



ChildsLife

CHANCES FOR CHILDREN



Annual Report 2023



ChildsLife chances
for children

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Message from the Director

Looking back at 2023 we can all instantly sum up the many challenges our world faced; wars, conflicts, natural disasters, famines, drought, and sadly the list continues.

But thankfully we can also look back at 2023 as another year with great achievements! Because with your support we were able to bring back hope to the lives of many families and children by providing them with the tools to build a better future for themselves. A future without poverty!

In 2023, we continued to do what we do best by reaching out to the most disadvantaged communities. We provided sustainable solutions in the fight against poverty, food and water insecurity, and inequality. We ensured many children could attend school and rescued another 600 girls from FGM in Kenya. We expanded our work area in Kenya and started a school construction program in the Kilifi region, where the education infrastructure is in a dire state. We ran summer camps for disabled children in Romania, delivered generators and heaters to the Ukraine, and continued our support for refugee families.

None of these achievements would have been possible without the help of our committed supporters! Together we were able to improve the well-being and future prospects of thousands of children and their families.

With this report, we are delighted to give you insight into the accomplishments, thanks to your commitment and trust. We are grateful for your continued support of our cause.

Thank you!



Carlian van Klarenbosch & the ChildsLife team
Director ChildsLife The Netherlands





Partnering with communities to develop sustainable futures

ChildsLife Kenya Director Paul Sugut (right)

Our Mission, Vision and Values

Our Mission

Partnering with communities to develop sustainable futures

Our Values

Compact & transparent

ChildsLife was founded in 1996 and is a compact yet highly influential organization. With short lines between the donor and beneficiary ChildsLife works efficiently, effectively and transparently.

Reliable & trusted

ChildsLife is committed to the highest standards of integrity. ChildsLife prides itself for its reliable and trusted local staff with local knowledge and years of experience to identify existing needs and possible solutions.

Inclusive & respectful

ChildsLife encourages and respects local ownership and responsibility, and always works in partnership with local people, communities, organizations and local governments.



ChildsLife Romania Director Florian Ivan



Our vision: A life for a child filled with hope, full of pride and freedom from poverty

Sustainable & tailor made

ChildsLife tailor made and small scale programs are designed to address the specific needs of communities and create sustainable solutions to local problems.

Powerful & practical

ChildsLife provides simple yet effective solutions, sensitive to local culture. No frills, practical help with a powerful impact on local communities.



ChildsLife Kenya Director Paul Sugut

Our Work

ChildsLife is a catalyst for change and strengthens children and communities with sustainable solutions for a better future.

ChildsLife in Africa and Eastern Europe

ChildsLife runs a tailor-made program in sustainable development aid in slums, urban and rural regions of Africa and Eastern Europe. ChildsLife offers grassroots support and works based on the principle that programs need to be effective, practical and fully suited to local needs. Investing in women and girls particularly is an effective way to bring about change. Empowered women contribute to the health and productivity of whole families and communities.

ChildsLife partners with communities, schools, institutions, organizations and local governments to reach the target population. Encouraging local ownership and responsibility is key to the success of the ChildsLife program. Years of in-country experience, detailed knowledge of the countries and its many inhabitants,

and understanding of local problems ensures ChildsLife and its staff is respected and trusted by beneficiaries and partners alike.

Development aid and emergency support

Sustainable development aid is at the core of the ChildsLife program. But when an emergency situation arises, such as the pandemic, the war in Ukraine or extreme drought, ChildsLife mobilizes emergency support for those requiring urgent assistance.

ChildsLife is all about providing *Chances for Children*

Often, however, this is not as straight forward as it would seem. To provide a chance for a child, you might need to provide chances to his/her parents; it could mean helping their community, it could mean building a school, a greenhouse or digging a well. To provide chances for children, ChildsLife's delivery is focused on three components: Live, Learn and Earn.

Live

Water, Sanitation & Hygiene

Inadequate access to clean water and sanitation kills and sickens thousands of people every day. Lack of proper sanitation, water and hygiene has many other serious consequences. Children - and particularly girls - are denied their right to education because their schools lack private and decent sanitation facilities. Women and children are forced to walk long distances and spend large parts of their day collecting water. Extreme thirst and diseases result in children's diminished learning. Crops fail, livestock die and people are less productive due to illness. Without W.A.S.H., sustainable development is impossible. Access to clean water, decent sanitation together with hygiene practices, reduce child mortality, improve health and education outcomes, and contribute to reduced poverty and sustainable development. Hence, it is high on the ChildsLife agenda.





Water is Life

Support for refugee families from Ukraine



Generators and heaters for Ukraine

Water

Since 1998, ChildsLife has been involved in borehole and irrigation projects. In extremely dry areas of Africa wells are drilled, water storage tanks are built and if possible irrigation lines are installed. Wells of up to 180 meters deep are sometimes the only way water can ever be found. Since 2002, ChildsLife also installs water tanks and water catchment systems at schools in several regions of Kenya. In most cases, a couple days rain is able to fill four 10,000 litre water tanks which is enough water to prepare lunches, allow for good hygiene practices and for the children to take home a little water to their families.

Sanitation & Hygiene

Together with water systems, ChildsLife equips schools with toilets and hand washing basins. ChildsLife's work doesn't stop there. ChildsLife works closely with school teachers and communities so they can bring about change in local hygiene practices like hand washing.

