



MIFUMI



The Kwar Adhola, Adha Adhola and Atuki Turner open the Haven

A Haven for Domestic Violence Survivors

Following the roll out plan enabled by generous funding from Comic Relief, MIFUMI launched its Model Network on Violence Against Women with the theme DO SOMETHING EXTRA FOR WOMEN: THE CALL TO ACTION which was adapted from the MDG3 campaign. The model network also known as the 3-pronged-Approach seeks to Protect, Prevent and Provide for women and children experiencing domestic violence.

The one day event that took place on the 12th of December 2008 at the MIFUMI head office was graced with the presence of The King of Adhola, His Highness Moses Stephen Owor, who was the chief guest.

Other guests included the delegates from the Danish embassy headed by Ms. Charlotte Kanstrum, District politicians and duty bearers, Religious and cultural leaders, partner organizations and various women organizations within and out of Tororo.

This day also saw the opening up of the first ever purpose built Haven for women by His Highness, The Kwar Adhola, Moses Stephen Owor. The Kwar Adhola has for several years supported the work of MIFUMI in his kingdom urging men to treat their wives with respect.

The MIFUMI Haven was opened at a time when cases of repeated violence and new cases of domestic violence have more than doubled.

MIFUMI has supported over 10,000 survivors of domestic violence. The organization has on several occasions booked survivors into hotels for days and once in a while staff have accommodated the survivors in their homes.

In her speech The Comic Relief Grants officer Ms. Pontso Mafethe said Comic relief has continuously funded MIFUMI because of its work in fighting social injustices against women. She also added that when women thrive, communities thrive, and when communities thrive, the world becomes a better place.

Atuki Turner, the Executive director of MIFUMI thanked Comic Relief, the Danish Government and Tororo leaders for the passing of the District Ordinance bill on Bride Price and for their support during the MDG3 campaign.



Pontso Mafethe of CR chats with a woman



Girls show off their karate skills



R-L: The Kwar Adhola and MIFUMI B.O.G Vice Chair, Dr. Anthony Okoth and a guest.

Comic Relief Visits MIFUMI



On her very first visit to Uganda, Comic Relief Grants officer Ms. Pontso Mafethe was welcomed with songs of joy by survivors of domestic violence.

Speaking to the staff of MIFUMI at the MIFUMI Head office, Ms. Pontso said MIFUMI is an NGO that is purpose driven and an example of a good growing and learning organization.

She visited the village of Mifumi, MIFUMI Primary School, MIFUMI market, MIFUMI advice centers in MIFUMI village, Kirewa, Tororo and Mulanda.

Comic relief has generously funded MIFUMI for the last 10 years.

Pontso's visit coincided with the launch of the MIFUMI Model Network that took place on the 12th of December 2008.



From the Headmaster's Desk

The new academic year starts on 2nd Feb 2009. As teachers prepare to start work, parents will have to meet their obligations by ensuring that pupils are in school on time. All this is to ensure a safe, secure and trusting learning environment, an environment where children can realize their full potential. The school also plans to maintain high standards in areas of discipline, co-curricular activities, health/hygiene cleanliness, school infrastructure and educational materials.

The consistency of the school management committee chaired by Ms Atuki Turner in implementing school policies is pivotal in making our institution a centre of excellence for education and development. The personal input of the Director in charge of education Mr. Glyn Turner cannot go unnoticed. Further recognition is forwarded to Mr. John Carnegie for his tireless effort in improving the school.

We only hope for the best in last year's the Primary Seven National Examination.

I remain committed to making MIFUMI primary school a model school in Tororo district and beyond.

Happy New Year.

Onyango Bernard
Headmaster.

Health



MIFUMI Health Centre leads in quality service delivery

For a rural village based Health centre that is over twenty kilometers from the town, a score of 84.3% makes it one leading health center in the district.

Annually, the District under the Ministry of Health sends out a supervision team to inspect and award Health Facilities on grounds of quality of services provided. On Wednesday, 21/1/2009, The Yellow Star Supervision team visited MIFUMI Health Centre and rated it as the one of the best health centers in the District.

