



# Friends of Londiani Annual Report 2009





FRIENDS OF LONDIANI IRELAND  
MARAFIKI WA LONDIANI

*Annual Report 2009*

Front Page photo – FOL Kenya staff member and Irish volunteer, August 2009



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## Message from the Chairperson

FOL has grown from a small organisation in 2002 to a well-established nationwide charity in 2009. In 2009, FOL continued the organisational development process, increasing our Board of Directors to 10 and initiating 5 new focus groups to work in the core areas of Health, Education and Water as well as Marketing and Finance. Our volunteer ethos continued, and in 2009 two “Harambee” volunteer projects travelled to Kenya – one in summer and one in autumn. The volunteers worked alongside the local communities to implement many projects including rainwater collection tanks, Lifeskills courses, maternal health courses, school health clubs and health surveys. Volunteers are at the core of Friends of Londiani and I would like to thank all our volunteers for continuously showing their commitment to FOL - it is truly appreciated. FOL prides itself in its volunteerism and without the volunteers’ commitment to FOL, the journey would not be possible.

Sustainability is the key to our success both here and in Kenya. It has a number of elements including partnerships and education. Partnerships with our volunteers, government Ministries, community groups and larger non-governmental organisations (NGO’s) all have a part to play.

In 2009 FOL continued its development of these partnerships in Ireland and in Kenya. FOL has a new partnership with University College Cork particularly the International Development Degree Course where we support their work experience programme. We have also linked with other third level colleges to provide research opportunities for students. Another exciting partnership is link between Mayo General Hospital and Londiani District Hospital which FOL is facilitating.

FOL’s position in Kipkelion is growing stronger and stronger and the organisation is now considered a major stakeholder in the District. We have very strong relationships with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education on the ground and partnerships with many community groups in the area. All plans complement the Ministries and partners in Kenya, thus contributing to the sustainability of FOL’s programmes.

The young people in Kipkelion are in need of assistance in many areas – education, employment, development. They have been deeply affected by the post election violence of 2008. FOL has assisted them in many ways – through youth meetings, sports tournaments, education bursaries and through bringing other partners to Kipkelion to work with them. Two such partners are the President’s Award in Kenya and the Kenyan Girl Guides Association. FOL believes in community leadership through shared advocacy and works with its partners to assist young people to become advocates and future leaders in their communities. FOL’s education bursary scheme has awarded 1,316 bursaries to primary, secondary and third level students since 2002. This is a long term investment in the communities in Kipkelion.



2009 was a difficult time for the economy worldwide. We have all experienced the negative impacts of the recession in our own lives. FOL is committed to working with the people of the Kipkelion District in Kenya to implement Water, Health and Education projects. However the implementation of these programmes is dependent on resources.

Recently questions have been asked by the Irish people about the effectiveness of aid; about the need to help those in faraway places when there are plenty of “our own” to be helped. I welcome this debate as every cent spent should be accounted for and we are confident of the effectiveness of FOL’s work. FOL has implemented development projects in communities in Kenya where a difference has been made – real change based on the communities self-identified needs. This includes more clean water tanks, children with improved educational opportunities, greater access to healthcare through the provision of an ambulance and ... the list is endless, but be assured that FOL has being the catalyst in the incredible change the people in Londiani have made to their lives. FOL’s work in Kenya is making real and positive differences to the lives of many.

FOL has been the beneficiary of Irish Aid’s Civil Society Fund since 2006. Overseas Aid is more important now than ever before. As with all disasters, economic or otherwise, the worlds’ most vulnerable people feel the effects of them most. Throughout 2009, FOL maintained its focus:

**We** must remember the voice of the poor.

**We** must continue to remember our commitments to achieving the MDGS by 2015.

**We** must remain committed to achieving our overseas aids targets as a nation.

FOL supported the “We Don’t Care Less” campaign in 2009, and will continue this support in 2010. FOL believes that Overseas Development Aid works – it saves lives, it provides healthcare, it supports education, human rights and the fight against poverty worldwide. Overseas Development Aid is affordable. Ireland’s Aid commitment still accounts for a very small share of national income – 70 cents in every €100. We will continue to work with Dochas to campaign for the achievement of the Overseas Aid targets by 2015.

