

Friends of Marimanti

Annual report 2025



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Introduction

Friends of Marimanti, founded in December 2022, is a Kenyan - Dutch foundation. The foundation aims to support sustainable projects and measures to improve quality of care in Marimanti Hospital and surrounding health centers. As the year 2023 was all about signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the county minister of Health and fundraising, 2024 focused on phase one of building the solar system to save money on electricity bills and to ensure electrical supply at night in the maternity ward.

In March 2025, a general nurse from Marimanti Hospital started her two-year training in neonatal care in Gertrude's Children's Hospital, Nairobi. Also, two medical students from the Erasmus University in Rotterdam, The Netherlands, were welcomed in Marimanti Hospital for their internship; they stayed for the period of six weeks.

Next to these educational projects, rebuilding of the maternity ward was planned to be financed with the money saved by the solar system. Also phase two of the solar system to expand the power supply for the whole hospital was intended. However, due to delay in decision making from governmental side, these last two topics on rebuilding and power supply were not executed in 2025. In November 2025, Marimanti Hospital and the county government were visited by Mimosa Bruinooge, co-chair of the foundation. The two issues were discussed, and decisions were made for 2026.

Visits to Marimanti

In November 2025, Mimosa paid a visit to Marimanti Hospital and the administration in Chuka hospital, to encourage collaboration and initiative for action. More information about this visit can be found in the full report available on the website of the foundation, www.friendsofmarimanti.org.

Solar System

The solar system of which Phase 1 was finalized in December 2024, has been running throughout the year. The system has saved between 80.000 and 90.000 KSh (500-600 euro) per month on electricity bills. This money will be spent on the renovation of the maternity ward when the complete rebuilding plan and drawings are available and accepted by the full board of our foundation. The plan and drawings are under the responsibility of the governmental architect.

Renovation of the maternity ward

As written above, the renovation has not started yet. However, an investigation into the needs has been made by interviewing maternity staff and patients. Results showed that there is need for a new labour room with privacy, space for a companion, more delivery beds and a bathroom /toilet amenity around the labour and delivery area. Also, the delivery beds and chairs should be adjustable to ensure safe delivery and repair of tears. There is a need for newborn unit to be strategically placed near the postnatal ward. These results will be considered while making plans to rebuild the maternity ward.

Improvement of quality of care

In 2025 the foundation was not actively involved in a specific goal to improve quality of care, other than the ongoing projects.

Education

Pediatric Specialization Training

Nurse Caroline Kawira has started her Paediatric Critical Care Nursing training in Gertrude's Children's Hospital in Nairobi. This training will take two years; she is due to complete the training in April 2027. She reports that the training is educative and practical and that she has rotated in Kenyatta University Teaching Research and Referral Hospital Pediatric Intensive Care Unit for 4 weeks, Kenyatta National Hospital Pediatric Burns Unit for 4 weeks, Gertrudes Pediatric Intensive Care Unit for 6 weeks, MP Shah renal Unit for 4 weeks and Mater ICU for 2 weeks.

On-the-job education in the maternity ward

Education in the ward has been done by Dr Grace Kanyi. She shared links to presentations on several topics, like Amniotic Fluid Embolism, Pre-eclampsia & Eclampsia as well as Maternal Collapse. The foundation has not been asked to be involved.

ISUOG Basic Ultrasound online course

Although this course was offered to the doctors in Marimanti Hospital, no one has followed this course.

Special cases fund

No special cases were presented for support during 2025.

Other developments/achievements in 2025

Rotary Grant

The Rotary Global Grant has been raised as an opportunity to improve maternal and neonatal care in Marimanti Hospital. The grant has been discussed within the board. Draft proposal will first be written by the Kenyan site, being part of the Annual Plan 2026. The Dutch part of the foundation will take part in finalizing the proposal.

Dutch Interns

Marimanti Hospital welcomed two interns in 2025. They have been attending to the doctors and nurses in the hospitals for a period of 6 weeks. The internship seems to be very useful for the students as well as for the medical staff in the hospital. The students are also actively involved in improving care since they organize on-the-job education concerning specific subjects, for example, care for patients with burns. An MoU is in progress between the Erasmus University in Rotterdam (NL), the local Government and the board of Marimanti Hospital.