Food Security

Together with local communities ChildsLife fights hunger and improves access to food. On a daily basis, school children are offered healthy school meals, which often is the only meal they will receive in a day. ChildsLife stimulates and gives people tools to look after themselves. Therefore, vulnerable mothers in slums are provided with their own kitchen gardens to grow their own vegetables. Also, greenhouses are installed at schools to supplement the lunch program but also to sustain and financially empower schools. Food security is increasingly under threat; the corona pandemic, climate change and the war in Ukraine have a huge impact. In 2023 ChildsLife continued to provide school lunches, built greenhouses, supplied kitchen gardens to schools and communities and continued the support program for Ukrainian refugees families in Romania.

Care

Clinic project at Oloropil Community

In 2022, ChildsLife opened an urgently needed clinic at the Maasai Oloropil Community of Olepolos. There was no clinic in Oloropil and the nearest small clinic over 15 kilometres and nearest hospital over 60 kilometres away. An ambulance for emergencies is non-existent in the area. The area suffered an extremely high infant mortality rate. The clinic is now fully operational and serves 6000 members of Oloropil community.

Gifts in Kind Support

ChildsLife has found that a very effective way to work in Eastern Europe is through the distribution of goods. ChildsLife, in cooperation with the Romanian Child Protection office, has developed the ESSENTIAL Support program. With this program ChildsLife provides material support to institutions providing social care (such as homeless shelters and centers for handicapped), schools, hospitals and families in need. Living conditions in institutions are structurally improved by providing furniture, hygiene & household supplies and household appliances. Educational materials, furniture and toys are sent to kindergartens and schools. Families in need receive much needed food packs, hygiene products, clothing and household supplies. ChildsLife sends regular transports or purchases goods locally in support of the program in Romania. In 2023, ChildsLife also delivered generators and heaters to a shelter and hospital in Bila Tserkva in Ukraine.

Support for refugee families from Ukraine

Immediately after the start of the war in Ukraine, ChildsLife mobilized fast to be able to provide humanitarian aid for Ukrainians refugees. The aid provided was diverse and tailored to individual needs of displaced mothers and children. During 2023, ChildsLife continued its support for refugees in Romania with food and hygiene packages.



Learn Education

Poverty is still the biggest barrier in access to education. To learn to read, write, do math and to improve knowledge and understanding should be part of every child's life. Education is the key to a better future. ChildsLife makes education accessible to children and adolescents; from kindergarten, to secondary school or a vocational training institute. ChildsLife also runs afterschool education centers in Eastern Europe. In Kenya, ChildsLife builds and renovates schools in slums, remote rural regions, such as Makueni, and various Maasai communities. In 2023 the program was expanded to Kilifi in the Mombasa region. ChildsLife supplies teaching aids, school materials, books and school furniture. ChildsLife assists with school meals which are often the only meals children will have a day. In addition to the school curriculum, ChildsLife works with girls, boys, parents and schools to prevent FGM practices in rural parts of Kenya.

Education Projects with Maasai

For a traditional tribe like the Maasai, education has become

vital. Due to changing climates and modern lifestyle encroaching on their traditions, a future is no longer only in keeping a herd but by educating children. Unfortunately, Kenya does not have enough schools to provide an education for everyone. In addition, in the poorest of Maasai communities the costs of an education are too high for parents. That is why ChildsLife supports various communities and a range of schools, both primary and secondary, in these remote areas.

Education Projects in Makueni

Makueni is a remote, dry and barren region east of Nairobi. ChildsLife has been active in this region for many years with education and water programs. Makueni suffers with widespread poverty and illiteracy as many of its inhabitants never attended school. Parents know that it is important for their children to have an education to be able to provide them with means to escape this poverty. Currently ChildsLife works with primary schools in a number of communities in Makueni who benefit from the water and school renovation program, reaching over 1000 children. The schools are fitted with rainwater harvesting systems and water tanks and classroom renovations take place.

Education Projects in Kilifi

In 2023 ChildsLife expanded the Education program to Kilifi, situated in the coastal region north of Mombasa. The Kilifi area is scarred by poverty, long droughts and lack of water. Education is one of the worst-performing sectors in Kilifi County. Major challenges include inadequate funding from the national government and poor infrastructure. Poverty is the root cause that many children cannot attend school in Kilifi. Many schools are in poor condition which is an additional barrier for parents. Poverty brings many other challenges such as child marriage and child labour. Hence the decision to expand into this region. The project involves the phased renovation, expansion and equipping of 4 nursery and primary schools. In 2023, ChildsLife delivered and officially opened the first phase of the program at Mwanganga Primary School for 282 children.

Education Projects in informal urban settlements

ChildsLife has worked in slums in the Kenyan capital Nairobi since 1998. Well over 1 million people live in Kibera and Mukuru slums in small 3x3m homes, without access to clean water, sewerage or electricity. Extreme poverty, limited access to education, diseases like HIV/AIDS and high unemployment rates make it a place from which it is hard to escape. ChildsLife supports 3 primary schools which provide an education to the children of the poorest of families.

The ChildsLife Vocational Centre was built in 2011. It gives youth from Kibera slum between 14-25 years old the opportunity to learn a trade and empowers them to promote their own socio economic development. A range of courses are on offer such as tailoring, health & beauty, electrical engineering, computer graphics, business administration, catering and early childhood development. To date, nearly 3000 students took courses at the centre, 90% of whom found employment afterwards. In 2023, the centre had a population of 210 students in a range of courses.