I would like to thank all those who made our work this year a possibility – the Directors of Friends of Londiani, the Executive Director, the staff in Kenya, volunteers in Ireland and Kenya, each and every fundraiser and supporter.

Thank you for your time and commitment to the people of Kenya.

Maria Kidney  
Chairperson



## Major Achievements in 2009

### FOL delivers Ambulance to Londiani District Hospital



Friends of Londiani in partnership with Irish Aid funded and delivered an ambulance to Londiani District Hospital on 26th February 2009. Londiani District Hospital services the Kipkelion District of 206,000 people, and has no ambulance of its own. It is hoped that this ambulance will make a huge difference to the health of the people in the Kipkelion District.

### Operating Theatre begins in Londiani District Hospital

The 11<sup>th</sup> November was a historic day in Londiani as the "groundbreaking" ceremony for Londiani District Hospital took place. This theatre will serve the Kipkelion District of 206,000 people. Up to now, patients have to transfer to surrounding hospitals which are up to an hour away. This operating theatre will make a big difference to the community who have taken ownership of the project from the start. The project will be managed by the hospital management community and Friends of Londiani. Great celebrations were had by all, and St Kizitos Choir joined in the celebration with fantastic singing.



Friends of Londiani would like to acknowledge the support of Irish Aid and Mayo General Hospital with this project.



### FOL facilitates Link between Londiani District Hospital and Mayo General Hospital

The link project between Londiani District Hospital (LDH) and Mayo General Hospital (MGH) was officially agreed in February 2009. In October, teams from both Hospitals

met in Nairobi for an exploratory tour of various hospitals in Kenya - from the National Level to Community Level. This was followed by a workshop in Londiani which was facilitated by FOL and led to many interesting discussions which enhanced the link project. Throughout 2009, contact was maintained between the two Hospital teams and joint trainings occurred in November. The first project that both hospitals are working towards is the implementation of the "Baby Friendly" programme in both Mayo and Londiani.



## Alternative Rite of Passage for Teenage Girls

Female circumcision is an abuse of human rights and is practiced in some parts of the Kipkelion District. The community of Benditai and Sachangwan approached FOL to request help in eliminating this illegal practice from their society. FOL facilitated a training of women leaders with a Kenyan organisation called Tumndo ne Leel who had devised an alternative rite of passage for teenage girls so they can avoid the circumcision but still learn the traditions of their culture.



The women leaders then ran a four-day training for 50 girls who were at risk. After their graduation from the course, they marched 12km to their home village to raise awareness of the issue. Representatives from the Ministry of Health, Education, Gender and Children were all present for the community celebration.

This is FOL's first programme on this sensitive issue and FOL would like to commend the young girls and women who ran this pilot project. Together with FOL, this community can prevent the continuance of this harmful practice.



## FOL Host 17 Nationalities in Londiani

Friends of Londiani through a unique partnership project with the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) enabled 21 volunteers from 17 countries to travel to Londiani for 1 week and experience the ongoing community development projects that FOL is involved in.

Volunteers traveled from as far away as Canada, Lebanon, New Zealand, Denmark, The Maldives and Belize for the international Girl Guide Leaders event, the Juliette Low Seminar. The volunteers worked on Health Surveys, Committee Trainings, Summer Camps, Home Maintenance and Peer Education Lifeskills projects. They also surveyed the community water tanks projects, and assisted with a Maternal Health Course for Traditional Birth Attendants and Community Health Workers.



The interaction between the local community and the international volunteers was excellent with local youth groups providing a drama evening, and the local Kenyan Guides providing a fantastic welcome, and cultural entertainment.



## Volunteer Projects 2009

**Harambee 2009** was the summer project and was a huge success with 68 volunteers travelling to Kenya to partake in FOL's ongoing community development projects.

**Health 2009** was the Autumn project this year and this involved 33 volunteers from around Ireland working in Kenya for between 2 and 3 weeks.

FOL volunteers come from all walks of life and have one thing in common – to help FOL achieve its mission. Of the 101 volunteers who travelled to Kenya in 2009, 30 were return volunteers and their assistance and support throughout the projects is particularly noteworthy. The first-time volunteers were excellent in undertaking the FOL approach to development and everyone involved gave 100%. The age group of the volunteers ranged from 18 years to 72 years and the spread across the country included 13 counties and volunteers from Scotland and Australia. The summer projects took place in the villages of Londiani, Benditai and Ndubusat villages. In November, a team was located in the Kamasian Division for the entire 3 weeks while there were medical education courses in Molo and community projects in Londiani.



