



Maragoli

**Community Development
Foundation, Inc.**

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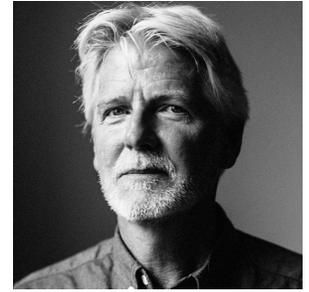
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2019 Annual Report

*A message from the President,
Jan Kees den Bakker*



Dear Friends:

This annual report marks a momentous milestone in the history of MACODEF: It is the final report from the International Board of Trustees before the long-anticipated handover of operations to the Local Board of Governors. Efforts throughout 2019 were devoted to this important transition, the fruition of the five-year strategic plan crafted in 2014. Through the work of MACODEF, we have collectively endeavored to change the lives of many people in the Maragoli community for the better.

I am very grateful to have served on the International Board of Trustees all these years, because we saw that community-based development works. Due to the effort and the reliance of our Local Board members, the lives of the community members really improved. The cycle of poverty can be broken using the strength of the community. Our success is largely due to the never ceasing commitment of long serving board members such as Beatrice Khasandi and Esther Mucheneke and the leadership of the chairs of MACODEF, Samuel Amukono Kidini for the first decade and Nebert Isambe for the ensuing five years. The driving force behind MACODEF's work in the community is Joyce Adisa, the professional Project Coordinator. All these years she has been working for the development of her community, efforts that earned her the well-deserved nickname: "Mama MACODEF." Internationally, we are much indebted to Dave McConnell, the founder of MACODEF, for doing a great job in fundraising. He ensured the continuity of the MACODEF projects by keeping weekly contact with the Project Coordinator. In recent years Wade Powell took over and did this with equal commitment and dedication.

As the local board embarks on the exciting next phase of MACODEF, we are all deeply grateful for the friendships and for the learning opportunities afforded by 15 years of sustained collaboration. We remain eager to continue to support MACODEF-Kenya in this new year and new decade. MACODEF will continue in 2020 with its mission of community-based development. You can still support this work, contributing directly to the Foundation in Kenya. We hope you will join us!

Jan Kees den Bakker
President



A message from the Board of Governors Chairman Nebert Isambe

Dear Worldwide Friends and Supporters:

On behalf of the Board of Governors and the entire MACODEF family here in Kenya, I sincerely thank you all for supporting the locally conceived development projects in our community. Our most effective activities thus far are at the core of our priorities going forward. These include:

- Support of bright and needy high school students through the Salome and Joshua Bunyoli Bursary Fund at Vigena Secondary School and the fund for Ideler Secondary School.
- Providing sanitary napkins for school girls.
- The lunch programmes in our primary schools at Vigena and Vigetse Primary Schools.
- The donation of classroom learning materials to our local primary and secondary schools.
- The upgrade of equipment to enable teaching and learning in Vigena Secondary School, e.g., dining hall tables, microscopes and electricity installation.
- The care and construction of houses for the homeless or vulnerable families.
- Improving healthcare, sanitation and food production throughout the community.
- Supply of farm implements and basic household equipment that are environmentally friendly, e.g., solar lights, fireless jikos (cookstoves), and baskets.
- Support of small-scale development projects proposed by stakeholder groups.
- The further expansion of the buildings and land at the Community Resource Centre.

We greatly appreciate all our donors, their passion and commitment over time. As the International Trustees wind up their service to let the local community through the Local Board drive towards sustainability, we pledge to work for a smooth and successful transition of management of the Foundation to keep the dream alive. We appeal to the donors and well-wishers that we still need them in this journey, and we are grateful for your ongoing support.

Best Regards,

Nebert Isambe
Chairman



The MACODEF Local Board of Governors and Resource Center Staff

*Continuing support for MACODEF in the new era
A message from Secretary-Treasurer, Wade Powell*



Dear Friends,

Although the International Trustees will no longer convene to supervise MACODEF administration in 2020, each of us remains an enthusiastic and committed supporter of the Foundation's mission under the ongoing leadership of the Local Board of Governors. This January, it was especially gratifying for me and my family to the support tuition needs of seven students at Ideleri Secondary School, where Patty and I served as teachers over 30 years ago, with a new contribution for the 2020 school year.

Procedures for donating remain the same. For convenient electronic submission, you can use the Paypal link on the MACODEF web site (maragoli.org). Alternatively, checks can be mailed to the same address in the US: MACODEF, PO Box 776, Gambier, OH 43022. As always, all donations will be quickly, reliably, and transparently forwarded to the bank account in Kenya for support of development projects. Please note: Now exclusively a Kenyan NGO, MACODEF is no longer registered as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization in the United States. Gifts are no longer deductible on federal tax returns.

We hope you'll stick with us in supporting the MACODEF mission of sustainable development and poverty reduction in western Kenya. I can think of no other cause for which relatively small donations can have such large and lasting impacts.

With sincere gratitude,

Wade Powell



Wade addresses students at Ideleri Secondary School

Summary of MACODEF Activities: 2004-2019

By Dave McConnell & Jan Kees den Bakker

As MACODEF Kenya marks the transition to full local control after 15 years, it is inspiring to remember the generosity of donors and of community members in the very early years of our work together. We began on a shoestring budget with trustees sending hand-made fliers to friends, family, and classmates soliciting support in 2004. The swift and positive response allowed MACODEF to fund several projects in our first year: water tanks, latrines, and desks for the schools; uniforms and scholarships for students; and flooring and benches for the local Quaker church and community meeting house.