Scholarships for Girls at ChildsLife Vocational Centre

For girls from disadvantaged backgrounds, a chance at a good future, without poverty, is very limited. The ChildsLife Vocational Centre runs a scholarship program for these girls. The centre offers a range of courses such as hairdressing, tailoring, electrical installation and computer courses, etc. All designed to provide the student with the opportunity to either find a job or set up their own business. A scholarship covers registration fees, all learning materials, a school uniform and the National Kenya Exam for trade certification.

FGM Eradication Program

In 2023, ChildsLife finalized its third and began its fourth FGM eradication project. In each project, we engage a cohort of 600 school girls from six schools in Kenya's Kuria County. We work with girls, boys, their parents, community leaders, schools, social service, Ministry of Education, Anti FGM board Kenya and even the police. Extensive tailor made course material

has been developed with which the 2 program coordinators, the 5 field officers and the 2 nurses (recruited from the community) reach out to a broad target group to provide information and counseling, workshops, conduct personal conversations and interviews. In addition, a series of monthly meetings and stakeholder conferences are held to sensitize community members (boys, parents and community opinion leaders) on the negative effects of FGM. After which the participants and the clan elders sign declaration forms promising to end FGM in their clans and to sensitize their own community members on the negative effects of the Female Genital mutilation. As part of the program, ChildsLife offers a rescue camp for those girls in an extra high risk category. With nearly 98% of girls rescued from FGM so far, the ChildsLife approach has proven very successful!



Scholarships for girls



Education Projects in Romania

Young children in Romania only attend school a few hours a day, yet the country lacks afterschool facilities. That is why in 2008 ChildsLife opened its first AnneNoor Education Center for children aged 5-10. Now ChildsLife operates 18 groups, which open at 12 noon, after children have finished school, and run until 6 PM. Children are given educational and homework support, engage in all sorts of recreational activities and they receive a hot lunch and a snack. The centers are run by qualified teachers. To date, nearly 3700 children were offered a place in this structured program which is fun, safe but also provides for their educational needs. Furthermore, child labour at the countryside is prevented. With their children taken care of, parents can work and structurally improve their economic situation. In 2023, 338 children attended the ChildsLife AnneNoor Education Centres.

Earn

When ChildsLife begins working with a local partner or beneficiary the focus is on guiding and equipping them towards self-sustainability. With very few exceptions, the goal is for beneficiaries and local organizations supported to no longer need ChildsLife. Only by becoming self-sustainable the way out of life in poverty can be reached. ChildsLife helps communities, schools, local organizations and individuals to plan further and develop creative solutions for becoming self-sustainable.



Greenhouses

ChildsLife implements greenhouse projects in a bid to sustain and financially empower schools in Kenya. The installation of greenhouses has proven to be an effective method to improve self-reliance and self-sustainability of schools and communities. Greenhouses provide a reliable source of income and vegetables especially in drought stricken regions in Kenya. Usage of greenhouse harvests is twofold: first for the school lunch program and secondly for vegetable sales so that profits can be utilized to maintain schools and purchase school materials and food, such as maize and beans which is used to make 'githeri', an affordable staple food for most Kenyan schools. Over the last few years ChildsLife has built a number of greenhouses, both in slum and rural settings in Kenya. In order to optimize greenhouse crops, ChildsLife has a partnership with international growers who share their expertise and provide training, on site advice and supply high quality seeds to schools and communities in the ChildsLife greenhouse program. In 2023, ChildsLife added another greenhouse to the program. The greenhouse is situated at Taranganya Secondary school in the Kuria region.





Maasai women in Kitchen Garden Workshop

Give a school a herd

In 2012 ChildsLife started the project 'Give a school a herd' which aims to provide schools with a source of income and become self-sustainable. ChildsLife donates cows or goats to a school. Each school looks after and grows the herds in order to be able to sell offspring after some time. The income this generates is used for the purchase of school materials, food for school lunches, furniture, teachers' salaries or school repairs.



ChildsLife Live, Learn, Earn HIV+ mothers program

The goal of the ChildsLife Live, Learn, Earn program is to create a self-sustainable future for HIV+ mothers who thought they no longer had a future. This unique program provides women with support in 3 phases (Live, Learn, Earn): social support, medical care, food supplements, counselling, training and business training. Upon successful completion of the program the women receive a business grant, allowing them to start their own business. This program has proven highly successful and has supported nearly 4300 women and their 21500 children to regain their independence and rebuild a future for themselves and their children. In 2017, ChildsLife introduced the Health Care Provider Network and mobikits within the LLE program. Mobikits are solar powered backpacks with information communication technology, which allows health workers to reach every woman at the point of care in the slums, provide medical care and connect women to local clinics. This innovative technology allows ChildsLife health workers to significantly increase the number of HIV+ women and girls reached. In 2023, 60 mothers participated in the program.



LLE graduates

Kitchen Gardens

ChildsLife provides mothers and their families in Kibera and Mukuru slums in Nairobi and rural areas with Kitchen Gardens so they can grow their own vegetables at home. The Kitchen Garden consists of a firm grow bag filled with good, fertile soil and high quality seeds. Onions, kale and spinach can be grown and provide good quality and healthy food for the family. This project has proven to be a very successful solution for families struggling with neither enough money for food nor fertile soil in their surroundings to grow on. As part of ChildsLife's sustainable food security initiatives, 550 families in Makueni, Maasai Olepolos and Nairobi slum areas received kitchen gardens, including the relevant training on how to optimise their crop.