The communities were very receptive to the volunteers and the Village Health Surveys brought FOL to new areas of Kipkelion where they had never been before. This enabled FOL and the Ministry of Health to collect important information to feed into programme development but it also ensured that communities met with FOL and discussed the Healthy Village programme and began the needs analysis process.



## Ongoing Projects & Activities

In Kenya, Friends of Londiani is involved in many community development projects in the areas of health, education and water. FOL works jointly with the communities of the Kipkelion District of Kenya through equitable partnerships. This includes the communities in the town of Londiani and its surrounding villages such as Lelsothet, Benditai, Kamasian and Ndubusat. FOL has strong partnerships with the local representatives of the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Water and the Ministry of Education.

In Ireland, Friends of Londiani undertakes development education activities with volunteers, businesses, in schools, with community groups and other NGO's. This work helps to highlight the importance of global citizenship and creates an awareness of different cultures. FOL's education programme in Ireland includes activities from preschool through to fourth level research and incorporates both formal and informal education and advocacy for human rights.





## Advocacy on Development Issues

Friends of Londiani has a strong ethos of volunteering and values the involvement of volunteers throughout the organisation. FOL has adopted the Comhlámh Code of Conduct for volunteer organisations and completes the Comhlámh Code of Good Practice Self Audit on an annual basis.



Friends of Londiani is a member of Dochas – the Irish Association of Non-Governmental Development Organisations and adheres to the Irish Development NGO Code of Corporate Governance.



Friends of Londiani is a signatory of the Code of Conduct on Images and Messages and provides all volunteers with a training on the Code.

FOL took part in the We Don't Care Less campaign in 2009 which was coordinated by Dochas. It was aimed at both the Irish government and the Irish public and aimed to highlight the importance of honouring commitments to aid promises, in bad times as well as in good.

**We Don't Care Less**  
Keep Ireland's aid promise - 2012

## Events in Ireland in 2009

### The Fifth Annual Kenya Ball

Saturday, 18th April saw 300 people arrive in the Maryborough House Hotel, Cork for the Friends of Londiani Annual Kenya Ball. The night began with a VIP reception for the Board of Directors to welcome the night's special Guests – Mrs. Caroline Otengo, Embassy of Kenya, Ireland, Mrs. Patricia Gosch, Deputy Lord Mayor, Cork, Mr. Michael Martin, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Donal Horgan, Managing Director, Musgrave Retail Partners Ireland, Mr. Shea Fahy, HR Director, Musgrave Retail Partners Ireland, Mr. Conor Healy, CEO, Cork Chamber of Commerce and Mr. Eamonn Lenihan, Director for the Centre for Sustainable Livelihoods, UCC.



The Deputy Lord Mayor opened the ball and spoke of the work been done by FOL in Kenya. Having worked with Kenyans before, she spoke about the warmth and



generosity of the Kenyan people. Minister for Foreign Affairs, Michael Martin spoke of the work of the Irish government through Irish Aid in Africa. Mrs. Caroline Otengo thanked

Friends of Londiani for the support that they are giving to the people of Kenya. Maria Kidney, Chairperson of Friends of Londiani, spoke about hope, the past year in Friends of Londiani and asked the people present to look beyond the borders of our state in these difficult times and support those in need in Kenya in the future. The formalities concluded with a presentation of the highlights of the past year for FOL played to the sound of the voices of the St. Kizito's Choir in Londiani. The music and dancing continued in the early morning and the event proved to be another great fundraising event for the charity.

