



FOUNDATION

Specialized therapy for children with physical and/or mental limitations on Aruba

ANNUAL REPORT 2018



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The girl on the cover with the big smile is Janella. She is 3 years old and was born with cerebral atrophy and hypoplasia. As a result of this brain disorder, she has a very low muscle tension. But Janella has already achieved a great deal with intensive therapy. Look how happy she is being able to take her first steps with the help of this Walker!



Roshianne is a girl of eighteen months and was born prematurely. She underwent major abdominal surgery during her first year of life. Roshianne has a dyplegia that causes a lot of tension in both legs. During project 11, child physiotherapist Marije taught her how to stand. And when Marije left, she walked like a champion behind a rolling mobility aid.

Vision, mission and strategy

What moves us (vision), what we do (mission) and how we approach this (core strategy).

Vision

Children with disabilities participate as fully as possible in their home situation and in the Aruban community. Their life has the highest reachable level of quality.

Mission

Micky's Foundation contributes to a society in which children with a physical and / or mental disability in Aruba can develop and deploy all their talents. Together with local organizations we make children stronger and their environment more accessible.

Core strategy

Strengthen children and let them participate.

Development of children

They are happier to participate in home and school situations. The child-specific context and the needs of a child are always the starting point for treatments by the therapists. Parents or guardians always play a key role and cooperation with local interested organizations is welcomed.

How we approach this

By offering free of charge therapy such as specialist child physiotherapy, (child) occupational therapy and pre-verbal speech therapy, the obstacles that are a direct consequence of the disability are reduced, and make children and their families resilient and self-aware.

Making their environment accessible

We reduce the obstacles that children with disabilities and their parents experience because their environment is not geared towards their participation and often does not see their possibilities and talents. This may include the (social) infrastructure, communication, attitude and behavior of other people and the organization of medical policy with regard to local child rehabilitation.

Supporting strategies

How we support our core strategy

Collaboration

We reinforce the core strategy by initiating strategic partnerships as much as possible so that the request for treatment and the treatment itself are central. And we enjoy working with all parents who take care of their child on a daily basis with a lot of love, dedication and especially perseverance.

Awareness

We contribute to the awareness of the interests of people with disabilities in Aruba's society, in the spirit of international agreements on the rights of the disabled child.



Passport Micky's Foundation

This is an overview of the data of Micky's Foundation.

Name and legal form

Stichting Micky's Foundation

Chamber of Commerce number Aruba

S1413

Statutory seat

Oranjestad, Aruba

Date of incorporation

18 december 2014

Bank account number

Arubabank 2570960190

Origin

Private initiative (by Gijs de Rooij, father of Micky who sustained severe and irreversible brain injury after a car accident on Aruba on September 20, 2009, barely 5 months after his birth)

Basis

No connection with specific religion or belief

Governance model

Board with executive board members (chairman Mr G. de Rooij, secretary Ms A.M.C. Knijn, treasurer Ms H.E. Kool-Slot). The chairman, in collaboration with the other two board members, forms the day-to-day management and is responsible for the duties to be performed.

Distinctive features

Specific target group: children and young people with a physical and / or mental disability (0-21 years) in Aruba.

Statutory objective

The purpose of the foundation is to look after general interests, including the physical and mental interests of children (0-21 years old), who have a brain disorder whether congenital or not, against the background of promoting effective assistance (on Aruba) to those people and thus promote the general well-being of this target group (...).



Urgency and approach

Reality check

Children with a physical and / or mental disability were and are often considered incidental cases in Aruba. At the start of the pilot project in early 2014, only 4 children with a disability were on the foundation's radar. While writing this report in early 2019, we have just welcomed the 90th child within the foundation. A jump from 4 to 90 children in merely 5 years. These numbers tell a lot about the living situation and wellbeing of these children and their families in Aruba.