Our Work in The Netherlands

ChildsLife Support Network

ChildsLife's goals can only be reached with a large group of loyal supporters. Private donors - young to old; foundations - family to corporate; businesses - small to multinational; schools and churches; all consciously involved in ChildsLife's work. ChildsLife is a compact organization and is therefore able to offer supporters close involvement with the organization and, more importantly, with beneficiaries. At ChildsLife, lines between the donor and the beneficiary are short which makes the impact of supporters' help clearly visible.

Donors

To be able to implement life-changing programs worldwide, ChildsLife depends on monthly or yearly donations and one time gifts. ChildsLife has an active donor program and focuses on obtaining multiple year donations from new and existing donors, converting regular donations to direct debit donations and obtaining periodical gifts, and legacy commitments. Websites, social media, e-newsletters and direct mail are used to inform the general public and to obtain gifts from new donors.



Corporate Relations

Support from the business world is very important to ChildsLife's activities. Over the years, ChildsLife has been building relationships with businesses and established a network of loyal supporters from multinationals to local businesses. Whether their support is in cash, gifts in kind, via preferred partnerships or cause related marketing, businesses find working with ChildsLife is a win-win.

Corporate Sponsors

ChildsLife can rely on the loyal support of numerous sponsors who are willing to donate their time, skills and expertise in areas such as graphic design, copy writing, printing, IT, advertising etc. Minimizing costs in these areas allows ChildsLife to maximize expenditure on the program, thus giving more children the chance to a brighter future!

Foundations

ChildsLife continues to work with national and international foundations for project implementation in target countries. This ensures that projects have a proper funding base and with regular monitoring and evaluation ChildsLife shows the impressive results a project grant can yield.

Schools

ChildsLife promotes working with primary, secondary schools and universities in the Netherlands. By giving guest lectures and interactive presentations ChildsLife strives to make development aid part of the curriculum and engages students and teachers in worldwide issues. This motivates them to organize fundraising events and activities for ChildsLife.

Churches

Churches support ChildsLife's work thru donations and collections. ChildsLife is supported by a number of church communities and involves them with ChildsLife projects and the ChildsLife mission.

Volunteers

In the day-to-day operations ChildsLife is assisted by volunteers. They work on individual basis or as part of their company's social responsibility program and are active in IT, logistics, fundraising and communications departments. Also, some specific fundraising projects are run by volunteers. ChildsLife appreciates their support immensely.

Communications with supporters

ChildsLife takes great care when engaging with supporters; we act in compliance with rules and regulations, respect our audience and listen to our donors.

ChildsLife informs and encourages open communication with supporters and partners by sharing impact reports, beneficiary stories, program updates, and other relevant news. Communication channels include the website, social media channels (Facebook, X, LinkedIn and YouTube), annual reports, e-newsletters and the press.

Through press releases ChildsLife informs the general public about its work and emphasizes other specific campaigns, events or partnerships. ChildsLife aims to contribute to public awareness and change of attitude towards the situation and environment many children have to grow up in worldwide. In addition to press releases, ChildsLife runs sponsored advertising campaigns to raise awareness or raise funds for specific programs. All adverts are fully sponsored and are featured in regional and national newspapers on a regular basis.



ChildsLife

CHANCES FOR CHILDREN



www.childslife.nl

Nu Daniel niet meer van de honger in slaap valt op school, wordt hij elke dag een stukje wijzer. ChildsLife verzorgt onderwijs mét schoollunches.

STOP HONGER!

GIRO NL05 INGB 0000 0028 40



Thank you for your support!



And all others without logos or wishing to remain anonymous.



THIS WATER TANK IS A GIFT TO
OLOOMPALUANI SCHOOL FROM

ChildsLife

CHANCES FOR CHILDREN



AND

VICTOR EMMANUEL KRAAL

WATER IS LIFE



Our Organization

International Organization

ChildsLife is an international nongovernmental organization with offices in the Netherlands, Eastern Europe, Africa and the USA. ChildsLife started its operation in 1996 and has since developed into a mature and experienced organization without losing its compact and lean structure. ChildsLife works in partnership with other non-governmental organizations, local government offices, businesses, schools and community groups, etc. to identify and assess needs, gather resources, knowledge and experience, and ensure the best results possible. ChildsLife utilizes its skilled and trusted local staff with in-depth local knowledge and years of experience to identify existing needs and possible solutions.

ChildsLife the Netherlands and USA

ChildsLife the Netherlands and USA offices mainly have fundraising and communications objectives. ChildsLife USA is run by volunteers who concentrate on fundraising. In 2023, staff in the Netherlands consisted of 2 parttime members (average 0.89 FTE) and a number of volunteers.

ChildsLife Kenya and Romania

Offices with local staff in Kenya and Romania ensure a close proximity to the target population and knowledge of local culture and language. ChildsLife works with highly qualified and trusted local staff, who are responsible for development, implementation and supervision of all programs and projects, needs assessments, monitoring budgets, and distribution of goods to the beneficiaries. The local staff also officially represents ChildsLife with local governments and non-governmental organizations.

ChildsLife Romania

ChildsLife Romania is headquartered in Bucharest and works primarily from its regional office in Barlad in the Vaslui district, close to the Moldovan border. ChildsLife Romania has been granted the Counselling and Support for Children and Parents accreditation, a requirement of the Romanian Ministry of Labor, Social and Family Solidarity. The small staff consists of a Director, responsible for the daily operations of ChildsLife Romania, implementation and coordination of the programs, and one part time commodity employee.