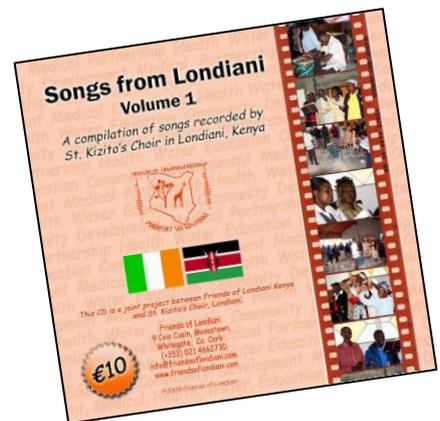


### FOL Mountain Challenge 2009

The weekend of the 15th May 2009 will remain in some people's minds for a long time. This was the weekend when 36 people from all over Ireland challenged themselves in the mountains of Connemara despite the very adverse weather conditions. The team arrived in Leenane on the Friday evening for a team briefing. Saturday morning dawned bright and early as the team headed for the Twelve Bens. The day started well, but after 2 hours the weather closed in. The teams battled on, and continued on the Twelve Bens Horseshoe for many hours with everyone reaching Ben Bhán, the highest mountain in the Bens. Despite the wind, rain and bitter cold, the atmosphere was electric on the mountains, and everyone participated 100%. The support team provided all the required refreshments that evening and Sunday morning dawned bright and early and the sun shone all day. Teams completed the walk on Sunday enjoying the superb views on the entire mountain range - a rewarding tribute to the teams fundraising efforts and the hard work the day before.

### Keyrings for Kenya and Choir CD Launch

Following on from the summer's successful community development projects, the FOL volunteers reunited for the launch of the Keyrings for Kenya campaign. The keyrings are produced in Kenya and help to promote the creativity of the communities in Kenya.



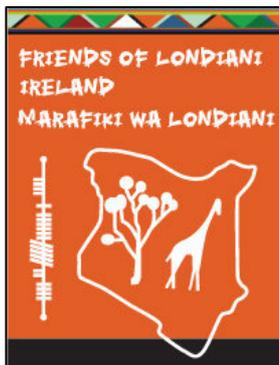
In September, the summer volunteer group gathered with Corkman Fr. Martin Barry who is the local Parish Priest in Londiani to celebrate the work of the summer projects and to launch both the Keyrings for Kenya and the St. Kizitos Choir CD. The 13 track CD features the Adult Choir who have produced a beautiful recordings of the songs used during Mass each week.



## FOL Christmas Merchandise

Friends of Londiani's Christmas campaign included the sales of 2010 Calendars and 2 different designs of Christmas cards. Collections were also held in various locations along with some carol-singing.

2009, also saw the launch of new design of the FOL Gift Vouchers. People can now 'gift' a safe motherhood kit, a water tank, a child's education or a Lifeskills course to the people of Londiani. This can be done in someone else's name or as a family present.



## New FOL Website

FOL redesigned some of its public relations materials in 2009 and created new formats for the bi-annual newsletter and the website. Feedback has been positive and both items are extremely useful in spreading the word about the work of FOL.

FOL also launched a Facebook page which has been very successful at reuniting volunteers and supporters across the globe.

## Hike for Secondary Schools Undertaking their Gaisce Awards

Friends of Londiani held a very successful hike for students from three schools in 2009 whose students were undertaking their Bronze Gaisce Award. The weekend took place in Glendalough under the careful supervision of experienced mountain guides who have volunteered with FOL. The event raised almost €1000 for Friends of Londiani's ongoing projects. Congratulations to the students of: Killinarden Community School, Tallaght, Dublin, Confey College, Co. Kildare and Kylemore College, Dublin.



## Radio Documentary

Independent journalist and broadcaster Stuart Bobbett travelled to Londiani with FOL in 2009 to record a 28 minute documentary on the ongoing projects which help fulfil the Millennium Development Goals. The broadcast "The Road to Londiani" was aired on Near Fm and is planned to go nationwide in 2010. The work was part funded by Simon Cumbers Media Fund. The documentary explored the role of volunteerism and how the money donated to FOL gets to grassroots projects in Londiani.



## Development Education Activities

### Student Placements

This year Friends of Londiani was fortunate to have the assistance of two students on placement with the organisation. Paul Farrell, a 4<sup>th</sup> year student in UCC, worked with FOL for 6 months from helping with the preparations and logistics support for the summer Harambee project. Paul FOL also had the temporary assistance of Deirdre Grant, a post-graduate student at University College London's Institute of Child Health. Deirdre was studying for a post-graduate diploma in International Child Health and completed some research for FOL on maternal and child health.



