

Evaluation Shubi training at Patandi Teachers' College in October 2011

Date: December 11th, 2011

Present board members:

Ingrid van der Laan (chairwoman), Diane van Diemen (secretary), Martijn Toll (treasurer), Cor Pouw, Suzanne Jansen-Spit



Shubi Foundation organised a training from October 17th-28th 2011. In February 2011 the principal of Patandi Teachers College, Mrs Zaina Kabelwa, requested a training from Shubi Foundation. We replied in July 2011 "The Shubi board decided that we like to continue the annual Shubi training to Diploma 1 and 2 students as we have done since 2007." And we confirmed our plans by phone.

This report is composed after an oral evaluation with the Dutch trainers in November 2011. And it contains the conclusions from a written evaluation by course participants.

This report will be mailed to all trainers, Mrs Kabelwa, the Ministry and posted on the Shubi website.

The course objectives

Course participants will learn basic skills and knowledge about hearing examination, communication, sign language and hearing aid fitting. They will use and improve their skills in a unit for the deaf in provision support to hearing impaired children. They will get insight in their own skills and knowledge in working with deaf pupils and colleagues. Diploma 2 students who participate for the second time will rehearse and bring their skills at a higher level and make a plan for their own future learning.

Shubi Foundation created a list of talented students and those were invited to assist the trainers during the 2 week course. They will improve their skills and knowledge by the method teach-to-teach. The whole team of trainers will discuss possibilities in Tanzania to improve organisation of education and care for deaf children in Tanzania. They teach the participants and give them ongoing positive feedback and find out what kind of study-materials are useful. Shubi Foundation creates a new list of talented students.

What deaf children can expect from this Shubi training

Shubi aims at improvement of communicative abilities¹ of deaf pupils at Patandi unit, Meru unit and Ilboro unit.

The pupils will be examined. If it might be useful hearing aids will be fitted or repaired and earmoulds will be fitted.

During this 2 week training their teachers will get some new information.

Future professionals, diploma students and Shubi assistant trainers, will learn to use new skills and knowledge in their work as teachers (of the deaf) during some sessions with those pupils during this training or during future internships at the units.

Volunteers present at this training

Four Shubi trainers participated: Salum Abdulrazak, Monique van der Heijden, Cor Pouw, Wil van der Valk-Romeijn. They were assisted by Bilali Makalani, Hubert Mmbaga, Issa Kambi, Angel(icar) Ndunguru, Isabela Remmy and Esborn Rusota. One trainer and 6 assistants are from Tanzania and three trainers from the Netherlands.

Cynthia van Hest was responsible for logistics. Margriet van Gendt executed a project about hearing aids.

Group size of course participants

Shubi received a list of course participants before the start of the training.

45 students of Patandi TC were participating and 1 former certificate student asked permission and joined the training as a participant. 27 of them were diploma 1 students and 18 were diploma 2 students.

The Shubi trainers composed 4 groups; two groups with diploma 1 students and two groups with diploma 2 students.

Content of the training

¹ When deaf diploma students or deaf tutors are present at Patandi TC during training, Shubi will assess them and provide hearing-aids and advice if it is requested and possible.



Audiometry

Mrs Van der Valk and Mr Abdulrazak were assisted by Mr Rusota, Mr Mmbaga and Isabella Remmy. They are teachers at a secondary school in daily life. Only diploma 2 students were able to tell what they want to learn during this training, because they are already aware of the possibilities. Diploma 1 students learned basic knowledge and skills in audiometry. At the end of the training they can only make reliable audiograms when they are supervised by the trainers. Diploma 2 students rehearsed audiometry and the learned to do speech audiometry and tympanometry testing. They were involved in hearing aid check up and fitting by observing the procedures. Files were used to collect examination results, diagnose and advice. The former certificate student, Ally Uwesu, performed excellent. He received a screening audiometer to make more audiograms at his school.

Ear mould manufacturing

This topic was taught by Mr Pouw to diploma 2 students. He was assisted by Mr Makalani and Mr Kambi. Mr Kambi taught the diploma 1 students. The assistants need more training by Mr Pouw in future.

