M-LISADA NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2016
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Greetings from our Executive Director

Dear friends and supporters,
greetings from M-LISADA-Organisation!

2016, the year of our 20th anniversary celebration, is coming to its end. On behalf of the whole M-LISADA-Family I would like to express my gratitude toward all of you who supported us during the last twenty years and this year’s celebrations! Because of you, whether you supported us from far or attended in person, every single event has been a great success. Also, I would like to thank everyone who participated in my wife Lucy’s and my wedding service and celebrations. I am very grateful for the opportunity to go to the US with my amazing wife. Thank you, Everyone; for your great support and your kindness in hosting us. Furthermore, I want to express my appreciation towards all the supporters who made it possible for us to continue with our plan of building a vocational primary school in Bombo. There is still a long way to go but we are hopeful and excited about the outcome!

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and I wish you a Happy New Year!

Segawa Bosco

Executive Director
M-LISADA Organisation
Don’t miss out!

28\textsuperscript{th} of January
Community Cleaning

5\textsuperscript{th} of February
Back to School Concert
20th Anniversary of M-LISADA

M-LISADA turned 20 this year! All the celebrations going on throughout the year culminated in a grand event on 28th of October. From 6 to 10 p.m. all the guests, staff and children of M-LISADA celebrated the achievements of 20 years of M-LISADA and looked forward to the next 20 years. M-LISADA gave accountability to all its great supporters. The guests were entertained by several speeches including one by our Director Segawa Bosco. He appreciated all the supporters and partners without which M-LISADA would have never come this far. Furthermore, former M-LISADA residents shared their laudable stories with the audience. While Tonny Musaazi played the trumpet, Mary Ajambo and Ronald Kabuye talked about their great achievements. Mary graduated from college as a social worker and now works in Kenya. Ronald is going to be a lawyer and teaches at Brass for Africa. M-LISADA Culture Troupe and Acrobats gave an amazing performance and M-LISADA Brass Band entertained the audience with its wonderful music. Students from Blue Coats School in the UK and Tender Talents Choir performed alongside the Brass Band. Crafts were sold and a raffle which had great prizes took place. All in all, the evening was a great success and we would like to express our deep gratitude towards all our friends, partners and donors for their extraordinary support once again! You made it possible for us to be where we are now! A special thank you goes to our guests of honour for that evening - the British High Commissioner and Miss Uganda. We are happily looking forward to the next 20 years to come and hope that you will also share this time with us!
One day after M-LISADA’s great 20th anniversary event our Director Segawa Bosco and his longtime companion, Lucy Khan, were married. Everybody who attended the service in the St. Peter’s Catholic Church, Nsambya, enjoyed it very much. The happy couple, their children, the bridal matron, the best man, the maids and groomsmen looked beautiful! M-LISADA Brass Band and Yours Truly Choir enriched the service with their wonderful music. The Reception took place in Graceland Gardens. A sensational program was provided which included Tender Talents Choir, M-LISADA Brass Band and M-LISADA Culture Troupe, and some students from The Blue Coats School in the UK. Their teacher Lizzie performed together with Jim Trott, from Brass for Africa, for the dance of Bosco and Lucy. A special moment was the cutting of the cake. Several speeches were made but the highlight of the evening was definitely Bosco’s trumpet solo of “Can you feel the love tonight?” for Lucy. All the guests enjoyed the celebrations very much. Thanks to the main celebrant Reverend Fr. Ntege Lubwama, who led an amazing service. Thank you too, to everyone who performed and to those who supported the newly-wed couple in so many ways.

We wish Lucy, Bosco and their family all the best for their future, happiness, health and solidarity!
Uncle Bosco and Lucy in the US

Shortly after their wedding our Executive Director Uncle Bosco and his wife Lucy travelled to the US to visit sponsors and supporters and to promote and represent M-LISADA at different locations throughout the country. Their journey was a great success – the whole M-LISADA Family is happy about that opportunity given to them.

In Kansas, they visited Emporia State University amongst other places and gave a presentation. They received an amazing feedback before travelling also to Utah and Minnesota.

Thank you to everyone who supported and enabled their trip, especially David Westfall, Kristeen Arnold, Charles Terry and Betsy MacGregor, Mr and Mrs Ssemujju and Mary Jo O’Hara. We are very grateful and were happy to have them back home with us this December.
Workshop with KiBO – Foundation

On October 22nd KiBO-Foundation paid a visit to M-LISADA and did a workshop with our children. They led our children through a discussion about the challenges they face at their age level, such as difficulties in school and finding a job. Furthermore, KiBO installed their mobile lab in our library and taught computer to our children. The children learned a lot and had a lot of fun! Thank you KiBO-Foundation for this great workshop!

