

WELCOME TO GABRIELLA REHAB CENTRE!

Gabriella Rehab Centre is a non-governmental organization based in Kilimanjaro Region, Tanzania.

We provide rehabilitation, education, empowerment and social inclusion with a family-centered approach to nurture children and youth with autism and other neurodevelopmental disorders.

We envision a world where children and youth with special needs are independent, valuable members of their communities.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE



2020 was trying for the global community with the COVID-19 pandemic. But even with the complexities brought about by the pandemic, it gave us time to reflect at Gabriella Rehab Centre, and innovate new techniques to strengthen our systems to ensure continued support to our community.

It was made easier to steer the organization in this direction through the support we received from our partners and friends YES Kilimanjaro their support in COVID Relief packages given to the children sustainability and maintenance support, GO Campaign in improving our infrastructure through buildings and landscape, CAPDA through the various staff trainings given, the Segal Family Foundation this year as a new African Visionary Fellow through The leadership coaching and weekly huddles that gave me the drive to lead my team in such a difficult time and develop a new Strategic Plan for the Centre, parents who work side by side with the team for the betterment of the children.

We are excited about the ongoing automation of our operations; with new financial management systems and databases to track our partner engagement and support, our operations will be more streamlined. We are also completing the construction of the therapy block and parents' hostel to improve our child safeguarding systems.

We would like to appreciate the tireless work and support by our staff during the pandemic; visiting children at home to ensure their safety and starting six income generation activities to support parents.

A heartfelt appreciation goes to you, our friends and partners for your encouragement and support in 2020. It's because of this we emerged triumphant and more determined to make a huger difference in 2021 and beyond.

Brenda Shuma,

Executive Director,

Gabriella Rehab Centre.

2020 REVIEW

We took time in 2020 to review our operational model and sought to strengthen our operations with our 25 staff and nine volunteers. We reviewed our HR policy, finalised our child safeguarding policy and now have a new 5 year strategic plan with clear annual plans which now fine-tune our operations.

We are also proceeding with construction and are excited to have completed the therapy block which is ready to offer sessions with the six modern sensory rooms. The parent hostels accommodate forty-three parents on campus during their children's therapy sessions.

OUR PROGRAMS

VOCATIONAL SKILLS TRAINING

This is a residential program that teaches children and youth with special needs different vocational and life skills. Caregivers are also involved in the process; furnished with skills to set up income-generating activities on the graduation of the program to ensure they can sustain themselves and cater to the medical needs of their children.

OUTREACH AND HOME VISITS

This is a support program for families we work with at the Centre. Our therapists and teachers conduct home visits to assess the progress of the children and youth with special needs and allocate the necessary resources required to improve their quality of life. We also conduct community awareness meetings and education sessions to destigmatize people with special needs in communities.

PARENT / GUARDIAN SUPPORT GROUPS

We understand that caring for a child with special needs in our communities isn't just stigmatizing but can be overwhelming. We run workshops throughout the year with parents and guardians of children with special needs; it's an opportunity for group therapy and also life skills training, which on top offers time for parents to share experience.

TRANSITIONAL AND INTEGRATED SCHOOL TRAINING PROGRAMME

As part of regular weekly school programming, Gabriella Rehab Centre uses a multisensory approach including the Montessori education method to provide children with a wholesome and inclusive education in our programs. The Montessori education method views children as

naturally eager for knowledge and capable of initiating learning in a supportive, thoughtfully prepared learning environment. It develops children physically, socially, emotionally and cognitively. It is a proven effective education for students with and without learning special needs.

VOLUNTEERING PROGRAM

Due to the limited number of specialised therapists and general support in our program, we encourage community organisations and international volunteers to offer their time and skills to our programs. This year we had volunteers from across Tanzania, Norway and the US providing support in various capacities.