Communication

This topic was taught by Ms Van der Heijden, e.g. Hanen, roles teachers play, sign language, total communication, auditory training, She was assisted by Mrs Ndunguru who studies in Lushoto University in daily life. Several themes were discussed and many role plays were performed. Also pupils from Patandi unit were present in one session. Students appreciate the way Shubi performs the training of skills and attitudes. During this training they could exercise in role plays and in real situation. They experienced the effect of their communication strategies and received feedback by peers and trainers. There was attention for last year recommendation to focus more on older children.

Shubi was putting on new materials. The CD ' alama' from Chavita was used and was useful, a new sign language book from 'Tanzatoto' was discussed and a booklet from Chaviza (in press) about communication seems to be useful.

The trainers noticed that participants try to use new signs in their lessons, but more training is necessary to use all elements of signs in a proper way (oral components, mimic). The participants don't seem to realise how to communicate with children with and without hearing aids in a most efficient way.

Support of hearing impaired children in the area

During the training about 35 children from the 3 units of the deaf were examined, 10 of them received hearing aids. Five adults had been examined who are employees or students at schools or units for the deaf. Many earmoulds were produced for children who received new hearing aids or already had them. Because ears grow, ear moulds need to be replaced now and then.

The Shubi team was disappointed that no hearing aids were in use at Ilboro, while they were provided last year and still in use in February. The teacher was held responsible and got new information about hearing aid use. At first the school was reluctant to visit PTC for hearing examination, because of the money to make the trip by bus. Shubi organised a parent meeting at this unit. One parent stood up for the children's rights and all pupils went to PTC in the end. His child received a clear diagnose about the hearing loss. After trying a listening aid to this child it was clear that a hearing aid could help her. She was fitted with a hearing aid. The parent, teacher and students got proper information about how to help the child to get used to the hearing aid and how to keep it clean etc.

The problems at this unit will be followed up!

The a listening aid 'Comfort Duet' proved to be usefull several times, because one child started to speak, while audiometry gave no reliable results. She was provided with a hearing aid.

Organisational aspects

Cynthia van Hest and Cor Pouw were present in Tanzania some days before the training started. That was very useful to keep in touch with the manager of PTC and all trainers to confirm their presence. Materials were copied or inspected and repaired.

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It is rather time consuming, but the advantage is that it offers some income for local employers.

Technical support from Mr Pouw is necessary.

Certification

All participants received a Shubi certificate some of them with the remark good and 2 of them with the remark 'excellent': Mr Ally Uwesu and Mr Noel P Frank.

Manuals

The manuals will do in the current form. New useful materials have been identified about communication also in Swahili.

General remarks from Dutch and Tanzanian Shubi volunteers

The cooperation in the Shubi team was wonderful. Communication from the Netherlands with Tanzanian trainers is still not possible in the preparation phase. It is however possible to invite trainers and get confirmation. Margriet van Gendt spend to lessons with Patandi tutors.

At the moment that the training started it became clear that Mrs Kabelwa had a different point of view about training arrangements. This lead to several discussions. The problem for Shubi was that arrangements were made in advance and the team did what was agreed on. The discussions were not held in a good atmosphere.

Evaluation by course participants

Margriet van Gendt carried out the evaluation by course participants at the last day of the Shubi course. In the attachment you will find the overview. The response rate was 74%.

Future planning of training

The board members and volunteers are very satisfied with the cooperation between Dutch and Tanzanian volunteers.

Follow-up of hearing-aid use at all units will be important. It would be nice to continue supporting some of these schools in the area. It was nice to have some parents involved.

The Shubi board will adjust plans. Mr Pouw will respond to the difficult discussions with Mrs Kabelwa. And new arrangements need to be made with the management of Patandi TC by the Shubi board.

Some other possible partner organisations have been identified. It is necessary to make arrangements with them as well to improve care and education.

List of students with good qualification in 2011

Noel P. Frank, diploma 2 student (Also good in 2010 as a diploma 1 student).

Ally Uwesu, former certificate student (Also good in 2010 as certificate student).

Attachment: Evaluation Shubi training PTC_student evaluation