

Newsletter from Heri-Hospital

November 2021.



If you want to continue supporting our work with the little HERI-hospital in the poor northwestern corner of Tanzania (near the border of Burundi), you can renew your membership for 2022 with USD15, to be deposited on

[our account in Skjern Bank Esbjerg branch:](#)

[Reg./Acc. no.: 7780 - 1257930.](#)

If you want to support our work further with a gift, this can be done through a deposit on our

[other account in Skjern Bank Esbjerg branch:](#)

[Reg./Acc. no.: 7780 - 1409622.](#)

For Danish citizens we can provide taxdeduction according to tax regulations § 8A (now up to USD 2.500) if you provide your CPR-no. of the individual from which the gift is coming in the message on the transfer in front of the name.

Our Cashier Gertie Baungaard Gorzelak will report such gift to the Danish taxation authorities in the beginning of January 2022. Gertie is a bankmanager in SparNord Esbjerg branch and takes care of all financial transactions to-/from the association.

In case you want to use MobilePay, it can be done on 40596706 to Gertie. Remember to note membership or gift (and the CPR-no., for the Taxdeduction).

We are getting closer towards the end of the most awkward year, with many restrictions throughout in the public space. Most are now terminated, but as it looks currently with rising infection numbers again, no-one knows what will happen during wintertime.

We didn't manage to come to Tanzania this year which we usually do and have done since 2007. But we have managed to keep in contact through e-mails, messages and some phonecalls with the hospital. With banktransfers it has also been possible to pay for the nursing-students and boarding-school pupils we support. They seem in good health and good progress on their education.

The new Maternity clinic which we wrote about in our last newsletter, are at full use now. We look forward very much to see how it goes there.

The Hospital is now in full progress completing yet another building for the male patients, which is also financed by Lions (distrikt 106C) here in Danmark. As usual the hospital makes both bricks and roof construction themselves. As soon as this is finished, they will start work on a third building which will contain a fully equipped child care unit.



The new male-ward almost finished

The funds for this also comes from Lions through the same channels. It is our good friend Knud Loekkegaard, who also helped with funds for our Solarpower plant (in 2017), who is still in charge of providing these funds from Lions. We are very grateful for this.

When all is done and well, the Hospital will have taken a "tiger-step forward" in quality. New buildings, better equipment, including a dental clinic, nursing-school, solarpower and better control of their hydropower, since we started our help in 2007.

Container with equipment to Heri.

We obtained a 40 foot container from BlueWater Shipping. The purchase and shipping costs will probably amount to 4 times our previous rates, partly because of the rising seafreight rates.

We have an agreement with Aalborg hospital-storage of used hospital equipment, and expect to obtain hospital-beds, -tables, -operating theater equipment, wheelchairs etc. during next week.

The hospital really need new beds and mattresses and even though it is used and surplus here in Denmark, it is by far much better than what we presently have. The new mens-ward will be amongst those first benefitting from this. Part of our equipment is all the way back from the 1950'ies.

We expect to get the container shipped in the beginning of December 2021. The hospital has sent a wishlist, which we have passed on to the leader of Aalborg hospital-storage Mr. Peter Attrup.

Moreover we have 16 used Lenovo laptops to be included in the container to provide the hospital with better It-equipment. They have all been checked and equipped with new harddisks (demanded by the donor).

Students 2021.

Our Association has through many years supported some nursing students, paying for their education. It is either orphans or with only one parent, or handicaped (like missing a leg). These young people would otherwise never get any education and left with a rather fruitless future.

Currently we support 4 students: **Jenipher** (by Lions Club Vejle) , **Peruth** and **Nehu** (children of widows) who are all 3rd year students (the diploma education take 3 years). Moreover **Adam**, who is 2nd year student and orphaned. More have applied, but 4 was what the association and sponsors could afford in 2021 (it costs app. USD1.400 a year for 1st and 2nd year and app. USD1.600 for 3rd year. This also covers both intuition payment, living costs and accomodation).

Moreover we support Dorkas (a young girl with only one leg), she is attending a 2-year sewing education and is currently on her first year. We look forward to see what she has learned.

We still support 2 orphan brothers, **Krian** at primary school and **Baraka** at secondary school. We just got the sad news, that their Aunt has now also died short time ago. Therefore we don't know at present where the boys can stay during their holidays. Finally we support **Sago** (with also just one leg), he finishes form 4 on secondary school.



Krian og Baraka

Dentist student on the Philippines, Timothy.

Timothy ended his education in august/september 2021 passing his dental doctor exam. The last year has been very difficult due to the Corona pandemic. Education has for some time been remote digitally, and some of the practical tasks has had to be performed on "fantoms". He has himself had Corona and been hospitalised, but is luckily now well again. He will travel back to Tanzania on the 30th of November, and need 1 year practical training with a dental clinic in Tanzania, before he may work on his own here at the Heri Hospitalet. It has certainly been a considerable investment for the association, but we feel confident it is well spent.