What moves us / context

Micky's Foundation was established to compensate for and respond to the lack of intensive therapy in the field of specialized (child) rehabilitation in Aruba. The aim is to bring three specialized therapists from Europe to Aruba three times a year, during projects of three months each, offering intensive local home therapy. This includes pediatric physiotherapy, (pediatric) ergo therapy and pre-verbal speech therapy. All therapists have specialized knowledge and experience with children with a motor impairment and/or mental disability.

The growth continues

The number of children in need of this form of therapy grew in the year 2018 from 60 to 85. A growth of 41%!

Micky's Foundation eventually ran 4 projects during the year 2018 (project 8-11), of which project 8 continued from the 2017 financial year. A total of 45 children participated in the 2018 projects; 12 children more than in 2017. On average, 27 children participated per project.

A special project was run between February and March, focusing on systematic cooperation in Aruban care provision. Since the pilot project in 2014, the foundation has run more than 5,000 therapy hours. That is approximately 450 hours per project.

The approach

In general, the parents of the children contact the foundation, after which there is a brief introduction / intake by the on-site therapists with determination of the request for help and urgency. In 2018 we also saw a growing number of referrals from pediatricians, JGZ school doctors, neurologists and general practitioners to our foundation.

Treatments often continue from one project to another, depending on the treatment goals set. The therapist's final report marks the transfer to the next therapist. Every therapist evaluates the treatment goals set with parents at the start of each project and adjusts them where necessary in consultation. Our therapists are regularly requested by the parents to advise on conversations with the pediatricians, neurologists and / or the rehabilitation doctor on Aruba. Participating parents have the responsibility to contact their local therapist, if necessary, to find the right coordination regarding the treatments at the start of each project.

Collaboration

In 2018 we collaborated with local therapists and doctors, in addition to 19 otherwise related organizations in Aruba. Micky's Foundation has been part of the Plataforma Persona cu Limitacion (PPL) since 2015.

Free

The therapy is offered for free. Therapists participate on a voluntary basis and receive an expense allowance. All activities of the foundation are funded through donations.



Ginelle is a 10 year old girl who had a serious car accident in 2017. She suffered serious neurological damage that prevented, standing, walking and other daily motor skills. During project 10, Ginelle learned to stand up again and stand independently for longer periods. And at the end of project 10, Ginelle was even able to walk a few meters with a walking aid. Great applause for Ginelle!

The 2018 projects

Continuity

Micky's Foundation's goal is to plan the projects as closely adjacent as possible, so that children can continue to make use of our offered therapy. This way they can make progress faster and better. Guaranteeing the quality of our therapies is of great importance and we provide experienced and professionally trained therapists. The following is an overview of the results of projects 9 to 11.

PROJECT 9

Introduction

We finished project 8 in January 2018 and started project 9 in March. This project ran from March 16 to June 15.

Children's physiotherapist Mrs Irene Pouls-Reijnen and ergo therapist Mrs Silvie Vanstipelen have treated a total of 32 children. An intake was done for 13 of these 32. These have all been able to enter the weekly treatments. The relatively large growth in newcomers resulted in some shifts in suitable weekly schedules which all worked out in the end. The majority of these children also participated in the previous projects. The final reports of the therapists from project 8 served as transfer reports.

Content

- Indication of children: children and adolescents between 1 and 18 years of age, with mainly a congenital or non-congenital brain injury, Down's syndrome, autism, spina bifida, scoliosis, rare syndrome or chromosome abnormality.
- 19 children received pediatric physiotherapy, 13 ergo therapy (there was overlap).
- therapy was given between 1-3 hours per child per week.

- therapy was often given at home, but also at school or daycare.
- therapy was free for everyone.