### Sustainable Development Conference

Friends of Londiani volunteers presented two interim research papers at the Sustainable Development Conference in the University of Limerick on 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> October. Gillian Finan present Dr. Meabh Ní Bhuinneain's paper on the situation of maternal deaths in Kenya and Helen Concannon has reported on the Healthy Village Model of Development as used by FOL and the local Public Health Office in Londiani.

### Volunteer Fairs

FOL took part in volunteering fairs in Dublin and Cork in 2009 and held 6 information evenings nationwide.



### School & Community Group Visits

Friends of Londiani continued to join students in their classrooms to explore global issues and learn about Kenya. FOL also joined with many youth groups such as Girl Guides units to work on activities relating to global justice. Community groups such as the Irish Countrywomen's Association and Faith and Justice Groups have also invited FOL to local events. FOL is delighted to work with groups on development education topics.





## FOL Organisational Structure

### Friends of Londiani Focus Groups

FOL established five focus groups in 2009 in the areas of Health, Water, Education, Finance and Marketing.

The **Health Focus Group** will assist FOL in facilitating the partnership link between Mayo General Hospital and Londiani District Hospital. It will work on the monitoring, evaluation and expansion of the Emergency Obstetric Care programme. It will expand the Healthy Village model and look into models of excellence in community outreach programmes. This team will also be responsible for the Lifeskills Peer Education programme.

The **Water Focus Group** will assist with the research, development and implementation of water programmes in Kenya. This will include the rainwater collection tanks, gravity systems and boreholes. They will also continue to develop the water care and maintenance courses for communities.



The **Education Focus Group** will research and develop the Healthy Environments for Children Alliance Club (HECA) materials to allow the programme to be rolled out in the District. This will be done in partnership with the Public Health Office and the Area Education Offices. The group will develop a youth and community development capacity building programme and work on development education programmes here in Ireland. This will include the development of the CSPE schools programme.

The **Marketing Focus Group** will be responsible for consistent messages across all FOL material, and will ensure that this messaging portrays FOL's ethos. It will be responsible for the production of all FOL PR and marketing material, press releases and branding.

The **Finance Focus Group** will be involved in the co-ordination of fundraising events throughout the year. They will be responsible for investigating new funding opportunities for FOL, and generating new ideas for fundraising. This team will work very closely with the Marketing Focus Group.



## FOL Board Update

Friends of Londiani's Board of Directors expanded in 2009 and were delighted to welcome three new members to the Board. Each of them brings a wealth of experience and skills to the table. Sincere thanks to the new Directors for their commitment to FOL and the communities in Kenya. As we say in Swahili, Karibu (welcome).

**Mr. John Spillane** – John has retired as Managing Director of Mercier Press and lives in Fountainstown, Co. Cork. He has traveled to Kenya with FOL many times and enjoys using the skills he learnt through his hobby of beekeeping to help communities in Kenya. His other hobbies of traveling and choral singing have also been utilized by FOL.



**Mr. Shea Fahy** - Shea joined Musgrave as Senior HR Manager in April 2001 from IBEC. Prior to this Shea worked in the Defence Forces for a number of years. Shea was appointed to the position of HR Director in February 2003. Musgrave are long term supporters of FOL through the education bursary scheme. Shea believes that developing people is key and certainly does that through his role both in and out of work. He has played for both Kildare and Cork and so is no stranger to teamwork.

**Dr. Meabh Ní Bhuinneáin** – Meabh first volunteered with FOL in 2005 and has been back to Kenya many times since and is now leading the Hospital Link between Londiani District Hospital and Mayo General Hospital. Meabh graduated from UCD in 1990 and works as a consultant obstetrician and gynecologist since 2001 in Mayo General. Her interests include global reproductive health, teaching and training.

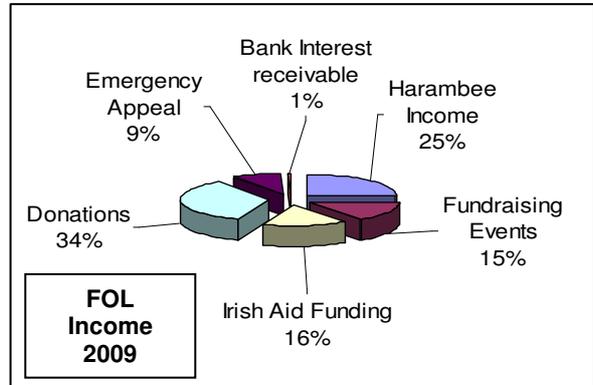




## Funding

Friends of Londiani depends on national fundraising events, private donations, local fundraising by volunteers, business donations and grants.

