing the distribution of the pigs and fishponds.

No	VILLAGE	No of CLUBS	No of Women Supported	No of Men Supported	No of Pigs Distributed	Fish Pond
1	LUVUNGI	10	70	20	20	1
2	LUBARIKA	10	70	20	20	1
3	KATOGOTA	10	70	20	20	1
4	BWEGERA	10	70	20	20	1
5	NDOLERA	10	70	20	20	1
6	BUHEBA	10	70	20	20	1
7	SANGE	10	70	20	20	1
8	KILIBA	10	70	20	20	1
9	LEMERA	10	70	20	20	1
10	MULENGE	10	70	20	20	1
11	MUTARULE	10	70	20	20	1
12	MAKOBOLA	10	70	20	20	1
	TOTAL	120	840	240	240	12

MHCD also has a committee heading the project and it comprises of the Chairperson, Secretary, treasurer and one member. They do follow ups and make sure all clubs are running well. The committee have hired a veterinary Doctor who makes two medical visits per month and in case of emergency he is called over. MHCD assisted the project by purchasing a motorcycle that makes transportation easier for them and the Doctor.

They are as follows,

No	NAMES	POSITION
1	MUTULA RUGANIZA AMANI	Project Leader
2	ALEXIS MATENGA	Secretary
3	KOBIRI BIGAYANABYO Charles	Treasurer
4	MASUMBUKO SYLVIE	Member

DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED

1. It was not easy to choose the women because in each village there are so many women in need of help.
2. Transporting the pigs was not easy because we had to use motorbicycles, trucks and tractor and this brought about extra costs that MHCD shouldered.
3. During the first phase of distribution, we bought upgraded pigs that appeared much smaller than the normal pigs but the Bukavu Rotary weren't happy and this caused the funds for the second phase to be released late. In the second phase all the pigs bought were normal and big. To our surprise, amongst the small pigs we have those that have already given birth.

SPECIAL THANKS

We are so so grateful to the Rotary clubs of Waggawagga for all the sacrifice and efforts you put in so we could get the funds. Your support came at the right time where many women were leading very difficult lives and you have given them hope in life again. May God bless you for initiating the project.

Our sincere gratitude to the Rotary foundation USA for accepting to support the project through the Rotary club of waggawagga.

We are also grateful to the rotary club of Bukavu for accepting to host the project with great cooperation. You have been so close and your advice was timely on the project.

Lastly,our special thanks go to

Gary and Marilyn Roberts

Doug Sutton

Elaine and John Dietsch

We are so so grateful for this wonderful project that will go along way in saving lives of many.The project is for 2 years and each club will give back 2 pigs after many births and we hope to give them to other villages.We still have many villages and clubs in need of support and kindly we request all wellwishers who may want to support the project to please feel free to do so.

Below are photos of pig and fish pond distribution and one of the pigs that has given birth.





Women from different villages are happy to receive pigs



Women from one club are very happy to receive two pigs.



Pigs loaded on trucks ready to be distributed to a village .The women leader is very happy to receive them.





Women leaders from different clubs from Snge village are happy to visit and see their fishpond. MHCD leaders paid them a visit to see the good work they are doing.



Another fishpond from other villages.



Rotary Bukavu club members with women after pig distribution.



Pigs on a tractor ready to be distributed to different clubs in one village .This is how we were distributing the pigs.



The women here are very very happy to receive the pigs. You can see the joy in their faces.







These are some of the pigs that have already given birth.



Rotary Bukavu president Theo giving pigs to the women

9. DIETSCH ACADEMY SANGE

This is a school for the orphaned and street children and its located in Sange village, Uvira District. We opened it after a fuel tanker caught fire on the market road and caused loss of lives of more than 300 people who got burnt live. This brought about many orphans and widows. We opened the school so we could take care of the orphaned children. In 2017, the school registered 210 pupils whom we provided for free education, medical care and food for those who were suffering from malnutrition. The school is going on well because of the support from Nathan Dietsch Who we greatly appreciate for standing with the orphaned and street children. Those who were among the very first to enrol in the school have joined secondary education and they are going on very well.

MHCD is taking care of their guardians and we have put them in the microfinancing program. Some are doing small business, others we gave them pigs and fish ponds. The program assists them to provide the children with some food and clothing.

Again we thank Nathan Dietsch and family for supporting the school. Your support has given hope to many children and families in Sange village.



Pupils of class two Nursery school Dietsch Academy Sange

10. WHEELCHAIRS FOR KIDS DISTRIBUTION

The distribution of wheelchairs for Kids is going on very well. The local government has given us a vehicle which is helping us to go into the villages to distribute the wheelchairs. We distributed in a town called Chai near Bukavu, Uvira district, Kabare, Walungu and the population was very happy to see the distribution of wheelchairs which were free, for the first time.

There was one child, Amani, who was crawling around three kilometres every day to get to school and he received a wheelchair and now he uses that to get to school and the whole town was thrilled to see him receive the chair. When he is going to school with it, the town people cry with joy as they watch him use the chair. Once he had the chair, on his way home he moves through town to see his friends and greet people, something he could not do before. He says that before he had no legs but now he has legs and can move around. He uses the table attached to his chair when at school for his lessons and when at home he uses it to eat from.

When I talk with his mum, she just cried with joy, explaining that her son used to not move very much and she was a prisoner at home caring for him. Now though she can do other things and work because he is now mobile. He says that the wheelchair has changed his life and the life of the family.

Thank you very much for sending us wheelchairs because they really bring hope, joy and mobility to many children and families and the population of DRC are happy to see their children receive wheelchairs for free. We will update you as we distribute more.

11. RONDA AND ARTHUR BOYD MOTHER AND CHILD CLINIC

Luvungi MHCD Hospital has constructed the Ronda and Arthur mother and child clinic. We added the mothers because it has maternity where all the expectant women come to give birth. It has been a great blessing to the whole community of Uvira District. One room has an incubator which is very helpful in case of premature births.

We are so grateful to Ronda Boyd for all the efforts, sacrifice, love and support you have given to MHCD. We pray for God's mercy and strength on you that you may continue to remember us. Please don't get tired in supporting us because we still need you.



12. CONCLUSION

We appreciate your giving time to go through this report. As you might have realized, we managed to save lives of so many vulnerable people in Uvira District and DRC at large. We restored hope in many peoples lives. It was not easy to do all this but we were successful through the selfless sacrifice of MHCD staffs who worked round the clock and our MHCD supporters and friends who stood with us throughout. We shall continue to serve the very many vulnerable people who are still in dire need of help. We greatly appreciate your collaboration and cooperation.

DR. LUC MULIMBALIMBA MASURURU

MHCD Director.