ChildsLife Kenya

ChildsLife Kenya is located in the Kilimani neighbourhood of Nairobi and is not far from Kibera slum where many of ChildsLife's activities take place. Office staff consists of a Director, responsible for the daily operations, implementation and coordination of the ChildsLife programs; a Program Manager, a Finance Manager and a Communications Officer. Field staff consists of ChildsLife Community Coordinators, Field Officers and Health Workers who are based in the field and work directly with beneficiaries.

Quality Control

ChildsLife regularly re-assesses its goals and existing partnerships via an ongoing strategic planning process. Each year, ChildsLife staff from program countries meet for a week of strategic planning, discussion, training, and brainstorming. Knowledge of and involvement with one another's activities is crucial for achieving the ChildsLife mission. While the ChildsLife offices are registered independently our strength is in our ability to work as one team.

ChildsLife Program guidelines

Projects are selected only after the ChildsLife guidelines are met and after ChildsLife staff has reviewed and visited a potential project. Monitoring and evaluation of progress is done through interviews, reviewing reports from project management, visits to the projects by ChildsLife staff and accurate verification of internal account information from the Guidelines for Expenditures. ChildsLife adheres to the Sphere Projects minimum standards for conduct in humanitarian assistance. ChildsLife Program Guidelines and Procedures state that ChildsLife will assist those who are at risk without discrimination and will invest in programs focused on the most vulnerable groups: women, children, minorities, the disabled, and the very poor.

Policies

ChildsLife has created its own International Fundamental Principles stating, amongst other issues that it does not discriminate as to nationality, race, religious beliefs or class status. ChildsLife promotes gender equality in supported programs and in staff at headquarters as well as in the field.

Code of fundraising ethics

ChildsLife adheres to the Fundraising Code of Ethics established by the Association of Fundraising Professionals which guarantees a correct, consistent and honest way of fundraising.

Transparency and accreditations

ChildsLife activities are open and accessible to scrutiny by its supporters. ChildsLife issues an annual report and audited financial statements. From January 2017, ChildsLife chose to no longer carry the CBF accreditation. After careful consideration and consultation, ChildsLife Boards considered the costs and resources involved in carrying and maintaining the CBF accreditation no longer a viable expenditure of donors' contributions. However, the fully transparent working methods and financial controls by external accountant have remained unchanged.

Accreditations

- ✓ ANBI status: ChildsLife the Netherlands is a registered non-profit (ANBI status) with the Dutch tax office, ensuring maximum tax benefits for the organization and donors.
- ✓ 501C3: ChildsLife has been registered as a 501c3 tax exempt organization in the United States since 2008. Charitable gifts to ChildsLife are therefore deductible to the full extent allowable under IRS regulations.
- ✓ ChildsLife Romania NGO registration: ChildsLife Romania has been officially accredited by the Romanian Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Elderly. In order to safeguard quality of social services, Romanian law requires all social services providers to be scrutinized and accredited by the Ministry.
- ✓ ChildsLife Kenya NGO registration: ChildsLife Kenya has been officially registered as a non-profit organization under section 10 of the Non-Governmental Organizations Co-ordination Act since 2005.
In addition, ChildsLife Kenya is member of several unions. It works closely with the National Aids Control Council (NACC). It is also a member of the Kenya Aids NGOs Consortium and The Kibera NGO Network.



The Boards of Trustees and Directors

The Board of Trustees works with the Board of Directors to govern ChildsLife’s overall performance. The Board of Trustees is responsible for ensuring that the implementation of programs and projects conforms to plan and budget. For transparency and accountability ChildsLife follows three principles; Management and Supervision, Accountability, and Interaction with stakeholders.

Management and Supervision

The ChildsLife Board of Directors is responsible for the daily operations, including the development of program and long term strategic plans and is overseen by the Board of Trustees. The Chairman of the Board of Directors is also the Director of the organization. The Board of Directors is appointed by the Board of Trustees. Members of the Board of Trustees are appointed by the Board of Trustees. In order to form a multi-disciplinary Board of Trustees ChildsLife aims to have members from different backgrounds and disciplines. In 2023, the Board of Trustees met 6 times to discuss project planning and progress, financial reports and budgets. In addition, the Management Board consults regularly with the Chairman. The tasks and authorities of the Boards are recorded in the ChildsLife Statutes and Regulations.



Accountability

In meetings between the Boards, the general budget, organizational strategy, financial reports and updates on projects and programs are discussed, approved and evaluated to ensure optimal effectivity and efficiency of the expenditure of means (funds). Expansion of support by ChildsLife into additional countries is also discussed and decisions are made about these activities. The ChildsLife Board of Trustees approves the long-term plan and budgets. The organization and finances are audited on a yearly basis by external accountancy ‘Beuk Accountants en Belastingadviseurs b.v.’.

Interaction with stakeholders

The Boards see to satisfaction amongst all stakeholders. Interaction and building successful relationships with all stakeholders, including beneficiaries, supporters, partners, local governments and staff, is of great importance for the success of the organization.

