

Isabelle Hofstetter

Qualified Occupational Therapist HF

Qualified Supervisor BSO

Sonnenbergstraße 2
CH -8633 Wolfhausen

Report:

Advisory co-operation in Occupational Therapy at St. Francis Hospital Ifakara/Tanzania

01 - 29/05/2009

Godfrey Ngidula received his degree as an occupational therapist after 3 years of studies at KCMC in Moshi. This training was financed by the Catholic Parish of St. Francis in Kempraten/Switzerland. After completing his training Mr. Ngidula committed himself to working in St. Francis Hospital in Ifakara. Since the end of 2008 he has been working as an occupational therapist together with doctors, physiotherapists and those responsible for the Orthopaedic Workshop. From 1st to 29th May a room, placed at the new therapy's disposal by the hospital, has been renovated with contributions from Switzerland. In the near future, further fixtures will be produced or bought in Tanzania. Others will be delivered by container transport from Switzerland. A private donation from Austria will also be of benefit to all patients needing this kind of therapy. In the Occupational Therapy in- and outpatients are treated with focus on children with various problems like cerebral motor disturbances, malformations, situations after accidents and Malaria – Meningitis and many more.

Once a week mothers of affected children get together to compare notes, to support each other and to treat children together.

Another important group of patients are adults after strokes or accidents in acute stage or during rehabilitation. Patients with burns, injuries of arms and hands constitute an additional important scope of work.

In course of time other centres of gravity will turn up, for example patients with psychic problems, who will have to be treated in reasonable manner.

Co-operation within the rehabilitation team will show which kinds of treatment of certain diseases will be best and which person will be most competent and responsible. In this way, a reasonable network will emerge to the benefit of patients and therapists.

10/6/2009

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