The Yellow Star Programme was developed in 2000 by the Ministry of Health (Uganda) together with USAID and the DISH II Project in order to assess the quality of care services they provide to the community.

A team of supervisors visit the health facility and if it successfully meets a set of 35 basic standards of care, it is awarded a yellow star. These standards are organized into categories such as clinical skills and client services which include basic standards for quality of Health Services Infrastructure, Management Systems, Infection Prevention, IEC/IPC, Clinical Services and Customer Service. The Ministry of Health believes that this programme also encourages improved performance among health workers and promotes the proper utilization of health facilities.

This day I commit to...

The MDG3 Call to action; Do something Extra for Women



Hon. Osuna Emmanuel
LCV chairperson, Tororo.

'Support women related issues especially when it comes to Domestic violence and ensure that women are economically empowered and participate fully in all levels of governance.'



Hon. Sarah A. Okumu
Secretary Gender,
Tororo

'Mobilize the women into small scale projects e.g. making liquid soap, necklaces and lobby for funding to uplift their standards of living.'



Atuki Turner
Executive Director, MIFUMI.

'Fight and lobby for a law on Domestic violence and bride price violations.'



Gonza Paul
Radio presenter

'Add my voice in the advocacy of women's rights during my radio programme'



Oketcho Richard O.
Student, Tororo College.

'I am bright; some girls in my village have problems with mathematics. I will let them join our holiday discussion group.'



Sr. Gorretti Akello
In-charge, MIFUMI
Health center

'I believe Women are the Heads of families. For the rest of the family to be healthy, they must be healthy. This, I will ensure'.



Oguti O. Vicent
Social worker, Tororo

'Always encourage women to accomplish whatever positive thing they have set their minds on.'

Mr. Suleigh O.M: Inspector of schools, Tororo.

'Sensitize parents of girl children to take and retain them in school until completion and encourage the girl children who are already in school to commit themselves to their education'

Mr. Felix Cuthbert Esoku: Chief Administrative Officer, Tororo.

'Promote gender equality and actions that reduce sexual and gender based violence in the district'

Pastor Philemon Ongole: Deliverance church, Tororo.

'Preach against domestic violence and gender injustice and encourage gender respect and mutual love for all'

A new market for the community



Hon. Sarah Okumu cuts tape at market



A woman Dances at the launch



Oketcho of MIFUMI chats with the DISO



Dir. Simon Ndira addresses the crowd

Only 5 months old, the Enterprise Department of MIFUMI has changed the lives of hundreds of people in Tororo District. On the 9th of January, 2009, the Department launched a market for the poor community of Mifumi village. With 38 permanent stalls and a large open ground for another 30 mobile stalls, the District secretary for gender, Honorable Sarah Apadet Okumu said Mifumi Market is a quality building that is rare to come by in Uganda. She thanked MIFUMI for the great initiative of empowering the local Community.

Honorable Sarah Apadet Okumu who was the guest of honor confessed that she witnessed the establishment of a small village based organization called MIFUMI which she believed with time would fade out like most NGOs. Now over 10 years, she was totally impressed by how much MIFUMI had grown and the number of lives it had changed.

She said that if all learned people looked back to their humble beginnings and chose to make a difference in their communities like Atuki Turner (Executive Director, MIFUMI), abject poverty would not be something to talk about in Uganda now.

Also present at the launch was the District LCV Chairman, Honorable Emmanuel Osuna who said that as district leaders they were proud of MIFUMI. He thanked the organization for building the Health center, the school, water supply tank, hydro electrification of MIFUMI, the market and soon solar electrification of 2 villages. He urged the community to make the best use of the market.

Mr. Tumwine Victor, the District Internal Security Officer who represented the Resident District Commissioner pointed out that such developments are in line with the NRM government Poverty Eradication Scheme of 'Bona Bagagawale'. He was especially grateful to Mrs. Evelyn Okoth for her tireless efforts in fighting for the rights and empowerment of women.

In his closing remarks, Mr. Simon Ndira, Director Enterprise MIFUMI, said that the market would help the marginalized who include- widows, orphans and People with disability, people with HIV/ AIDs and the elderly make a living. He urged the women to participate in the education of their children in order to reduce the burden of poverty in Uganda.

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