	End of term	If extended	Title
Mrs. C. van Klarenbosch-Blom	2025	2030	<i>Chairman, Board of Directors (paid)</i>
Mrs. A.W. Tuip-Klop	2024	2029	<i>Member, Board of Directors (non-paid)</i>
Mr. C. Sietsema	2023	2027	<i>Chairman, Board of Trustees (non-paid)</i>
Mr. A.H.E. van Essen	2023	2027	<i>Member, Board of Trustees (non-paid)</i>
Mr. A.J. van der Veer	2025	2029	<i>Member, Board of Trustees (non-paid)</i>

A life full of hope



Our Future

The Organization

We will keep to our set course in the areas of communications, fundraising and programs and will continue to deliver high quality development aid in Africa and Eastern Europe focusing on capacity building for the most vulnerable. We aim to build strategic partnerships whilst continuing to secure program funding in the Netherlands and increase financial independence of ChildsLife regional offices. Fundraising, communication channels and methods are thoroughly scrutinized in order to fully comply with the EU Data Protection Regulation.

The Program Live

- **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene** - Provision of clean drinking water with the installation of water tanks and catchment systems at schools in several regions of Kenya.
- **Emergency feeding and water** - Continue provision of emergency food and water supplies to communities, schools, institutes in Kenya and Romania.
- **Continue the school lunch program** in Kenya.
- **GIK** - Provision of relief goods and structural support goods to institutions, schools, communities, hospitals and families in need in support of the ChildsLife program.
- **Continue the support program** for refugee families from Ukraine.
- **Support to abandoned baby centers** - Provision of financial and material support to centers for abandoned babies in Kenya and Romania.
- **Continue the First Step in Life program** - Material and social support to parents and their new-borns from marginalised communities in Romania.
- **Explore possibilities of Community Dispensaries** in Oloitoktok and Mashuuru Sub-Counties.



Learn

- **School construction projects** - Continue renovation and construction of nursery, primary and secondary schools in Kenya.
- **ChildsLife Vocational Training Centre** - Continue the vocational training for youth from Kibera slum, including scholarships for 100 youth.
- **AnneNoor Education Centers** - Expansion into rural areas of Romania.
- **School materials** - Continue provision of text books, school supplies and education materials in Kenya and Romania.
- **Summer camps for disadvantaged children** at the Black Sea in Romania.
- **Continue the FGM Eradication Program** for 800 girls.
- **Adolescent girls project** in Kibera & Mukuru slums.

Earn

- **Give a school a herd** - Continuation of the program in Kenya for income generation.
- **Greenhouses** - Installation of new greenhouses and greenhouse support at schools in Kenya.
- **Kitchen gardens** - Grow bags for families in slums and rural areas of Kenya providing fresh vegetables.
- **Live, Learn, Earn HIV mothers program** for 120 mothers in Kibera and Mukuru slums.




Oloompaluani pipeline





Oloropil Clinic


Program Results


Live

 KENYA - Maasai Primary Schools Olepolos	Achieved in 2023	In Plan 2023?	Children reached
Renovation of Oloompaluani water pipeline and supply of water tank	✓	✓	±5000
Supply of water tank to Oloompaluani School	✓	✓	185
Supply of water tank to Oloigeruno community	✓	✓	±350

 KENYA - Makueni Primary Schools and Communities	Achieved in 2023	In Plan 2023?	Children reached
Supply of water tanks to Makutano School	✓	✓	450
Supply of water tanks to Kiurani School	✓	✓	250
Supply of water tanks to Thavu School	✓	✓	280

 KENYA - Hope House Babies Home	Achieved in 2023	In Plan 2023?	Children reached
Financial support	✓	✓	50


 KENYA - Medical clinic Oloropil, Olepolos	Achieved in 2023	In Plan 2023?	Children reached
Maintenance at the clinic at Oloropil Community	✓	-	± 6000

 ROMANIA - First Step in Life Program	Achieved in 2023	In Plan 2023?	Children reached
Support for new-borns and parents	✓	✓	30






 ROMANIA -  UKRAINE ChildsLife Essential Support Program	Achieved in 2023	In Plan 2023?	People reached
Material support for children, families, Ukrainian refugees and social assistance institutions.	✓	✓	1503
Generators and heaters for Bila Tserkva, Ukraine	✓	-	3000


 ROMANIA - ChildsLife Essential Medical Program	Achieved in 2023	In Plan 2023?	People reached
ChildsLife Summer Camp June and September – 2 groups with 20 disabled children with recovery needs	✓	✓	40
Support for children and adults with severe disabilities, Barlad	✓	✓	208





Learn


 KENYA - Vocational Centre, Kibera, Nairobi	Achieved in 2023	In Plan 2023?	Youth reached
Financial support towards Operations Coordinator & Admin Salaries	✓	✓	210
Support towards Vocational Scholarships	✓	✓	210

 KENYA - Kilifi Primary Schools	Achieved in 2023	In Plan 2023?	Children reached
Construction and equipping of classrooms and sanitation units at Kilifi Primary Schools	✓	✓	282

 KENYA - Chema Vision Primary School, Kibera Slum, Nairobi	Achieved in 2023	In Plan 2023?	Children reached
Purchase of school text books	✓	-	200
Financial support towards School teachers' salaries	✓	✓	200

 KENYA - ChildsLife FGM Eradication Program in Kuria	Achieved in 2023	In Plan 2023?	Children reached
Anti FGM Education at Kemakoba School	✓	✓	91
Anti FGM Education at Nyaroha School	✓	✓	120
Anti FGM Education at Chinato School	✓	✓	94
Anti FGM Education at Nyatechi School	✓	✓	85
Anti FGM Education at Nyaigutu School	✓	✓	126
Anti FGM Education at Karosi School	✓	✓	122
FGM Rescue Program	✓	✓	75

