

Welcome to Angel's Center's 12th edition newsletter. We are excited to get this year rolling with some exciting events planned for it.

We greatly appreciate your kindness, continued, faithful support towards our ministry of improving the quality of life for children with special needs. Your personal incredible commitment towards Angel's center helps and allows us to reach our goal.

Inside this issue...

- Beginning of the new term
- Children's Christmas party.
- Inclusive education training.
- Activities of children at the center.
- Support from Anneke Lautenberg
- Life Planning Tips For Parents Of A Special Needs Child.
- Next plans
- Reflection of Angel's Center income for 2016



"Every Child Matters"

Beginning of term one 2017

Term one of 2017 officially opened on the 6th February. We had new admissions of 3 children who have joined Angel's Centre to receive different therapy services. A parents meeting was also conducted to initially prepare and plan with both parents and staff members on the activities to be carried out in the term. A total number of 14 parents; 5 males and 9 females attended the meeting.

Children's Christmas party

In November last year, Angel's Center organized a Christmas party for children and it took place at Kavumba Recreation Center in Wakiso District. Children were involved in a number of different co-curricular activities such as horse and donkey riding, swimming, playing and jumping on the bouncing castle. All children received presents from the Belgian volunteers and these included clothes, shoes, bed sheets, and other play items for children.



Inclusive Education training:

In December 2016, Angel's Center conducted a capacity building training for teachers from the Partner schools. The fast session involved evaluation test with the teachers. The main purpose of the evaluation test was to assess the extent to which inclusive education project has been achieved in the partner schools. The training also involved providing range of planned activities for example teachers participated in making different teaching or learning aids using local resources that can be used to teach a child with special needs. More so, during the training, the teachers were awarded certificates of attendance for participating in increasing enrolment of disabled children into Mainstream education.



Support from Anneke

Anneke Lautenberg was once our Volunteer in the 2014. During her time at the Center, she made tremendous changes with children and also staff members through equipping them knowledge and the new skills in Applied Behavior Analysis and management with special needs children. With her kindness and commitment, in November 2016, Anneke faithfully supported the Angel's Center with 25kgs of rice, 12kgs of cowpeas, 10 liters jerrican of cooking oil, 5kgs of beans and 1 small basin of Irish potatoes. We greatly appreciate your incredible commitment towards children with special needs through improving the quality of their lives.



Activities of children at the center

Early learning is going on smoothly with various learning themes for children. The Applied Behavioral analysis (ABA) approach and techniques have helped children especially those with autism learn new ways of interacting with others and improve their academic skills. It has also helped children learn to replace difficult behavior with more appropriate behavior for example using words to ask for an object rather than screaming, taking turns, dressing and toileting.

Incidental teaching has been used to improve language and other communication skills in children at the center. It has helped children transfer skills from one situation to another and to encourage them to start conversations. Incidental learning has mainly been used in natural occurring opportunities for instance play time; children being engaged in different games to develop their skills.



The above photos show children learning different themes with help volunteers and teachers



The above photos show the speech therapist training parents on how to handle children during frustrating situations and managing challenging behavior at home

On the other side, physiotherapy and speech therapy have also been going on at the center. Speech therapy has involved parents into the intervention process. This has helped parents make efforts to understand their child's diagnosis and become active participants in the process. Information sharing from parents with the therapists understands how a child responds and how to manage their challenging behaviors at home hence this has provided consistency in working with the child in therapy sessions and at home

Life Planning Tips For Parents Of A Special Needs Child.

If you're a parent, chances are you've thought at least a little about your child's future; financial planning, education, and how to ensure they'll be taken care of after you're gone. For parents of a child with special needs, there are many more considerations, and it can be overwhelming to try and plan for the future. There are so many things to think about, not the least of which is making sure they'll be able to live a happy, safe, comfortable life as adults.

Fortunately, there are many resources out there to draw upon, and organizations that will help you figure out the best path for your child should something happen to you. Here are some of the best tips on how to ensure your child will be well taken care of.

Do some research

It's important to check out all the programs available to your child because of his needs and take advantage of them. These include government benefits for healthcare, education, supervision, and cost-of-living benefits.

Write down your plan

No matter what your plans are, you'll need to write them down and make it official. A letter of intent will make things run smoothly in the event of your death or long term illness, and can include things such as your desire for your child to have a guardian (and who it will be), your education plans, and how your estate should be handled. Keep in mind that a letter of intent is different from a will, and that if you name your child in a will as a beneficiary, they may not qualify for state or federal benefits in the future.

Set up a trust

Consult a lawyer who has experience in special needs trusts to ensure your child will be well taken care of even after you're gone. These trusts are designed to protect the child and preserve his assets, and the money does not factor in where government benefits like SSI or Medicaid.

Talk to your family

Let your family know your plans and talk to

them about your expectations and the best ways to help your child in the event of your death. Having a support system can mean the world, for both you and your child.

Build up your savings

It's important to have some amount of savings built up in order to ensure that you can help pay for any treatment, therapy, or educational costs your child might incur, as some of these might not be paid for by government programs. Having some money saved back (in your name) will give you peace of mind.

Consider your child's adult needs

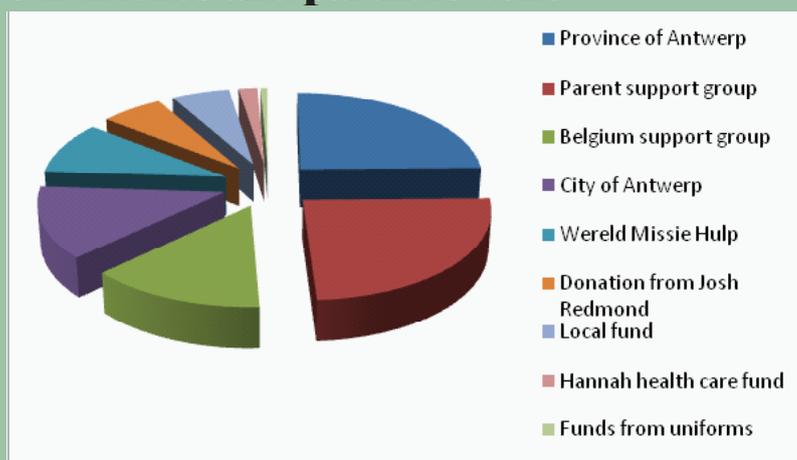
Once your child turns about 21, he'll likely not be eligible for public school services anymore. If his needs are such that he'll require a caretaker, now is a good time to think about how you'll acquire one and how you'll pay for their services. Or, you can arrange for an adult day care class.

Author: *Jenny Wise*

Our work plan for the second quarter

- Preparing intervention assessment reports for children.
- Conducting CBR or home visits in the month of May.
- Production of learning resources or items by the teachers to improve the early learning center.
- Parents' quarterly meeting.
- Organizing a fundraising dinner (Build with us) scheduled to take place on 30th June 2017.
- 5th annual Disability awareness sports gala.

A reflection of Angel's Center support from our friends and partners 2016.



Our physical location

The center is located at Nansana along Hoima road, block 203 next to Nexus Hotel.

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In support