Uncle Bosco’s Birthday

On the 10th of October, we celebrated the birthday of our Executive Director Uncle Bosco, our volunteer Anna from Germany and one of our children, Katende, who all share the same birthday. The whole M-LISADA family enjoyed the cake and the party and had a lot of fun singing and dancing! Thanks to Jonna Kildebogaard and Elly.
Psychosocial Program
The Psychosocial Program is a program carried out by our Education Officer Nakabugo Happy and takes place in Kampiringisa Rehabilitation Centre. Within the program the case studies of children were captured as they were sharing their experiences, talked about self-evaluation, how they reached out to others in their community of Kampiringisa and what they learned about stress management. Since this year is coming to an end they also discussed the improvements and changes they wish for within the program. Thanks to Brass for Africa for supporting this program. It has changed lives of many children.

Peer-to-Peer-Program
Six boys and four girls from the streets are taking part in the Peer-to-Peer-Program which is also mentored by our Education Officer Nakabugo Happy. Peer-to-Peer teaches and trains selected children to reach out to other children and youth from the community, to share their experience, what they have learned, and to set a positive role model. One of the activities within the program is tracing the whereabouts of their families - three have already been found successfully. Once found, there are negotiations with the parents and the community about accepting the youths back in the community. Initially all the boys were abusing drugs. Thanks to the program none are consuming drugs anymore.

Environmental Program
With funds from Interkultura, MLISADA Organisation has begun a new project for environmental sustainability with street and vulnerable children in the Ntuse area. So far there has been a meeting with the local leaders of the community who officially accepted the program in the area, and the registration of 22 scouts who will be trained for one year in environmental issues, and will reach out to their community in the future.
Bombo and Kalangala

During the last three months, many things happened in our projects outside Kampala. A special thank you goes to Yves Baes for funding the water project in Bombo and the Children Reception and Resource Centre in Kalangala. Thank you as well to all staff and supporters involved in developing these projects.

In Bombo, Irish potatoes, cabbage and tomatoes were planted. But we are especially proud of the construction of a well. We want to express our gratitude towards everyone who worked on this construction most especially Bwanika Henry.

Furthermore, Henry took mattresses, bedsheets and blankets to Kalangala and managed to install a water tank for 500 litres. We are very happy about these achievements and excited about the future of these two projects. Also thanks to Jonna Kildebogaard and the Rotary Clubs of Masaka and Denmark.
End of the Third Term and Graduations

The third school term has ended and we are very proud of all our children who succeeded in school this year. Every child was promoted to the next class!

Many of our children took part in the performances at the speech days of their schools and got the chance to show their amazing talents to their proud Aunties and Uncles.

We would like to congratulate Stella and Ritah who graduated in Catering and Hotel Management and are now doing their industrial training at one of the biggest hotels in Uganda. Congratulations also to Doreen who received her Diploma in Journalism at Multitech Institute!

Furthermore, two of our little ones – Timothy and Willy – graduated from Top Class and will start Primary One next year. Ten of our children sat for their O-Level-Exams (the results will be ready this month), eleven completed Primary School and four did their UCE’s.

We are very proud of all of them and wish them the best for next year. Now they can enjoy their well-deserved holidays!
Children’s Pre-Christmas Celebrations

On Saturday, 17th of December, our Children’s Pre-Christmas Celebrations took place. It was a unique event enjoyed by everyone. Our kids will certainly remember this day for a long time.

A special thank you goes to Guen and her family for hosting us, for providing food and drinks for all our children and the staff, for organising a bouncing castle, and for letting our children use the swimming pool, trampolines, swings, and the slide. We are very grateful.

Everybody participated in the many activities that took place: ball games, story-telling and drawing and different competitions like sack hopping, a hoola hoop contest, a dancing contest, musical chairs, and many others.

At the end of the day even Santa Clause himself, aka Uncle Henry, paid the party a visit and gave out presents to all the kids!

This day was amazing! Thank you to everyone who participated and made this celebration so special! We are now looking forward to our Children’s Christmas Party on 27th of December.
The Amazing Girls Club

There has already been an Amazing Girls Club at M-LISADA for some times. Unfortunately, because of different challenges it hasn’t been active in the recent past.

For the last few weeks former M-LISADA resident Rebecca Kabagimu, Amy and Evelien from the Netherlands and our two volunteers Anna and Alicia have been working on renewing this Club for girls and young women. The club’s goal is to empower and inspire them to live an independent life and follow their dreams, inform them about their rights, and giving them a platform to share their experiences.

On 18th and 19th of December the first workshop for our M-LISADA girls and girls from the community took place with the slogan “Dare to Dream!”. We talked a lot about what it means to dream and encouraged each girl to draw down her personal dream which they later shared with the group.

We also used the technique of SWOT-Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) for self-reflection. It really helped the girls to be aware of their own strengths and weaknesses.