 KENYA -FGM Eradiction -Parents Meetings in Kuria	Achieved in 2023	In Plan 2023?	Children reached
Parents Anti FGM sensitization meeting at Kemakoba School	✓	✓	205
Parents Anti FGM sensitization meeting at Nyaroha School	✓	✓	242
Parents Anti FGM sensitization meeting at Chinato School	✓	✓	188
Parents Anti FGM sensitization meeting at Nyatechi School	✓	✓	154
Parents Anti FGM sensitization meeting at Nyaigutu School	✓	✓	266
Parents Anti FGM sensitization meeting at Karosi School	✓	✓	290

 ROMANIA - AnneNoor Education Centers	Achieved in 2023	In Plan 2023?	Children reached
After school education, food and care. 18 groups for children 6 to 12 years old	✓	✓	338





Before Kilifi school renovation



After Kilifi school renovation


Earn





Sanitation before school renovation




Sanitation after school renovation

 KENYA - Give a school a herd	Achieved in 2023	In Plan 2023?	Children reached
Monitoring of Elangata goats project	✓	-	280
Monitoring of Leshuta goats project	✓	-	300
Monitoring of Oloropil goats project	✓	-	250

 KENYA - Greenhouse program	Achieved in 2023	In Plan 2023?	Children reached
Installation of greenhouse at Taranganya Secondary School	✓	✓	1098
Provision of tomato seedlings for Kathamboni Primary School greenhouse	✓	✓	350
Provision of tomato seedlings for Kathamboni Secondary School greenhouse	✓	✓	400
Provision of tomato seedlings for Yeemulwa Primary School greenhouse	✓	✓	500

 KENYA - Kitchen Gardens Program	Achieved in 2023	In Plan 2023?	Children reached
Provision of kitchen gardens gunny bags and seedlings to 350 families in Makueni	✓	✓	±1750
Provision of kitchen gardens gunny bags and seedlings to 150 families in Mukuru, Nairobi	✓	✓	±750
Provision of kitchen gardens gunny bags and seedlings to 50 families in Olepolos, Kajiado	✓	✓	±250

 KENYA - Live, Learn, Earn HIV-Mothers Program, Kibera and Mukuru Slums, Nairobi	Achieved in 2023	In Plan 2023?	Children reached
Support to 1 group (30) HIV+ mothers in Mukuru Informal Settlements	✓	✓	± 150
Support to 1 group (30) HIV+ mothers in Kibera Informal Settlements	✓	✓	± 150
Supply of spirulina and food packages to 30 HIV+ mothers in Mukuru	✓	✓	± 150
Supply of spirulina and food packages to 30 HIV+ mothers in Kibera	✓	✓	± 150
Business Skills Training and business grants to 30 HIV+ mothers in Mukuru	✓	✓	± 150
Business Skills Training and business grants to 30 HIV+ mothers in Kibera	✓	✓	± 150
Graduation to 30 HIV+ mothers in Mukuru	✓	✓	± 150
Graduation to 30 HIV+ mothers in Kibera	✓	✓	± 150



Financial Report 2023

This report provides an overview of income and expenditure, results and reserves with ratios for 2023. ChildsLife's total income in 2023 amounted to € 485.743 and a total expenditure to projects was achieved of € 450.191.

Overview income and expenditure in 2023:

<i>Amounts in Euros</i>	Actual 2023	Budget 2023	Actual 2022
Total income	485.743	569.937	654.273
Expended to the projects	450.191	531.382	593.363
Fundraising costs	81.940	146.055	129.087
Management and administration	12.265	22.344	22.252
Total expended	544.397	699.781	744.702
Results			
– Continuity reserves	73.203-	129.844-	65.340-
– Designated reserves	2.446-	0	1.569-
– Designated funds	16.995	0	23.520-

Overall income

An overview of income is provided below.

Overview of income:

<i>Amounts in Euros</i>	Actual 2023	Budget 2023	Actual 2022
Donations and gifts	264.239	550.437	404.178
Designated gifts	174.035	0	120.366
Gifts-in-kind	33.217	0	110.290
Actions of schools and events	0	9.500	15.549
Legacies	14.426	10.000	2.985
Sale of goods	0	0	200
Interest	601	0	0
Other	775-	0	705
Total income	485.743	569.937	654.273

Substantial Discrepancies

In 2023, the overall income of the organization was € 84.000 lower than budgeted.

This was mainly caused by a decrease in donations from mailing actions.

However, designated gifts received in 2023 were up by € 53.669 from 2022.

Funds to projects

Total funds expended to projects amounted to €450.191 in 2023, significantly lower than budgeted due to an overall decline in income. However, in relation to income, ChildsLife achieved 93% spent on projects.

Overview of expenditure:

<i>Amounts in Euros</i>	Actual 2023	Budget 2023	Actual 2022
Information/Educational	12.569	26.055	22.615
Preparation/coordination of activities	42.383	74.012	69.529
Development aid	387.003	413.917	484.112
Emergency aid	8.236	17.398	17.107
Total	450.191	531.382	593.363

ChildsLife provided support to 3 countries in 2023, as detailed below.