Results

Parents and children were generally very enthusiastic and inspired. Parents of children who had previously participated, were able to adjust treatment goals and possibly set up new ones in consultation with the therapists. New treatment plans and goals were set up with the new group of parents. The intensive and specialized therapy often became part of the daily rituals in care and interaction with the child. Relatively simple exercises were repeated by parents during the week, often with great success. It was characteristic that parents often saw a strong growing potential with their child; a lot of progression in gross motor skills (sitting, standing, walking), fine motor skills (hand movements, eye-hand coordination), visual development, eating and drinking handling (better swallowing and chewing of also solid food) and communication (non-verbal with references and pictograms). The therapy regularly brought a form of hope and trust to the family. Silvie and Irene have often done the intakes together and regularly gave duo therapy.

Irene and Silvie have, depending on the initiative the parents had taken, contacted local therapists to get acquainted, exchange knowledge and coordinate treatments. They worked together effectively with about half of this group of local therapists.

Every two weeks there was an evaluation between the foundation and the therapists about the progress of the therapy while problems were discussed and solved as much as possible.

Sponsors

Micky's Foundation is completely dependent on sponsors, donations and grants. Project 9 was funded with support from local donors Hertz Car Rental (who financed two cars), De Palm Corporation and with Dutch support from the STINAFO foundation that financed part of the costs and the Windkracht 10 foundation.

PROJECT 10

Introduction

The tenth project took place between July 1 and September 30, with pre-verbal speech therapist Mrs. Esther van Schendel and occupational therapist Mrs. Inger Ruijgt. They treated 19 children and did an intake of 4 new children, 2 of whom entered and 2 were placed on a waiting list. Continuity of the therapy is considered of the utmost importance, so that children move on automatically to the next project, unless they have completed their treatments. Inger made use of Silvie's final reports from project 9 and Esther from Linda's reports of project 6, which allowed them to continue working efficiently.

Content

- Indication of children: children and adolescents between 1 and 18 years of age, with mainly a congenital or non-congenital brain injury, Down's syndrome, autism, rare syndrome or chromosomal abnormality.
- 15 children received pre-verbal speech therapy and 13 ergo therapy (there was an overlap).
- therapy was given between 1-3 hours per child per week.
- therapy was often given at home, but also at school or daycare.
- therapy was free for everyone.

Results

The results were again very positive. Due to the highly specialized background on which the therapists are recruited, the progression can often be seen clearly within a few weeks. Especially the children who had problems swallowing liquid food have had treatment of the pre-verbal speech therapist made such progress within a relatively short time that they were able to swallow but also chew solid food. A small difference with very nice consequences; for the first time children could eat carefully at the table with the others and with what the others ate. By working in the home situation, parents often learned with which little tips

parents could do their own exercises with their child in the home setting. Thanks to the use of the iPad (thanks to the World Mission Belgium Help Foundation), occupational therapist Inger was able to achieve good results with various children in the area of posture (while standing in a standing table, for example) in combination with eye-hand coordination and the joy of playing. of the iPad.

Every two weeks there was an evaluation between the foundation and the therapists about the progress of the therapy and problems were discussed and where possible solved.

Sponsors

The tenth project has been funded with support from local donors Hertz Car Rental Aruba, The Palm Corporation Aruba, Rotary Club Aruba, Kiwanis Club or Palm Beach Aruba, from the Netherlands STINAFO The Hague and from Belgium World Mission Assistance Belgium Foundation.

PROJECT 11

Introduction

The eleventh project took place between October 15 and December 30, with pediatric physiotherapist Marije van Hooijdonk-Bastiaansen and pre-verbal speech therapist Mrs. Saskia Niewold. They treated a large number of children: 37. Of those 37, 9 were new and all but one secured a place in the weekly treatments, 1 was placed on the waiting list. This brought the total number of treated children to 45 in 2018, with 25 new children entering. Marije made use of the final reports of Irene from project 9 and Saskia from Esther's report from project 10, so that work could continue efficiently. So Marije and Saskia have done a total of 9 intakes with children on the waiting list.

