



CARING PARTNERS GLOBAL

Changing lives, one community at a time.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes

Friday April 16, 2021

7:15 – 8:15 pm

Teleconference via google meets

ATTENDEES

Phil Dick, Glenn Pascoe, Ron Bell, Sylvia Scott, Stephen Scott, Sue Robertson

1. Phil Dick, chair, welcomed all to the AGM and called the meeting to open.
2. Minutes of the AGM of May 2020 were reviewed and accepted – Sue/Ron; carried
3. Phil Dick gave a report from the chair (below). Motion to accept Glenn/Ron: carried
4. Sylvia Scott presented a report and presentation on the accomplishments over the past year. Given the accomplishments of the team at Matangwe over the past year, it was agreed that Sylvia would speak with leadership team there to discuss a way to thank the staff for their good work. Motion to approve nominations by acclamation Glenn/Ron: carried.
5. Education Report presented by Ron Bell. Motion to accept Glenn/Ron: carried
6. Financial Report
 1. Glenn Pascoe presented the audited financial statement for 2020 – motion to accept by Glenn, seconded by Sue Robertson – motion carried.
 2. 2021 Budget – reviewed and approved – motion - Glenn/Sue; carried
 3. Appointment of 2021 auditor – it was agreed that the auditor for the 2021 year would be Mary-Jo Fedy of the firm KPMG – motion – Glenn/Stephen
7. Call for Nominations - all directors are returning for another year
8. Election of 2020 executive office – acclaimed - Motion – Glenn/Ron; carried
 1. Chair – Phil Dick
 2. Recording Secretary – Sue Robertson
 3. Treasurer – Glenn Pascoe



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4. Chair Education Committee- Ron Bell
9. Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm

Reports for AGM 2021

1. Presidents' Report AGM 2021

March 24, 2021

Year in Brief

The year 2020 will go down in history as “unprecedented” for more than the devastating impact that COVID-19 pandemic had on the health of populations and global economy but also for exceptional results achieved through innovation and adaptability, under unusual circumstances.

It was late March of 2020 that I scrambled to find an International flight out of Kenya during what was to be a normal 3-month year-end audit and field monitoring visit at our partner Organization, Matangwe Community Health and Development Programme (MCHDP) in rural Western Kenya. Safe in the cabin of a returning half empty flight and armed with a supply of protective equipment, I reflected on the potential fate of my then “unfinished work”. A potentially devastating impact of pending closures of our key programs and services offered to the most vulnerable communities and populations. I imagined villages of unemployed adults struggling to survive or to meet basic human needs for food, shelter, and health. My thoughts lingered on the orphaned youths in our Education sponsorship program idling at village marketplaces with little direction away from the safety and watchful eyes and structures within the soon to be closed schools. I envisioned the existing income generating programs that serve to supplement the cost of day-to-day program operations, shut down as governments implemented COVID-19 control measures.

I had earlier witnessed the fear in the eyes of patients lined up 2 meters apart under trees, and in the sun while workers set up makeshift tents, handwash stations with scarce but carefully placed liquid soap and sanitizers. As I made my way out of the facility for the 24-hour journey back to Canada, the images of my last days there caused me to re-examine how this scarcely resourced and impoverished rural community, would pull through the wrath of a fiercely predicted outcome of a COVID-19 pandemic.

A year later, I am thankful to highlight three of the unexpected outcomes realized under an unusual year and circumstances at MCHDP compared to the 2019 results. The annual data showed:

1. Increased access to programs and services by 26%
2. Improved revenue from local income generation activities by 40% and



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3. Improved operational self-support level from 58% the previous year to 80% in 2020

Each area of achievement represented a concerted effort of partnerships nationally and internationally serving with care and compassion, at a time when it counted the most needed, to build confidence in humanity and to save lives. MCHDP staff and leadership team is commended for their untiring focus on targeted mobilization of the poor and vulnerable populations across many communities. They tirelessly educated, advocated for, sought out to identify and registered individuals with the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) so that they could have their basic health care needs met.

Collaboration with Canadian volunteers and national partners supported access to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) supplies specifically, masks, gloves, and sanitizer. This increased staff confidence in their protection and safety and facilitated expanded medical outreach services to schools and beyond the immediate communities.

