



Introduction

Faraja, plays a complementary role in supporting cancer patients as they undergo medical treatments. We do this by providing emotional, practical, and healing support for patients and their caregivers. Through information, counselling, support groups, complementary therapy sessions, and our Medical Support Fund, patients are helped in their journey. The understanding that there is life after cancer forms a core part of our programmes.

As from October 2017, Faraja started supporting patients financially for medical treatment through our Faraja Medical Support Fund. We also expanded our complementary programmes and partnered with other support groups in bringing hope, help and life to cancer patients and their carers.

Key Financial Indicators

This financial year we managed to raise Kshs. 7,708,314 from our two core fundraising activities, White Water Rafting and Kenya's Biggest Coffee Morning. In addition, we have friends of Faraja who raised an additional Kshs 2,959,164. A total of Kshs. 10,677,478 was raised. These funds were used to finance our programmes namely: 6 support groups, bi weekly art and music therapy program at Kenyatta national hospital children's oncology wards and our medical assistance program. We continue to minimize or administrative costs through the dedication and hard work of our small core team and our many volunteers.

This financial year saw our Medical Support Fund accumulate to Kshs 93M. In the 6 months to April 2018 income from the fund has supported 14 patients with financial help meeting the cost of medical treatment

Our Fundraising Activities:

White Water rafting

Our annual white water rafting challenge was held in May 2017 at Savage Wilderness Camp. We registered 39 teams and raised Kshs 3.68 million. Compared with 2016 when we registered 35 teams and raised Kshs 2.8 million. We were supported by more silver sponsors: Simba Corp, PwC, RSM, Great Rift Valley Lodge, and Sarova Hotels. A total of 500 spectators attended the weekend.

Kenya's Biggest Coffee Morning (KBCM)

Kenya's Biggest Coffee Morning was held from September to November 2017. We had a total of 49 hosts representing banks, insurance companies, professional services firms, schools, private businesses, and individuals. A total of Kshs 2.8 million was raised, a drop from the previous year's Kshs 3.2 million, probably due to the prolonged electioneering period. A total of about 700 people attended or participated.

London Gala Event

On Saturday the 14th of October 2017 two oncologists, Dr. Andreas Makris and Dr. Neel Bhuva, from the Mount Vernon Cancer Centre in London, UK, organised a gala event and fundraiser. Both doctors are oncologists specialising in breast cancer research and gastrointestinal malignancies respectively.

The event in London was attended by 250 people, £35,000 (Shs 4.5m) was raised. These funds, a contribution to our Medical Support Fund, will provide medical treatment for two patients every year, forever. The event was a great pre-cursor to Faraja being registered in as a UK charity enabling us to receive donations directly to a UK account and donors, who are UK taxpayers, will qualify for gift aid.

Motor Heads Bike Ride

In April 2018, a group of motorcycling enthusiasts – Motorheads - set out on a journey across Kenya to promote awareness and solidarity in the fight against cancer. The Bike Ride took 6 days, traversing Voi-Malindi - Amboseli-Naivasha- Nakuru and back to the Nairobi. A total of 16 bikers participated and raised Kshs 515,000.

Christmas Cricket Cracker

Jeremy and Jason Holley organised a cricket tournament at Nairobi Club in December 2018. A total of Kshs 350,000 was raised for the Medical Support Fund.

Family Fun Run

In January 2018, Faraja Club, a new club formed by students of International School of Kenya organised a family fun run at their Nairobi Campus and raised Kshs 172, 450. The monies were used for our Crafts for Cure Program at Kenyatta National Hospital. The Fun Run will be a yearly event.

Our 2018 Programs

Support Groups

Breast Cancer Support Group: The Breast cancer support group continues to be our most vibrant group with attendance increasing every year. In the year a total of 720 Breast cancer survivors attended.

Prostate Cancer Support Group: The group has continued to grow steadily with an attendance of 300 annually.

Head and Neck Cancer Support Group: This is a new group that was started in 2017. The group is slowly picking up due to increased cases of head and neck cancers. The groups meets once every three months, .

Multiple Myeloma, Leukemia and Lymphoma Group: The blood cancers support group was started to respond to a need for support for patients with Multiple Myeloma, Leukemia and Lymphoma. The group continues to grow and 72 survivors attended the meetings in the year. The groups meets once every three months.

Cervical Cancer Support Group: In the year we had 240 cervical cancer patients attending the support group. Many survivors shy away from attending meetings, which we combat by having more speakers address the issue and building on the esteem of the attendees.

Support Group for parents at Kenyatta: We started a support group for parents who have children at Kenyatta Hospital. A total of 540 parents attended the support groups. They have proven to be a source of information and comfort to parents who do not have any other outlet to discuss their problems.

Wellness therapies: There has been continued uptake of individual therapies. We managed to add new therapies such as osteopathy, Om Chanting, Tai Chi and Twin Hearts meditation. We also have more therapists for lymphatic drainage and massage.

Crafts for Cure: The Craft for Cure at Kenyatta National Hospital has continued to grow with a steady number of volunteers. The decision to work with interns and volunteers was strategic and helped have a committed and consistent team. We saw a total of 5,200 kids. We added grief counselling to our art therapy program to help the children in the wards cope with losing a bed mate or a friend.

Events Calendar 2018/19

Launch of the Faraja Centre in Eldoret at Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital (MTRH)

Faraja is extending its services to another major urban centre. We have signed our lease with MTRH and are set to move in by the end of 2018.

White Water Rafting

Our annual fundraiser will still be at Savage Wilderness Camp in Sagana in May 2018.

Kenya's Biggest Coffee Morning

Our annual awareness and fundraising campaign will begin in September through to November 2018.

Friends of Faraja initiatives

The Christmas Cracker by Jeremy and Jason Holley will take place on 1 and 2 December at the Nairobi Club. The ISK Family Fun Run is scheduled to take place in January 2019.

Finally, we express our gratitude to Faraja Trustees, Staff, Volunteers, Therapists, Donors and friends for the continued service and support to Faraja and our patients and caregivers.