Level IV to Level V Hospital

Marimanti Hospital is due to get the status of Level V Hospital. Dr Njoroge, the medical officer in charge, has been replaced by Dr Henry Muchiri to receive this level V status. Dr Njoroge is now working as a medical doctor in Chuka but is still in close contact with Marimanti Hospital and will stay seated as co-chair of the foundation.

Fundraising

In January 2025, more than 1000 euro was raised by a friend. She celebrated her 50th birthday and asked the party guests to donate to the foundation.

The catholic church in Kwadendamme and Hansweert, The Netherlands, raised 3000 euro for the foundation with a special action. Piet Bruinooge gave a presentation about Friends of Marimanti to the church members (see picture below).

Enthusiasm of the Dutch interns visiting Marimanti Hospital has resulted in several donations from their family members or relations.

The search for new sponsors is a continuous process.



Financial Report 2025

| Income and expenditure 2025 | Account 2024 | Account 2025 |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| Income | | |
| Gifts | 21.680,21€ | 10.892,20€ |
| → Total income | 21.680,21€ | 10.892,20€ |
| Expenses | | |
| Costs Rabobank/website | 256,74 | 405,64 |
| Declarations / management costs | 1.780,01 | 249,72 |
| TNC Friends of Marimanti | 22.000,00 | 3.843,90 |
| → Total expenses | 24.036,75 | 4.499,26 |
| Result | - 2.356,54 | + 6.392,94 |
| Financial overview Rabobank (31-12-25) | 12.795,07€ | 19.188,01€ |

Explanation:

Based on Dutch legal provisions, the annual accounts do not need to be audited by an external accountant but are submitted to the supervisory board.

Furthermore, the expenditure for the relevant goals is monitored in close consultation with the Kenyan partners. The Kenyan partners account for the expenditure incurred through bank statements.

There is no remuneration of directors. No loans, advances or guarantees have been provided to directors.

The donations are tracked via the transaction overview. It is not possible to trace all donors because not all (email) addresses are known and part of the donations are received via the QR code.

The costs of the Rabobank concern the regular costs and the costs incurred to transfer the money to the Kenian account; these costs are paid by the Dutch account holder.

The declarations/management costs concern additional costs for the website and costs for flyers.

The costs transferred to TNC Friends of Marimanti concern the Education Higher National Diploma Pediatric Nursing as described earlier.

There is sufficient balance to transfer the costs for the further completion of the 2nd phase of the solar panels. (Quote 07-10-25: KES 1.984.245,00; converted 13.124,18€; exchange rate 06-01-26) However, the condition is that 2nd phase of the solar panels will be implemented only if renovation of the Maternity Ward has started as agreed.

Conclusion

The main goal as formulated in our annual plan for 2025 was to finish the solar project and start with renovation of the maternity ward. Unfortunately, due to constraints from governmental side, it was impossible for the foundation to proceed. We expect that the visit in November has supported to encourage action so we can proceed with phase 2 of the solar projects in 2026.

We are happy that we were able to sponsor a nurse for further education and proud that she is doing well. Our other goals are “Work in progress”.



Board members and contact details

Board members, the Netherlands

Dr. Mimosa Bruinooge, co-chair

Mr. Piet Bruinooge, co-treasurer

Dr. Myrrith Hulsbergen, secretary

Dr. Senned Karrar, public relations

Board members, Kenya

Dr. Andrew Njoroge, co-chair

Dr. Martin Mawira, co-treasurer

Mr. Stephen Kamanja, general board member

Mrs. Angelica Mutuura, advising party

Supervisory Board

Dr. Irene de Vries, chair

Prof. Dr. Jelle Stekelenburg, secretary

Mr. Alex Muia, financial advisor

Address Marimanti Hospital

Marimanti, Tharaka Nithi, Kenya

Website “Friends of Marimanti”

<https://www.friendsofmarimanti.org/>