



# macheo

SUPPORTING KENYA'S CHILDREN

## Newsletter 1

## February 2021

### **Macheo back to work in 2021!**

Nowadays every effort must be made to defeat the corona virus. In Kenya the virus does not seem to strike as violently as it does in Europe. Very carefully let the government loosen the reins little by little. The schools reopened in January.

Macheo tries to restore most utilities again. Much remains unclear and uncertain, but there is no doubt that the economic damage from the lockdown in Kenya is enormous. Many businesses do not exist anymore, many people have been forced to move to live with their families, to survive together.

The government has to contend with sky-high financial obligations, that are not can be fulfilled. The repayments of Chinese investments in infrastructure at the time were overestimated....

The crisis in healthcare is also severe. Doctors and nurses were on strike, because they have not received a salary for 5 months.

**This year, Macheo will start working with:**

- resuming care and guidance at home family reunification
- the babyhouse
- the contributions to the school fees

**The schools are overcrowded!**

The great fear that many children would not return to school, did fortunately not materialize.

On the contrary: the classrooms are packed! Many parents from the middle class cannot afford expensive private school anymore, as a result of the economic crisis. So: the public schools are becoming overcrowded.

For the teaching staff this is very difficult working: how can you be responsible and teach safely in crowded classes (70 students per class is no exception!), while everyone must adhere to the corona rules of keeping distance, wear mouth masks and wash hands?

**Some figures about the consequences of the lockdown**

- As feared, there are many more teenage pregnancies: an increase of 75 percent.
- Double as much domestic violence as usual.
- Anxiety and depression: the increase and its consequences are difficult to measure because our social workers cannot go to the people in the slums because of corona.
- There are three times as many health problems as we normally see.

**How many children do you want to help with a healthy lunch?**

Macheo wants to supply every child a healthy meal at school once a day. We provide already 7.500 children every day a healthy lunch. Such a school meal not only means that a child can eat well once a day: it is also an extra incentive to get children to visit school so that they can learn.

**1 meal costs 12 eurocents.**

So: for 5 euro's Macheo can hand out 40 meals, and **for 23 euro's 1 child had a healthy lunch throughout the schoolyear.** We are grateful for your donation!

<https://macheo.ngo/donate>