A special thank you goes to our guest speaker Dinah, a former M-LISADA resident, who shared her story of how to become a professional dancer with our girls. She also stressed the importance of never giving up and working hard to achieve one’s goals.

We would also like to express our gratitude to the organisers of this workshop who put a lot of effort into renewing the club, the supporters who made this possible by financial support and provision of a location. Thanks as well to Aunt Sue and Nurse Magdalena who also attended and participated in the discussions.

For the future, we are planning to have regular meetings and different activities as well as discussions of various topics. We are really happy that this renewal was a great success and are very proud of all our AMAZING GIRLS!
Staff Presentations
In the end of the year, every staff member gets the chance to present his work to his colleagues and board member Moses Matovu. During a long day, everyone listened to the achievements and challenges of their colleagues and participated in discussions on how to improve. All in all, everybody agreed that 2016 was a successful year. We are all looking forward happily to 2017 and hope that the good things remain the same while we will work hard to overcome the challenges we faced in 2016 year!

Staff Christmas Party
On 20th of December we had our Staff Christmas Party, following tradition and celebrating the day after the staff presentations. The celebrations took place at Ssebo Green Joy Parc. Thank you to the organisers of this wonderful day. Everybody had lots of fun! We even exchanged gifts – thank you to all staff members for choosing a nice gift as an act of friendship for another staff member.
Children’s Christmas Party

On 27th of December M-LISADA-children celebrated Christmas at Kisubi Beach. They had a wonderful time enjoying the water. The young ones built sandcastles while the older children had a lot of fun hanging out with their friends. A great pleasure on this day was the tasty food!

We would like to appreciate all Aunties and Uncles who accompanied the children during their holidays! A special thank you goes to our great friend and supporter Sue Williams and her amazing donors for making our Christmas celebrations possible! For their generous contributions, we would like to express our deep gratitude towards Meryl Schwartz, Leah Harrison, Barbara Williams, Johanna Pfenninger, Jonathan Reiter, Gary Kaplan, Sandro Pischedda, Robyn Thompson, Wilmer Bernal, Michael Huston, Karl Shefelman, Alex Hoffman, Kristen Rogne, Eileen Judge and Jeneil Bamberg.
Welcoming new M-LISADA Family Members and Saying Goodbye to Old Ones

Unfortunately, M-LISADA-Family had to say goodbye to some well known faces. Among the little ones, five children were luckily able to go back home again. We miss Christine, Fidah, Timothy, Godfrey and Sarah a lot although we are very happy for them to be able to live with their families! One of our older girls, Joan, was reunited to her family. She did a lot of good work for all the staff and children. We miss her and her well-cooked food, but we are glad that she is living with her family right now. Everyone was so happy to see her when Uncle Tonny took her home!

We also had some people joining our family. Two of them are little Ahumed and little Melsie, whose cute faces make everyone smile. But not only children came to join M-LISADA. We are happily announcing the arrival of our new staff member Rashid who is a marketing officer. His task is to promote the many services M-LISADA offers. Starting with a database, Rashid works to target potential clients for our services. We are grateful to have such a skilled and friendly person joining the team!
**Friends and Supporters visiting M-LISADA**

We would like to appreciate all the many visitors we received over the last few months.

Special thanks go to our short-time volunteer Emma from the UK who put a lot of love and dedication in the training with Isaac, Emilie from Denmark, a former volunteer who came back here to do some research for her Masters degree, Amy and Evelien from the Netherlands who are very committed to the Amazing Girls Club and Guen from France who hosted our children for their Christmas Party.

Other appreciations go to Yves and the Director of Spreeuwien School from Belgium, sponsors who support us a great amount. Thanks to Jane and Graham, who are good friends and have been sponsors for a long time; and Adrian and Amanda from the UK, who taught Christmas carols and maths to the kids.

Coming from the UK as well, Latymer Upper School paid M-LISADA a visit and donated a lot of clothing and supplies. They also visited Mummy Foundation and Hidden Treasure Infant Primary School, one of the primary schools attended by many of our children. We also appreciate MEMPROW and Dr. Tadria, its Director, and Sant Nirankari Mission for their visit. Thanks as well to Maughan, Silas and Daina for the terrific workshop they organised for our staff members.

In honour of our 20th anniversary, our partner organisation, One Heart Foundation from Kenya, visited us with some of their children and joined us in our celebrations. We were also happy to have the president of M-LISADA Africa Foundation, Rochelle Zabarkes from the US, with us for some weeks who put a lot of effort and dedication in her work as always. We would like to express our gratitude towards her and Team Banda, including Mum Kristeen, Mary Jo O’Hara, Susan Williams and Sarah Yates as well as to all the other visitors. Thank you for your interest in M-LISADA! We are looking forward to see you again soon!
M-LISADA Family hopes you had a merry Christmas and wishes you a Happy New Year!

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