Irish Aid is the Government of Ireland's programme of assistance to developing countries. Friends of Londiani received funding from the Department of Foreign Affairs through Irish Aid in 2009. This grant was specifically for



Water, HIV/AIDS and Medical projects and will be used to part-fund these projects. FOL gratefully acknowledges their support. Friends of Londiani would like to thank Musgrave Retail Partners Ireland for their support of Education Bursaries in Kenya in 2009. Their support gave 90 children the opportunity to attend school. Without the bursary, the recipients would not have been able to attend school. The bursaries form an integral part of FOL's work towards the Millennium Development Goals.



### ACC bank

ACC Bank supported FOL's Health programme implementation in 2009 including the ambulance purchase in Londiani hospital, and maternal health courses. We would like to express our sincere thanks to ACC Bank for their assistance and continued support.



### Electric Aid

Electric Aid continued to assist FOL in 2009 with the provision of assistance in the building of classrooms in Ndubusat Girls Secondary school. These classrooms, together with the dormitory previously funded by Electric Aid continue to give an educational opportunity to the girls in Ndubusat and surrounding villages.



### ASTI – Association of Secondary Teachers Ireland

ASTI assisted FOL in 2009 with the provision of assistance in the building of classrooms in Ndubusat Girls Secondary school. These classrooms have increased the educational opportunity to the girls in Ndubusat and surrounding villages.





## Financial Report 2009

### Revenue Account For the Year Ended 31 December 2009

	2009	2008
	€	€
<b>INCOME</b>		
Harambee Income	169,074	-
Fundraising Events	99,947	95,496
Irish Aid Funding	103,972	113,394
Donations	232,150	87,126
Emergency Appeal	58,266	91,848
	<u>663,409</u>	<u>387,864</u>
<b>INTEREST RECEIVABLE</b>		
Bank Interest receivable	4,611	4,471
	<u>4,611</u>	<u>4,471</u>
<b>GROSS INCOME</b>	<u>668,020</u>	<u>392,335</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Ongoing Projects	321,495	241,104
Harambee Team Costs	124,640	15,591
Fundraising Costs	51,568	44,772
General Admin Costs	22,175	20,147
Organisational Dev Costs	11,891	17,452
Emergency Funds	58,266	91,848
Foreign Exchange Losses	(2,114)	8,212
	<u>587,921</u>	<u>439,126</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	80,099	(46,791)
Transfer to Educational Fund		
<b>Surplus for the Year after Transfers</b>	<u>80,099</u>	<u>(46,791)</u>

### Balance Sheet As at 31 December 2009

	€	€
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Stocks	5,047	9,350
Debtors and prepayments	5,280	21,895
Cash at bank and in hand	327,783	300,546
Designated Bank Funds	16,174	27,046
	<u>354,284</u>	<u>358,837</u>
<b>CREDITORS</b> (Amounts falling due within one year)	<u>(135,221)</u>	<u>(219,873)</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<u>219,063</u>	<u>138,964</u>
<b>RESERVES</b>		
Revenue Account	169,063	88,964
Educational Fund	50,000	50,000
	<u>219,063</u>	<u>138,964</u>

These Financial Statements were prepared by Deloitte & Touche on 22nd May 2010.



## Structure & Management of Friends of Londiani

### Mission

The mission of Friends of Londiani is to work with the people of Londiani and its surrounding villages to develop and complete sustainable community projects to enable and empower the people to achieve an improved quality of life based on their values and become the authors of their own development. The Friends of Londiani will endeavour to achieve these goals in a spirit of co-operation and mutual respect with one another and with the people of the area. This partnership will enable members of Friends of Londiani to further develop skills and a deeper cultural understanding.

### Vision

The vision of Friends of Londiani is for the people of the Kipkelion District of Kenya to have an improved quality of life based on Kenyan values. This development will occur through participation in community projects. The projects will be implemented through partnerships based on the local communities self-identified needs in the areas of health, education, water provisions and sanitation.