Improved capacity and skills to use BANDA-Go, an electronic health system that address resource management through just in time data capture, provided information to guide daily decision making and cost-effective use of the limited resources.

Caring Partners Global (CPG) established its renewed vision in 2020; *“to support local leadership development and transition such that MCHDP will achieve sustainable operational independence within the next three years.”*

The 2020 achievements already reflect alignment with CPG’s new vision. As such, I purpose to carefully explore the data with our CPG team, with a goal to better understand specific program measures that added value and contributed to the gains. This will greatly inform and guide a focused leadership development and transition plan aimed at a future where MCHDP will be operationally independent.

Stephen and I owe our sincere gratitude to each one of our CPG board of directors, volunteers, the dedicated leadership team, staff and Board of Management at MCHDP for continuing to step up and to work hard to meet and exceed the goals and objectives of the organization. We pray God’s blessings for you and your families.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sylvia Scott".

Sylvia Scott

CPG Co-Founder and President



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“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” Galatians 6:9

2. Report from Chair

Twenty-five years ago, our founders Steve and Sylvia Scott began Caring Partners Global with the help of others to create the Matangwe Health and Community Development Project (MCHDP) in Western Kenya. A quarter century is a milestone. It is a time to pause and reflect on where we have been and think about where we are going. What has 25 years of support accomplished:

- The clinic is now a hospital.
- The scholarship program continues to thrive.
- Economic development projects have worked. The mortuary helps support the hospital and MCHDP is a valued employer in the area.
- We continue to provide school lunches.
- MCHDP’s agricultural gardens offset the cost of feeding patients and the surplus goes to the school lunch program.
- There is access to treated water at the clinic now.
- The cost to bring drinking water to the villages has been halved.

The MCHDP board in Matangwe continues in thoughtful discernment to advise and direct CPG on the priority for projects. It is the board in Matangwe that seeks out and selects our scholarship candidates – orphans without financial means having much to offer given a hand in their education.

The disruption to school attendance caused by COVID-19 has not lessened the desire for education with our sponsored students. We expect 99 per cent to return to their studies as schools fully reopen. Some have continued on-line as has been the fallback in Canada when the government took measures to slow down the epidemic. There are now more students whom we have sponsored that graduated from high school, college and university than we currently sponsor. And those students are more likely to be employed after graduation.

The hospital is nearing self-sufficiency. There are still special projects: PPE, facility upgrades, training, water storage and equipment such as the haemoglobin machine that was purchased last year. Agriculture development and extension is also on our horizon.

We can now count more than 100 Canadians who have volunteered at Matangwe. We continue to work with McMaster, awaiting the time when travel is permitted and the Matangwe hospital can host Canadian medical students on their professional journey.

What was once hope now manifests itself in resilience and positive change. It happens one person at a time. Yet those lives we change one at a time affect others. The lot of extended families begins with



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helping one. And our scholarship graduates have begun to pay the kindness given to them back to the broader community. Hope to resilience to positive change. Our donors make that possible.

There is much to celebrate. Thanks to your donations and the selfless dedication of a committed volunteers. The CPG Board is looking forward to the next 25 years. We strive to ensure that the money we receive is used for its fullest effect. This past year our overhead was around two per cent. Mail, office supplies, a website, insurance, and banking are necessary here. The rest goes to MCHDP.

Your giving over this past quarter century is a gift that lifts us all. What began as the recognition of needs in a community half a world away and a faith-based motivation to help has had a positive impact. Tomorrow a student may be at home in a grass hut using a solar-powered charge to run his or her computer. Their world is changing. Together, as caring partners, their change is good. For this I thank our donors, volunteers, the staff in Matangwe and the Board.

Best Regards,

Phil Dick, Chair

3. EDUCATION REPORT FOR CPG ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – APRIL 16, 2021

As a result of the coronavirus pandemic in Kenya the education of our sponsored students has been greatly disrupted, and at this time shows no sign of returning to normal as we move into the immediate future. All educational institutions, primary, secondary, and post-secondary closed down in mid-March, 2020, and chaos and uncertainty became the norm.

After about 7 months of school closures in 2020, standard 4 and standard 8 primary school students were allowed to return to school in October, 2020, in order to continue their 2020 academic year. For these students term 2 was completed by Christmas, and term 3 took place from January to the end of March, 2021. All standard 8 graduates were to write the exams for their Kenyan Certificate of Primary Education (K.C.P.E.) in March/April, 2021, and the results were to be released shortly afterwards.