Expenditure by country:

<i>Amounts in Euros</i>	Expended 2023	Budget 2023
Romania & Ukraine	96.998	183.296
Kenya	233.883	145.032
Total	330.881	328.328



Overview of distribution of operating costs:

<i>Amounts in Euros</i>	Actual 2023	Budget 2023	Actual 2022
Salaries and social security	82.359	135.432	171.070
Misc. personnel	5.220	500	417
Travel and accommodation	13.230	11.874	7.877
Office accommodation	12.160	16.566	14.554
Office administration	16.144	17.165	22.150
Other general expenses	15.035	16.174	18.385
Direct fundraising costs	69.371	170.521	106.472
Structural help	330.881	246.722	403.780
Total	544.400	624.140	744.705

Operations costs

The overall operations costs of the organization were substantially lower than budgeted for 2023. This was mainly due to a decrease in direct fundraising costs caused by a reduction in mailing campaigns. Fortunately, the expenditure on ChildsLife projects in Kenya and Eastern Europe remained strong.

The results of reserves for 2023:

<i>Amounts in Euros</i>	Actual 2023	Budget 2023	Actual 2022
– Continuity reserve	73.203-	129.844-	65.340-
– Designated reserves	2.446-	0	1.569-
– Designated funds	16.995	0	23.520-
Total	58.654-	129.844-	90.429-

Continuity reserve

In 2023, the continuity reserve decreased by € 73.203.
This decrease is mostly a result of reduced undesignated income.

Designated funds

In 2023, a total of € 194.760 was received in designated funds and an overall total of € 212.946 was released. Funds were used to support all projects in the ChildsLife Live, Learn and Earn Programs.

Ratios of expenditure:

<i>Amounts in Euros</i>	Actual 2023	Budget 2023	Actual 2022
Expenditure to projects / Total income	93%	93%	91%
Expenditure to projects / Total expenses	83%	76%	80%
Costs fundraising / Income fundraising	17%	26%	20%
Costs management and administration / Total expenses	3%	3%	3%

The ratio expenditure to projects in relation to total income is 93%.

This indicates which part of income is spent on projects.

The ratio expenditure to projects in relation to total expenses is 83%.

This indicates which part of total expenses is spent on projects.

The ratio costs for fundraising is 17%.

This ratio indicates the relation between costs of fundraising and total income of fundraising.

The ratio management and administration is 3%.

This ratio indicates which part of total expenses was spent on management and administration costs.

Expectations for the year 2024

The total forecasted income for 2024 is € 468.000. Income is planned from multiple funding streams including foundations, businesses, direct mail and other fundraising campaigns. Funds to ChildsLife programs in 2024 are budgeted at € 447.000.

ChildsLife focuses on achieving the funds to implement projects, to maintain a balanced budget and increase the continuity reserve. ChildsLife will continue to carefully invest in fundraising activities that will lead to increased income whilst keeping costs to a minimum.

Independent accountant's review report

We have reviewed the financial statements 2023 of Stichting Childslife International based in Haarlem. Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the accompanying financial statements do not give a true and fair view of the financial position of Stichting Childslife International as at 31 December 2023 and of its result for the year then ended in accordance with Guideline for annual reporting 640 "Non-profit organizations".

The financial statements comprise:

- the balance sheet as at 31 December 2023;
- the statement of income and expenditure for 2023; and
- the notes comprising of a summary of the accounting policies and other
- explanatory information.

Basis for our conclusion

We conducted our review in accordance with Dutch law, including the Dutch Standard 2400 'Opdrachten tot het beoordelen van financiële overzichten' (engagements to review financial statements). A review of financial statements in accordance with the Dutch Standard 2400 is a limited assurance engagement. Our responsibilities under this standard are further described in the 'Our responsibilities for the review of the financial statements' section of our report. We are independent of Stichting Childslife International in accordance with the Verordening inzake de onafhankelijkheid van accountants bij assurance-opdrachten (ViO, Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants, a regulation with respect to independence) and other relevant independence regulations in the Netherlands. Furthermore we have complied with the Verordening gedrags- en beroepsregels accountants (VGBA, Dutch Code of Ethics).

Accountants

We believe the assurance evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our conclusion. Responsibilities of Management Board for the financial statements Management Board is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Guideline for annual reporting 640 "Non-profit organizations". Furthermore, Management Board is responsible for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Our responsibilities for the review of the financial statements

Our responsibility is to plan and perform the review in a manner that allows us to obtain sufficient and appropriate assurance evidence for our conclusion. The level of assurance obtained in a review engagement is substantially less than the level of assurance obtained in an audit conducted in accordance with the Dutch Standards on Auditing. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion. We have exercised professional judgement and have maintained professional scepticism throughout the review, in accordance with Dutch Standard 2400.

Our review included among others:

- Obtaining an understanding in the entity and its environment and the applicable financial reporting framework, in order to identify areas in the financial statements where material misstatements are likely to arise due to fraud or error, designing and performing procedures to address those areas, and obtaining assurance evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our conclusion;
- Obtaining an understanding of the entity's accounting systems and accounting records and consider whether these generate data that is adequate for the purpose of performing the analytical procedures;
- Making inquiries of Management Board and others within the entity;
- Applying analytical procedures with respect to information included in the financial statements;
- Obtaining assurance evidence that the financial statements agree with, or reconcile to, the entity's underlying accounting records;
- Evaluating the assurance evidence obtained;
- Considering the appropriateness of accounting policies used and considering whether the accounting estimates and related disclosures made by Management Board appear reasonable;
- Considering the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures; and
- Considering whether the financial statements and the related disclosures represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that appears to give a true and fair.

Velsen-Zuid, 30 mei 2024

Beuk Accountants en Belastingadviseurs B.V.



R. Warmerdam RA



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ChildsLife

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