The importance of cooperation will be evident in the work of the charity and its sustainability will be apparent through the involvement of the communities and their ownership of the projects

### Legal status

Friends of Londiani was founded in 2002 by a group of Irish volunteers who worked in partnership with the people of Londiani on community development projects. A Board of Directors was established in 2005 and the group was officially registered as an Irish Charity. FOL is recognised by the Revenue Commissioners as having registered charity status and the charity number is CHY16505. Friends of Londiani is a Limited Company registered with the Companies Office since February 2005 and the registered company number is 398094.

Friends of Londiani Ireland works in partnership with Friends of Londiani Kenya, a registered Non-Governmental Organisation in Kenya.

### Organisation

#### *Board of Directors and Management Team*

FOL is governed by the Board of Directors. The Board is composed of 9 Non-Executive Directors plus the Executive Director. The Board meet 3 times a year and has ultimate responsibility for directing the affairs of Friends of Londiani, ensuring it is solvent, well-run and delivering the outcomes for which it has been set up. The Board is responsible for the strategic direction of FOL, safeguards the ethos of FOL and is responsible for the audit and finance of Friends of Londiani including money, insurance and legalities. The Directors have responsibility for, and are aware of the risks associated with the operating activities of FOL. Adequate systems of internal control are in place which aim to ensure compliance with laws and policies, ensure efficient and effective use of resources, safeguard assets and maintain the integrity of financial information produced. Financial information is subject to detailed review at Board level.

In between Board meetings, the day-to-day management of the organisation is delegated to the Management Team. This team consists of the Executive Director and three members of the Board. They meet on a monthly basis and ensure the actions from Board meetings are carried out, organise national events and coordinate the organisation of volunteer projects.

#### *Focus Groups*

Friends of Londiani has five Focus Groups that are run by individuals who volunteer their expertise and time to FOL across a number of key areas – both programme and organisation. They report directly to the Executive Director.

### Staff & Operations

Day to day operations are undertaken by the Executive Director who is the sole staff member of FOL Ireland. From time to time 3<sup>rd</sup> party services are provided to FOL and these are coordinated by the Executive Director. These include suppliers, auditors and solicitors.

### Volunteers

The Board of Directors wishes to gratefully acknowledge the work of Friends of Londiani volunteers here in Ireland and in Kenya. FOL relies on its volunteers to participate in its development education programme and fundraising activities. Communities in Kenya depend on the spirit of volunteerism to achieve their desired project aims. FOL regularly runs Harambee volunteer projects which enable Irish volunteers to experience the community development projects in Kenya.

### Programme Areas

These programmes are based on helping to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, implementing the Kenyan Ministry of Health Community Health Strategy and are in line with the Government of Kenya Kipkelion District Plan.

- *The Health Programme* includes public and clinical health and involves FOL working closely with the Ministry of Health to ensure consistency with mainstreaming opportunities and the Ministry of Health "Norms & standards for Health Service Delivery" document.



- *The Water Programme* looks at the sourcing, quality & security and distribution of water to the District. This includes management, metering & maintenance of the water supply and ensuring access for villages across the District.
- *The Education Programme* includes both formal and non formal education and includes supporting the Kenyan education system and community education.
- *The Bethel Children's Home Programme* is developing as a Healthy Homestead. There is a children's home, school, tea room, a farm and a water source within the compound. Based on the Healthy Village plan and the Millennium Development Goals, the needs and the services provided by the home will be improved so as to better meet the wider needs of orphans currently in the region and children (of all conditions & abilities) in the future.
- *The Development Education Programme* is to deepen peoples understanding of global issues and encourage people to act to create a more just and equal world.