EXTRACURRICULAR AND INFORMAL LEARNING

2020 IN NUMBERS

CHILDREN & YOUTH IMPACT

- 5** Youth graduated from our vocational training program
- 5** the average monthly number of assistive devices given to children and youth
- 10** children graduated from our programmes
- 91** children and youth supported in our programs
- 217** assessments of children conducted at our centre
- 454** children and youth received medical support
- 2,530** caregivers and children supported in our week-long therapy program

OUTREACH AND AWARENESS RAISING CAMPAIGNS

- 3** village meetings visited
- 4** special sports events held with two partner institutions
- 5** radio programs and two newspapers featured our work
- 106** children reached
- 500** participants at the annual Disability Day celebration at Boma Ng'ombe

COVID-19 INTERVENTIONS

18 villages visited in Kilimanjaro and Arusha region.

29 staff were involved in the preparation and the visits.

81 homes visited

200 relief packs delivered. Each pack contained informational posters, buckets, liquid hand wash soap, face masks, medication and food supplies.

436 beneficiaries received physical therapy

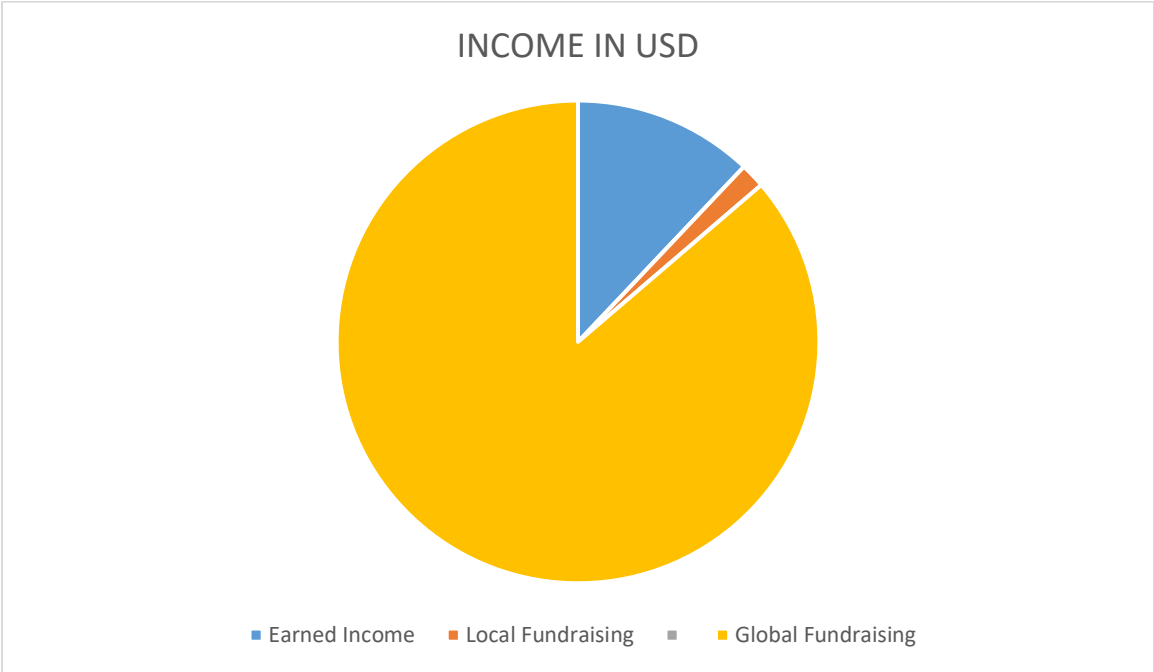
FUTURE PLANS

- The Gabriella Rehab Centre has a commercial bakery which will add to our training program. Youth with special needs will receive training on baking as a way to build a sustainable business.
- We intend to expand our support from Kilimanjaro Region to two more regions in Tanzania.
- We intend to introduce a sexual and reproductive health program targeting young women with special needs. We also intend to start a sanitary towel distribution to these young women.
- Construction of a new dormitory for the long-term care of children and youth from the additional regions in the country.
- Increase the number of beneficiaries by 20% in 2021

FINANCIALS

In 2020, we automated our financial systems to streamline the management of our finances and trained staff on its use.

We also used the Global Giving online platform as a key source to fundraise towards our cause.



APPRECIATION

We appreciate the good efforts of our partners, friends and well-wishers for their great support and cooperation in our journey through 2020.