Similarly, after a 7 month break, form 4 secondary school students were allowed to return to school in October, 2020, in order to continue their 2020 academic year. Term 2 was completed by Christmas break, and term 3 took place from January to the end of March, 2021. All form 4 graduates were scheduled to write the exams for their Kenyan Certificate of Secondary Education (K.C.S.E.) in March/April, 2021, and the results were to be released shortly afterwards.



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The remaining Kenyan students, in standards 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 at primary schools, and forms 1, 2, 3 at secondary schools, returned to school on January 4, 2021. They were expected to complete term 2 of the 2020 year by March 19, 2021, take a 7 week holiday break from March 20 to May 9, 2021, and then complete term 3 of the 2020 year from May 10 to July 16, 2021. If all goes as planned, what should normally be the 2021 school year, will commence July 26, 2021, for new standard 1 students along with standard 2 to 8 students, at primary schools, and for new form 1 students along with form 2, 3, and 4 students at secondary schools. The 2021 year will reach completion for these students by March 4, 2022, after which K.C.P.E. and K.C.S.E. exams will be written. **It is important to remember that all CPG sponsors, supporting secondary school students, already donated the funds required at the end of 2020 to support their student during the 2021 academic year.**

Similarly, post-secondary students in their final year at colleges, universities, and Kenyan Medical Training Colleges (K.M.T.C.), after a 7 month break, returned to school in October, 2020, in order to complete their graduating year, which without any significant holiday break between semesters, should be completed by May/June, 2021. However, those post-secondary students not in their graduating year did not return to school until January 4, 2021, but it is hoped, without a significant holiday break between semesters, they might be able to complete their 2020-21 academic year by August, 2021, and continue their studies for the 2021-22 academic year well before the end of 2021. **Once again, it is important to remember that all CPG sponsors, supporting post-secondary school students, already donated the funds required at the end of 2020 to support their student during the 2021-22 academic year.**

***As of March 26, 2021, the president of Kenya once again ordered “immediate suspension of all on-going physical learning in all education institutions including universities and tertiary & vocational colleges other than candidates sitting for their examinations, and those in medical training institutions.”**

The corona virus interruptions make it difficult to predict the short-term educational outcomes for all CPG’s sponsored students. However, we can assume we will be able to identify 8, recent, standard 8, graduates (2021 school year graduates) for sponsorship, who will begin form 1 at a secondary school, hopefully on July 26, 2021. Also, we will be able identify and choose 6, new, recipients for R.A.W.E.F. sponsorships, who will enter year 1 (2021-22 academic year) at various universities, before the end of 2021. Also, 8 of our presently sponsored students in form 4 during the 2020 academic year at various secondary schools will have written their K.C.S.E. exams in April, 2021, and hopefully all of them will earn results warranting our support at post-secondary schools for the 2021-22 academic year beginning year 1 before the end of 2021. We also expect about 20 of our sponsored students will graduate from colleges of universities once the 2020-21 academic year ever comes to an end, thus ending their CPG sponsorship. As a result CPG expects to be supporting 87 students during the primary and secondary school year for 2021, and the post-secondary year for 2021-22.

EDUCATIONAL SUMMARY AS WE ENTER THE 2021 ACADEMIC YEAR FOR SPONSORED PRIMARY & SECONDARY SPONSORED STUDENTS, AND THE 2021-22 ACADEMIC YEAR FOR SPONSORED POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS



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1. Total number of students receiving a sponsorship from CPG since 2006 = **256**
2. Number of students who have passed through CPG's student sponsorship program = **166**
3. Number of students who dropped out before graduating from secondary school = **7**
4. Number of students who went as far as a secondary school graduation = **16**
5. Number of students who graduated from secondary school, and went on to study at college or university = **143**
($143/166 \times 100\% = 70.4\%$ of all students who have passed through our student sponsorship program)
6. Presently, during the 2021 primary & secondary school year, and the 2021-22 post-secondary academic year, CPG expects to be sponsoring 87 students:
 - 3 in primary school (foster care)
 - 34 attending secondary schools
 - 50 attending colleges or universities