



SUMMARY

1. *Editorial*
2. *The Child Development Centre*
3. *Visit of the District Chief Medical Officer*
4. *Arrival of a new Physiotherapist*
5. *Food Security Pack Monitoring*
6. *Visit of the Inspector for special Education*
7. *Departure of the nurse*
8. *Support from Lilliane Fund*
9. *The feast of Saint John of God in Monze*

Editorial

To communicate comes from the Latin *communicare* and means "to put in common". To live is to communicate. No personal or professional life exists without words or exchanges. Communication makes it possible to share, seduce and convince. The world of communication today is a world of image where the impression produced is immediate.

Communication is the basis of a democratic society. Only when citizens are aware of what is happening and why certain things are happening can they form their own opinion. That's why HFC attaches great importance to communication, which can take many forms. One of the most important aspects is the direct contact with the confreres, the collaborators, the benefactors, the volunteers, the parents of our patients and our patients.

We often use social networks but we now want to make "HOLY FAMILY News" available to you. We wish to use "HOLY

FAMILY News" to inform in a very concrete way about our reality, our projects and thus create a closer link with the hospital family of Saint John of God.

The goal of HFC is not only to inform about what we do, or projects, the impact and realities we encounter, but also to raise awareness, to appreciate our benefactors and partners and to encourage everyone to participate in its development.

It is in this sense that we invite you to our cause while wishing you a good reading as you create a closer link with the Hospitaller Family of Saint John of God.

Bro. Léon Robert MBENGUE, oh

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Dear brothers, bring the compassion and mercy of Jesus to the sick and the neediest. Come out of yourself, your limits, your problems and difficulties, to join others in a caravan of solidarity. Pope Francis

ACTION OF THE CATHOLIC WOMEN

Tuesday 7th march, the Catholic Women's Association of the Monze Cathedral volunteered to clean the premises of our Centre. We are delighted by this beautiful gesture from these brave women.

The Child Development Centre

The first school term of 2019 opened on 21st January. Though the children did not report at the same time, we had above half the number of children that had reported in the first week. The CDC has classes from baby class to grade 5.



Even though the learners have varying challenges which include Cerebral Palsy, Down syndrome, Autism, microcephaly and other physical disabilities, they have improved greatly in the academic performance and other Activities of Daily Living. Though the institution was built in response to accommodating the needs of children with disabilities, we also have vulnerable children without disabilities that are learning at the school. This inclusion contributes positively to children with disabilities because of the interaction.



The CDC has 38 learners of which 24 are boys and 14 are girls. The CDC is growing and the demand to expand the service to reach grade 7 is high because we have challenges placing the children in other schools after they reach grade 5.

Kantu Himooomba

Visit of the District Chief Medical Officer

Partnership with the government is a key element in the successful implementation of any project at community level. The Center is not blind to this important fact and on 26th March, we were privileged to receive the DHO Dr. Hansombo representing the Ministry of Health to our centre. Her visit made it possible for us to share our experiences, challenges and together find a way forward in making the institution more functional as it continues to render the services to Monze District and beyond.

She appreciated the services the institution offers as she visited all the departments and especially the Physiotherapy department at the CDC.

The Ministry of Health is a key stakeholder in the provision of services to the community as it provides us with the human resource in the Physiotherapist and Nursing Departments. *Sharon Handongwe*

Arrival of a new Physiotherapist

We are delighted to announce that the physiotherapy department received a new member of staff. Her name is Mrs Mukuka Malasha Sinyangwe. She joined our department on the 11th March 2019 and will serve as a physiotherapist for both adults and children. Her main station at the moment is the Child Development Centre. Mukuka came through the Monze District Health Office on transfer from Chikankata Mission Hospital. She worked for Chikankata Mission Hospital for 2 years and prior to that she served as a Physiotherapist for St Anthony Children's Village in Ndola for 1 year, hence giving her good work experience.

Mukuka has a lot to share with her new coworkers as she loves gardening, swimming and social networking.

Thanks for joining us in welcoming Mukuka to the Holy Family physiotherapy team.

