

ILULA ORPHAN PROGRAM (IOP)



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Hello family!! We would love to share IOP events during the month of January 2019. Enjoy reading, dear friends

Articles

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MASAI VISIT



On Sunday 13th, we started our day by travelling to Masai Village with ten volunteers from Norway and USA together with the IOP all time volunteer (Berit Skaare). The mood in the bus was very high where there were some stories among each in the seat. At the village we started

with the church ceremony where the priest preached about loving each other as we are all God's children. After the ceremony the volunteers were welcomed to Mr.



Naftari (the head of the family) where we started with visiting the typical Masai houses, cows shed while the natives had to answer a lot of question asked by volunteers. From there a hot discussion took over where volunteers learnt about Maasai culture, their ways of living, the role of husband and wife in the family, marriage system which was the most interesting party since the Maasai can marry more than one wife without divorcing the former first wife. Both parties learn from each other through asking questions. A delicious meal was prepared by Masai women and all the people joined got enough food.

There after it reached a time of songs and dance where by volunteers had to change and wear the Masai cloth (*became white Masai*). Moran and Masai girls were singing masai songs together with jumping and dancing while volunteers were just dancing. It was very fun especially at jumping and shaking the shoulders as its how they dance. Volunteers couldn't jump and shake shoulders as masai however they tried.

The program ended by shopping where by masai women sold the stuff like necklaces, jewelries, bracelets, African chairs and many others. Masai women were very happy as volunteers purchased a lot of stuff for their families and friends. Finally thank you words were given by both the masai and volunteers and the way back to the center took over. Everyone was happy on that day and got the new experience.

A DAY IN FOSTER FAMILY



It was a cool Wednesday the 16th; to volunteers where they visited and spent a day in village called Itungi at Neema Ngalembula, a widow living with four children and one of the foster families. The village is about 15km from the center and they left the center at 09:00. They took with them the food shopped by themselves one day before together with the chicken. It was a day of getting new experience in the typical African families. They started by introduction of which the escort had to translate so that they can understand each other. A short visit of the surrounding took over and they started with food preparation of which the volunteers had to slaughter the chicken. Firewood was used for cooking on

that family in which smoke was the challenge for volunteers. But they tried to cope with the environment and managed to cook the food together with the family. There



was a discussion going on between the family and the volunteers while cooking of which questions were asked by both parties. Volunteers learn a lot about how the family live, activities, challenges how IOP has been helping the family and many others. The same the family shared a little about Norway. After lunch volunteers went to fetch water to the river which was very interesting. They learned how to carry the bucket on their head. Off course it was very fun seeing them with buckets of water on their head because they are not used to. After dish washing then goodbye words and thanks were given to each other and they took a car back to the center.

BIRTHDAY PARTY



Saturday the 19th of January we celebrated the birthdays of the girls and the IOP staff, who have their birthday in January. The party started around 04:00pm. The girls were really excited and all dressed in their nicest dresses. We started with singing for



every birthday member personally and they had to sing too, to tell how old they were turned. Then they were cutting the cake, the birthday members had to share the cake with the people who attended the birthday. They called a name, the person came forward and took the piece of cake with his mouth out of the hand of the birthday member. It was really fun and it contained a lot of singing and dancing when a person came forward. After that there was a little quiz organized about different subjects as Tanzania and IOP. There was also a little quiz for the volunteers to test how their knowledge was about Tanzania. Well I think I can tell that it was a bit



disappointing ;). The girls performed a little play for us which were really funny. Before we could start dinner there were a few formalities as the thank word and the wishing word for the birthday members. Then it was time for the gifts and the congratulations. In the meantime the food was ready and we could start eating. The menu consisted of fried potatoes,



bananas, samosa, cabbage, mixed salad, spaghetti and fruits. It was a very successful birthday and I think that everyone had a great time.

STUDENTS HOME VISIT



On Jan 22nd, to Jan 25th, was a week where one volunteer from the Netherlands and other volunteers from Norway had 4 days of visiting students sponsored by sponsors from Netherlands. During their visit they had to take photos and ask some questions of which altogether will be shared to their sponsors so that they can see how the kids they are sponsoring live. While visiting families in different villages, they had to provide new school materials at the same time. The kids got new school uniforms exercise books, pens and pencils. They were so happy with their new stuff that in one class the kids spontaneously

started to write thank you letters. It was really nice to see how happy they were with their new school materials. We picked up the kid who is sponsored from the school and drove after that to the family. We were welcomed really warm in each family; they showed how they live, where they cook and where they have their toilet. We met one girl who is walking two hours to school in the morning and in the afternoon two hours to get back home. We visited seven different families this week and they were all very different but one thing is the same in every family, they don't have enough money to feed all of their children. That's why they are so happy with for having sponsors so that their children at least can go to school. Most of the children visited this week have also a health insurance that helps them a lot. And they thank IOP for helping them with this too because it has been a challenge in many families when it comes to health issues. The community and families at large are very thankful to IOP for taking care of these two important things; education and health insurance. When going to the family we brought a package with us which contained: 5kg of rice, 3kg of sugar, 3kg of beans, salt, toothpaste, spaghetti, cooking oil, soap, tea, biscuits, body oil and a mosquito net. They were really thankful for the package; it was nice that we could do that for the family.



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