**Programme Objectives 2008-2011**

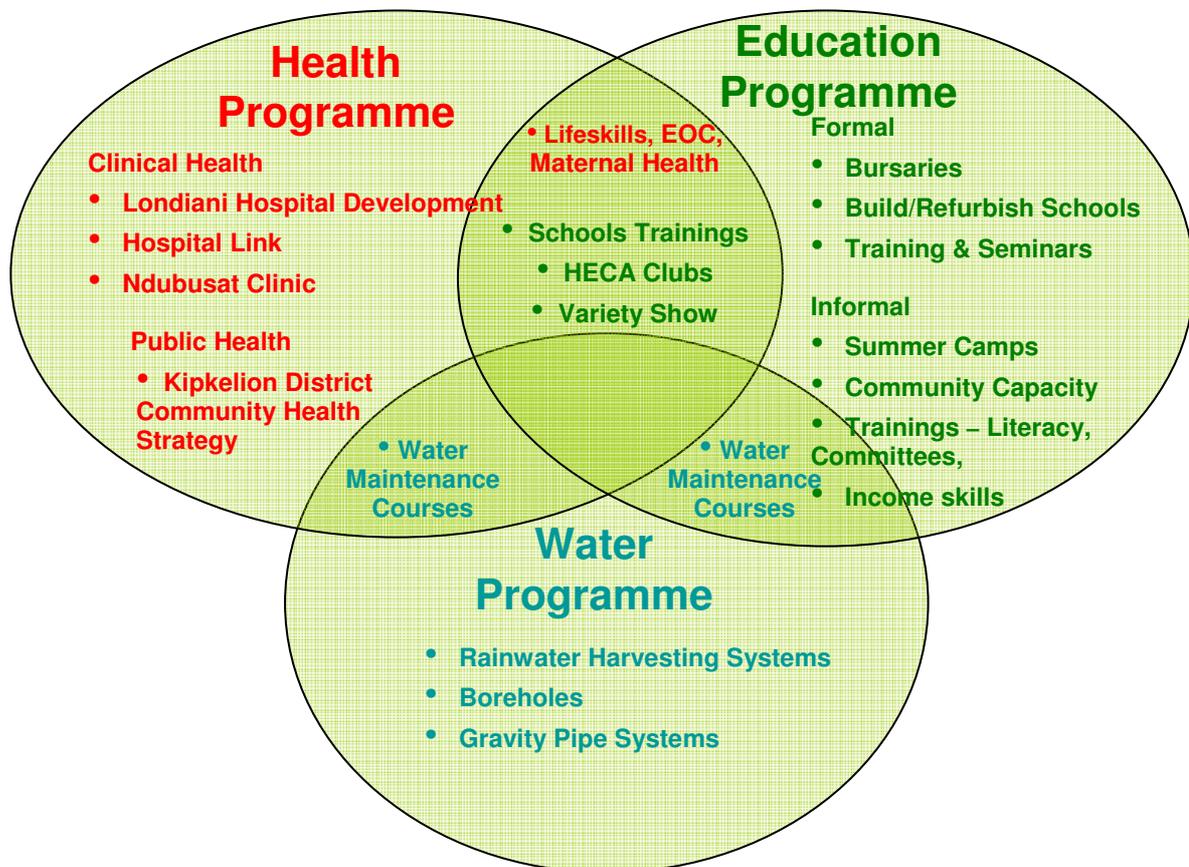
*Health Programme Objective:* To consolidate the existing district & community level health services so that they best meet community needs and to consolidate the "Healthy Village" model in those villages where it has been introduced and to roll-out the "Healthy Village" model to the remaining villages as part of a coordinated approach to community healthcare in Londiani

*Water Programme Objective:* To provide potable water to villages from secure sources with well-managed distribution systems consistent with the "Healthy Village" development plan.

*Education Programme Objective:* To consolidate the work in the school & community-based education structures and develop a strong relationship with the District Ministry of Education and design a 3 year Education Programme .

**Future Developments**

FOL has a three-year strategic plan in place for the period of 2008 to 2011. This plan commits FOL to continue its work in the programme areas explained above. FOL's ethos of volunteerism will continue to be an integral part of FOL's work and the key partnership with Friends of Londiani Kenya will continue to develop. FOL Ireland has completed an organisation development process in Ireland and will support FOL Kenya through a similar process to ensure sustainability of all levels of the organisation.





## Directors of Friends of Londiani

### Board of Directors

Ms. Maria Kidney, Chairperson

Ms. Helen Concannon, Vice Chairperson

Mrs. Hazel Murphy, Secretary

Mr. Joe Willis, Treasurer

Mr. Gerard Murphy

Ms. Deirdre Henley

*From May 2009*

Dr. Meabh Ní Bhuinneáin

Mr. Shea Fahy

Mr. John Spillane

### Executive Director

Mr. Martin Ballantyne

## Friends of Londiani Contact Details

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