



## **DRIVING NURSES JAARVERSLAG 2020**

"Our mission: reducing maternal and child mortality in Africa through helping with a healthy pregnancy, delivery, pre- and postnatal care".



[www.drivingnurses.org](http://www.drivingnurses.org)



# OUR VISION

Driving Nurses Foundation (DNF) endeavors a healthy future for all mothers and children in **rural Tanzania**, in which they all have access to basic healthcare so that the circle of poverty can be broken. It does this by **training local health workers and residents** in maternal and child care and health-related topics. The foundation focuses on the first **thousand days** of human life (from conception up to and including the second year of life), in which the impact of interventions is greatest. It contributes to the early detection and higher referral rate of (life-threatening) diseases and wants to reduce the number of **preventable deaths** among mothers and babies to zero.



# 1000 DAYS

DNF is a Dutch foundation, founded in 2017 (ANBI status obtained in 2018) after the chairman took care of mother and child care for five years in the area located in the south of Moshi, **Lower Moshi**. Lower Moshi is located in Northern Tanzania in the south of the City Moshi. The area is dominated by the 16,000 hectare large sugar cane plantation called TPC. About **75,000 people** live in the area around the plantation. DNF's interventions are based on proven effective actions, all centered around the **thousand days principle**. The first 1000 days in human life are crucial. These are the days from conception to delivery plus the days up to the child's 2nd birthday that enable interventions to have a **high impact**.

Several interventions to reduce maternal and infant mortality have been marked as proven effective by the **World Health Organization**. Different kinds of measures have the highest impact if offered in a **package**. Based on the thousand-day principle, DNF has therefore compiled a package of measures: Starting with sex education from day zero, to education programs and prenatal care for pregnant women, to delivery packages and (breast) nutrition and finally guidance for mother, newborn and toddler. We can only offer this package through close cooperation with various **(local) authorities**.



# COOPERATION

In order to efficiently achieve the above-described goals, DNF has collaborated with various parties. Through our collaboration with the **Mount Meru Foundation**, a foundation that focuses on **mobile ultrasounds** for pregnant women, the service on our Mamabus has been extended through including ultrasounds. Last year, **167 ultrasounds** were performed on the Mama Bus in Lower Moshi. In 2019 we also entered into close collaboration with the **Lutherian Hospital** with the aim of providing adequate care to 100,000 inhabitants in the area of **Karatu** by implementing a **new Mama Bus project**. Due to the outbreak of the **Coronavirus**, these plans have been temporarily suspended. We hope to resume these plans again in the second quarter of 2021.

On the other hand, the outbreak of the Coronavirus has created new opportunities for DNF. Driving nurses has joined forces with **Aisha & Friends**, a foundation dedicated to **increasing development opportunities** of vulnerable children. This year, DNF has contributed to the distribution of an **educational book** about Corona in Lower Moshi. DNF will continue to provide Aisha & Friends with **guidance** in the development and dissemination of educational programs and tools for children in Tanzania. We have also started a collaboration with **TNO**. This organization will give **digital support** to our Mama Bus through which current processes can be optimized.





# RESULTS

In 2020 we undertook various activities to achieve goals, generate ideas, raise funds and explore options for expanding our services.

- In January, DNF went on a mission. During this mission, the processes of the Mama Bus have been improved and preparatory discussions have taken place for the **new Mama Bus project**.
- Driving Nurses Foundation has distributed an educational children's book about Corona over an area of **80,000 inhabitants**.
- In 2020, almost **4,000** expectant mothers, newborns, and young children have been checked on and treated on the Mamabus in Lower Moshi. The number of check-ups has doubled compared to last year.
- Over the past year, **167 ultrasounds** have been performed on our Mama Bus in Lower Moshi. This helps problems to be recognized in time and the date of delivery being predicted accurately. This in turn ensures that mothers are in the hospital in time for a **healthy delivery**.
- In addition to prenatal care, post-natal care and information, the Mama Bus in Lower Moshi also provides **the national vaccination program**. Last year, 683 vaccinations have been administered on the Mama Bus.
- **Emergency kits** have been distributed in ChemChem, a village that is completely cut off from the outside world n times of rain. These packages ensure that women from this village can give birth safely, even during the rainy season.
- DNF has initiated contact with various foundations for collaboration in the **Karatu region**.





## DID YOU KNOW THAT

- ...we are now helping 80,000 people in Lower Moshi?
- ...we achieve this by using the Mama Bus to provide care and assistance in the most remote villages that are often inaccessible for conventional medical assistance?
- ...we do this in close collaboration with the government and local organizations?
- ...you can ensure a safe delivery for a mother in the hospital for € 10?
- ...you can rescue both a newborn and a mother with this?
- ...that we are deeply grateful for your attention and support?



# MANY THANKS

We would like to thank all our sponsors, both individual and en groupe. Without your help, we cannot do our job. Also, thanks to everyone who continues to support us both in word and gesture, who share our messages and speak positively about DNF. Sharing your experiences your views on our activities will help us to get a higher profile. Lastly, we also want to thank our partners, together we fight to reduce the mortality rate among mothers and children and to improve the health of both.

Kind regards,

The board of the Driving Nurses Foundation

Annual report 2020



*We have provided care to 4,000 pregnant women, babies and children. An unprecedented number during a pandemic. We have expanded our services with vaccinations, government programs for young children and ultrasounds. In no time, help had arrived after the outbreak of the Coronavirus by distributing educational booklets on hygiene in collaboration with a new partner. This makes me feel extremely PROUD and grateful. THANKS to our Veronica Tamiro, the nurse on the Mama Bus, our partners FTK, TPC, Mount Meru, Aisha & Friends, the loyal donors and sponsors such as the 40 of Breda. "*

**- Suus Theuws, Chairman**



*'It feels good that we are making that what is normal for us, also normal at other places in the world. "*

**- Ingrid van Eerd, Treasurer**



*"We have always had full confidence in our approach. But now that our numbers are also showing that what we do can really make a difference, makes me very proud. 4000 check-ups, 197 ultrasounds, 683 vaccinations and 11 referrals. What a numbers and what a growth compared to last year. In one word: WOW! In good spirits, I'll get busy again for DNF so that our foundation can achieve just as good numbers in the upcoming year. "*

**- Noortje Theuws, Secretary**