Stella

Distribution Of The Food Security Pack (Fsp)

Holy Family Centre with the support of Ministry of Community Development and Social Services through the department of Community Development has been receiving the Food Security Pack (FSP) for vulnerable families with Persons with Disabilities. The institution received 21 packs consisting of the following:

Seed	Quantity	# of Bags
Maize	10kgs	21
Ground nut	10kgs	18
Cow pea	10kgs	2
Beans	10kgs	1
Fertilizer	42 X 50kgs (Urea) 42 X50kgs (D- Compound)	

Despite the efforts made towards helping the families to plant and put fertilizer on time, the weather.



Mr Eugene the CRV, Mr Habanji the recipient, Mrs Womba Audrey, Mrs Imasiku from Dept of Comdev, and Ms Ntilima the grandmother to Manfred Michelo.



Mr Mathews from MOCTA and Mr Eugene inspecting the field for Demetria.



Mr Macha from ZANIS, Racheal Malambo, Mr Mathews and Mrs Imasiku in the field for Racheal.

Audrey Chinyama / Sharon Handongwe

Visit Of The Education Standards Officer – Special

HFC is known to provide health services, however in the recent past, it started providing educational services for the children with disabilities from early childhood to grade 4 in response to the need identified in the provision of education for children with disabilities. To ensure that this is achieved. We have been working closely with the Ministry of Education, the ministry provides Teachers and a Driver to help in the effective management of the centre.

The visit from the ESO special Mr. Haluuma and the SESO Mr. Ngazimbi, gave us a time to discuss on the way forward of the CDC and the director shared his vision of expanding the service provision to Grade 7. The decision to expand the services to grade 7 was reached on because of the challenges that children who reached grade 4 had in accessing further education in other schools.

Sharon Handongwe

Departure of the nurse

On 2nd March, the Nurse was sent to be attached to another health facility because the institution has for the past 8 months not been admitting any patients because of challenges which at that time were beyond control at that time. The decision was made because the Ministry of Health requires a lot of human resource. Despite this turn of events, the District Health Office has assured the office that they will send a nurse as soon as the

institution resumes its full operations since there is already a standing Memorandum of understanding.

During her service at the centre, Annie Chiwala was a reliable member of staff and contributed in the effective management of the institution. Her contribution will remain valuable and the management of Holy Family wish her well in her new station.

Sharon Handongwe

Support from Lillian Fund

HFC received funding from Lillian Fund for **32 children** with physical disabilities. 40% of these children are at the CDC and the rest are with family and in boarding schools. The amount financed is **110 000 K (\$ 9 030, 5)**.

This programme is managed by a team composed:

- A Coordinator,
- A Social worker,
- A Physiotherapist,
- A Teacher.



The team visited already:

- ✓ 12 children,
- ✓ 8 families,
- ✓ 4 schools.



It was noted that some children are in the boarding schools and others need to

progress to get skills training. The team is still continuing the visits.

Bro. Léon Robert Mbengue, oh

Feast of Saint John of God

On March 8, 2019, the entire Hospitaler Family of Saint John of God celebrated the Solemnity of the Feast of his founder Father Saint John of God.

At Holy Family Canter in Monze, the event was lived in the most sober and prayerful simplicity. It was an occasion to give thanks to the Lord for our hospitaler vocation, for our brave collaborators and to bring to the altar of the Lord the suffering of humanity and especially the one of the children with disabilities.

We have given thanks for the solidarity that is perpetuated and strengthened in our Hospitaler Family. And we pray that for Monze's mission, which at the moment is facing challenges. *Bro. Léon Robert Mbengue, oh*

HFC Thanks the following benefactors for the support given during the period under review:

- **Ms Juliane Vlahakis and Family,**
- **Mr Clever Simbwalang and Compagny.**

For the precious gifts to the children with disabilities.



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“We have so many challenges and responsibilities to be addressed, but we are confident that we can count on the help of Our Lord, Saint John of God, and the whole Order. Working in communion and with courage”. Jesus ETAYO