A happy Timothy after passing the final exam

Dental clinic at Heri.

We already have a dental clinic at the Heri Hospital, it works but is somewhat worn and obviously need both service and maintenance every year.

Moreover we have 2 units, dental chairs, x-ray etc. stored in a container at the hospital already, which has now been there for 2 years, as we have been unable to travel.

The hospital also has a doctors external clinic in Kigoma in a building with several rooms, where we anticipate to also host a small dental clinic. When we hopefully come to Tanzania here in januar 2022 we will investigate the costs of establishing this.



Ouch my tooth! Yeah, yeah, just relax.

It will of course have some initial investment costs, but we expect it can give a much needed contribution with paying customers from the city, when Timothy returns within approx. one year to work at Heri.

Future wishes.

We want to support poor yungsters with an education, focussing on those who don't have family to support them economically.

Moreover we want to support village-families to live more healthy. The head-surgents wife Yvonne, who is a nutrician specialist, has made a project, where she has investigated 362 mother-child relations with kids 1-6 yo, they live in the nearby neighborhood (within a radius of app. 60 km). She found that 38% have limited growth and development, 6% are malnourished, 19% are underweight and 49% have anemia.

Although the families are very poor and prefer to sell all their harvest of vegetables, beans and fruits rather than eating it themselves, they are also totally ignorant of the nutritional concequences thereof. Most get 2 meals a day, but much consists of only kassava porridge, which they cherish very much, but which does not contain much of what they need. It resembles eating mostly white bread. Most do have the oportunity to eat both corn, bananas, avocados, beans and other vegetables, which are all grown locally.

The hospital want to alter the old mens-ward into a nutritian-clinic. Here they would like to have a kitchen, where they will educate women (role-models) from the various villages in healthy food making. The women should then go back to the villages and train other families. With such a clinic, it would also be possible to treat specially malnourished children. Still however a full project description with economics has not yet been made.

Furthermore we hope in this connection to establish at first a small household-biogas system, by which food can be prepared over a biogas-stove, to teach them how to better make use of the natural resources without cutting down trees to make food over "campfires". Such a system is "fed" with all kinds of organic waste and the "rest-product" is very suitable for fertilising the soil with much less unpleasant odor. If we have space in the container, we will include this. Steen has already bought such a unit at very low cost as firstmover.



This is what the homebiogas system looks like

Electricity supply at HERI



In this last period there has been significant problems with the electricity supply, mainly because of the hydro powerplant generator itself “giving up”, but also because the big 50KW diesel generator went down, why it has been necessary to find and call for a local and competent craftsman to take care of these problems for them. No-one from here were able to come and help due to COVID restrictions.

It has indeed been a very prolonged process, which also turned out difficult to get spareparts for locally, for instance new copperwire in the right dimension and quality to rewind the burned off poles on the hydropower generator, but seems to come to an end now.



re-wound pole on generator rotor

Two weeks ago the diesel generator got online again, and right now work is progressing at the hydropower station. A big and difficult task to perform on location. Luckily it seems the technician they got hold of for this “wasn't born yesterday”, so now we have great hopes he will succeed.

These two very unfortunate problems have also shown the importance of the Solar powerplant installed back in 2017, but also revealed its insufficiency, especially when everything else fails, but also more generally with the speed the hospital activities expands. for instance the nursing school may operate over 20 PCs/laptops during daytime, and they all need stable power.



Current 25Kwp solarpower plant

This is why we hope to expand the current solarpower system with a smaller supplementary system. We have found very inexpensive solarpanels and suitable batteries in Lithium-Ion quality.

Unfortunately we cannot expand the current batterybank of lead-acid batteries, as you can only replace it when it is worn out. With the current increased load, we are affraid it wears out much too soon, which in itself poses a gigantic extra expenditure in a not too distant future, so by offloading it with a supplementary system, we “catch two flies with one swipe”.

Finally it is important to complete improving control of the water reserves to the hydro powerplant, also with respect to the climate changes you already see and of which more can be expected in the coming years, where you cannot allow water to be wasted, that could have been utilised more effectively. Our engineer (Steen Mose Hansen) has already developed the project for this, but due to COVID not been able to proceed with the actual implementation of it.



Regulate: small/large stone

Steen who is our main help with these new technical solutions regarding the electricity supply would therefore be really happy, if we can manage to obtain sufficient funds to purchase all the large and heavy gear for the supplementary solarpower plant, such we can get it in the container before shipping it out, he can then put it in operation already in March next year (just a silent prayer).

Kind regards

Marianne & Morten including the entire board