

Dear friends of MEDEA e.V.,

originally it was planned, that Gertrud Langensiepen will spend Christmas 2012 with her family in Germany.

But first the new home for the child-headed family in the region of KaLanga needs to be finished. The students of the Nikolaus Ehlen Gymnasium in Velbert, Germany, organised a charity race and donated half of the collected money to MEDEA for the realisation of a child-headed household. The first contact with the child-headed family in the area of KaLanga was initiated through Caritas Swaziland. After the report of Gertrud Langensiepen and the pictures of the situation, that she sent, we knew that we have to act immediately. All four children of the family are orphans and they lived in a miserable hut under extremely poor circumstances, which is hard to imagine.



Accommodation for 4 persons

All of the children needed medical treatment, because they were very much underweight and malnourished. The 9 year old Siphosito suffers under epilepsy and also needed medical treatment.



Back view of the former hut

The new building with two rooms including proper beds, a separate hut for the kitchen and a latrine have been completed in February. A water tank of 500l has been set up and filled with water, as the closest river is in a distance of 1,5 hours walking. A small garden for vegetables and fruits has been created and the new chickens moved into their comfortable new homes. – Pictures of the completed construction and the family can be found on the website under the heading “Kinderfamilie KaLanga”

In the middle of February 2013 the long waited for visit of an employee of the company AQUISmed from Marburg could be organized. Already in 2009 did MEDEA buy and import the equipment to produce sterile solutions and gels for modern way of wound treatment into Swaziland. The equipment could be set up in the Raleigh Fitkin Memorial hospital.

After good preparations through our local colleagues the workshop for the responsible personnel as doctors, nurses, pharmacists and laboratory staff could be organized and was held with a great response of participants for one week.



Participants of the workshop

Since the beginning of March Gertrud Langensiepen is back in Germany. Since then there have been held many presentations, a lot of discussions, new members have been acquired and new things have been started. In the end of July she will head back to Swaziland so that she can organize and support the projects for 2013 that have been already started or are in planning.

And also we, the staff in Germany, are busy, because the organization for the Christmas markets, which will only be held in a few month, need to start now.

In July 2013

Gisela Romhányi