Dave, Jan Kees, and Samuel lead a strategy session

At the same time, MACODEF was able to gain legitimacy in the local community through the willingness of some amazing individuals to assume leadership positions. Joyce Adisa Bunyoli



“Mama MACODEF” Joyce Bunyoli points the way

came on board as our full-time project coordinator, Samuel Amukono Kidini began a long term of voluntary service as a visionary chair of the local board of governors, and Jane Uside Agama ensured transparency in MACODEF’s finances. We received in-kind contributions from many individuals and institutions in Vigetse and Vigena, including Vigena Secondary School, which allowed us to use a room in their compound for the MACODEF office.

By 2005, we had begun micro-loans to self-help groups in the villages, as well as HIV/AIDS prevention and outreach, and we had embarked on plans to build a rural health clinic. The clinic was completed in 2007, at roughly the same time that Rotary International gave us a \$24,000 matching grant for water projects, which included tree planting, new latrines, water harvesting systems, and rehabilitation of community springs. Also in 2007, the first of four Wooster-in-Kenya off-campus study programs brought College of Wooster students and Wooster Rotarians to the villages for homestays, assistance on projects, and education about Maragoli culture and history.

By the time of our five-year anniversary in 2009, in which Samuel and Joyce joined the trustees for a conference in Hope, Michigan, we had also implemented a pilot project in sustainable agriculture and had partnered with Solar Cooking International to hold a solar cooking workshop in Vigetse. MACODEF subsequently subsidized solar cookers and solar lights for many community members and began a series of emergency projects to help those in the village community who were in dire circumstances.

After the initial phase of building up MACODEF, the next decade was marked by bigger projects. There was the school lunch project started in 2010 that for three years provided school lunches for school children who would otherwise have gone hungry in the afternoon. Parents donated surplus harvest for this program that they attained by improved agricultural methods, and the lunches were prepared in energy efficient stoves.

We next embarked on our most ambitious construction project, the community Resource Center, which was finished in 2015 with substantial financial support from the David Noble Foundation. Before the center's launch, the MACODEF office was a small room at Vagina Secondary School. The Resource Center opened the possibility for a wide array of services, such as farming courses in the Center's garden, sewing lessons, and a community library. The Resource Center has grown to become a thriving hive of community activity.

One project thread deserves special mention for its growth and continuity over the years--The "Pad Fund." Girls usually stay home from school when they have their period due to the high cost of feminine hygiene products. Patti Moll, a dedicated and long-time supporter of MACODEF, proposed sewing washable sanitary napkins, providing inexpensive female hygiene that allows girls to remain in school. This enormously successful and promising project, conducted with training from *Days for Girls International*, has emerged as one of the Foundation's most important ongoing initiatives. Involving several tailors based at the Resource Center, the project provides menstrual kits to hundreds of girls at three schools thus far and continues to expand both geographically and in the number of students served.



Students at Vagina Primary School receive Days for Girls kits manufactured and donated by MACODEF

After 10 years of MACODEF operations, we decided in 2014 that all the International Trustees and the local Board of Governors would gather together in Kenya to evaluate the Foundation's achievements and to craft a new strategic plan. Local ownership is a large part of our guiding

ethos, and we all felt strongly that the local Board of Governors should be in the lead, both administratively and in fundraising. We agreed that in five years' time (that is, by the end of 2019) the international trustees would hand over control of the foundation.

Work over that five-year period (2014-2019) has focused on continuing MACODEF's local development mission while increasing self-sustainability of the Foundation in Kenya. Based at the Resource Center, income-generating activities such as poultry and rabbit raising, vegetable sales, internet and printing services, and tent rental expanded, launching an era of greater financial self-sufficiency at the local level. The local Board of Governors took on increasing responsibility for not only conceiving of projects but also providing a portion of the funding.

The dawn of 2020 marked the official handover of Foundation control from the International Trustees to the local Board of Governors. While the former trustees remain steadfast and enthusiastic supporters, both financially and in spirit, we share pride and excitement as our management role concludes and MACODEF embarks on an exciting new era of poverty reduction and sustainable development in Maragoli.



The MACODEF Community Resource Center at Vigetse Village.

US MACODEF Financial Report

Balance on January 1, 2019	\$ 3,898.90
Funds Raised (all individual donors in US)	\$13,275.00
US administrative overhead (accounting services, PO box, URL registry)	\$ 1,000.00
Resource Center Operation	\$ 8,004.00
Contributions to local projects (details below)	\$ 8,019.90
Days for Girls Menstrual Pads Project	\$ 2,500.00
Sewing Machine for Vigetse Polytechnic School	\$ 504.00
Bursary Fund (tuition): Vigena Sec. School and Ideleri Sec. School	\$ 3,882.90
Board of Governors Fund	\$ 1,133.00
Total Expenses	\$16,573.90
Balance on December 31, 2019	\$ 150.00*

*Saved for contingencies in financial closeout.

2019 MACODEF Donors

Muhavini (Patron)

Kristy and Will Davis
 Bob and Kathy Gorman
 Hugh Grant and Berto Gándara
 David and Cathy McConnell
 Owen and Pat McConnell
 Patti and John Moll

Frances and Lemoine Peart
 Harry Powell
 Wade Powell and Patty Burns
 Kevin and Melissa Schmidt
 Klaas and Setsuko Van't Veld

Muhani (Benefactor)

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Cynthia Manning
 Daniel Weaver and Kathy Goetz

Mulindi (Protector)

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Mukonyi (Supporter)

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