Content

- Indication of children: children and adolescents between 1 and 19 years of age, with predominantly congenital or non-congenital brain injury, Down's syndrome, autism, spina bifida, rare scoliosis syndrome or chromosome abnormality.

- 26 children received pediatric physiotherapy and 17 pre-verbal speech therapy (there was an overlap).
- therapy was given between 1-3 hours per child per week.
- therapy was often given at home, but also at school or daycare.
- therapy was free for everyone.

Results

The results in this project were extremely positive. A relatively large group was treated, in particular from a physiotherapeutic side (26). Parents, children and therapists had a great deal of dedication, so that it was generally possible to make very effective use of the therapy time at home. In particular, the families who live in the remote areas of Aruba often find it difficult to take their child to a therapy room (the normal course of affairs on Aruba). These children are also reached by making home visits. Because of the highly specialized background and very relevant work experience of the therapists, the progression was often clearly visible within a few weeks. Children who were unable to sit at first had much more torso balance as a result of the therapy. They were able to start taking steps, moved smoother and orthopedic material was better adjusted and used effectively as a very important tool to achieve the treatment goals faster. Marije and Saskia have collaborated extensively with local doctors, therapists, schools, SVGA and have provided useful information to physician assistants and pedagogical counselors from the Sonrisa foundation.

Every two weeks there was an evaluation between the foundation and the therapists about the progress of the therapy.

Sponsors

Project 11 was funded with support from local donors Hertz Car Rental (who financed both cars), De Palm Corporation Aruba, Rotary Club Aruba and Kiwanis Club Palm Beach Aruba and from the Netherlands with support from the STINAFO foundation.

Projects 2019

Almost immediately after project 11, project 12 started on January 7, 2019. For 2019, the same high-quality requirements apply to therapists and treatments. In 2019 we will be running 4 full projects of 3 months each for the first time. In this way we can continue to guarantee the continuity of our therapeutic offers. Cooperation and good PR are essential in this.



In project 10, ergo therapist Inger and pre-verbal speech therapist Esther regularly treated children together. In this way exercises that resulted from each individual therapy had added value because they can be used in combination.

Other achievements

Collaboration

The goal of not only bringing knowledge and experience to the island and deploying it here, but also to transfer it at the right time, became successful in various ways in 2018. Collaboration is essential to put the child and the need for help at the center of the counseling process and to share and safeguard acquired knowledge. This chapter contains our cooperation projects / relationships.

Coaching process physiotherapist rehabilitation department H.O. hospital, Oranjestad.

- In this extra inserted project, one of our most experienced child physiotherapists, Mrs. Kinke de Weerd, coached the physiotherapist of the HOH rehabilitation department for 6 weeks in treating children. We worked together with the rehabilitation doctor. Mrs. De Weerd did this in a personal capacity, but the costs were paid for by Micky's Foundation.

Client consultation with various doctors and therapists.

- Throughout the year, pediatricians (4), general practitioners, child psychiatrist, rehabilitation doctor and school doctors (JGZ) referred to our therapists to discuss and coordinate various children about adequate care and care. From the same perspective, this coordination is increasingly taking place with a number of therapists (logo, ergo and physio). In this way, the child's request for help can be treated centrally and parents are less likely to become entangled in incoherent care.

Coordination with SVGA

- Several of the treated children were attended at the Bibito Pin department, a daycare center for children with multiple disabilities from SVGA. Pedagogical staff, the psychologist and orthopedagogue from Bibito Pin were included and coached in the treatment.

Working together in schools and childcare

- We collaborated with several schools (Emma school, St Cruz Mavo, Arco Iris daycare and Angel play school). Children were treated at school in collaboration with the teacher and supervisors, with the permission of school principals. This often resulted in improved learning conditions.

Coordination with orthopedic instrument maker J.P. Fisherman.

- Following a consultation with the rehabilitation doctor or pediatrician, the therapists regularly advised the parents in the process of fitting and manufacturing foot splints. Taking into account the practical deployment during therapy sessions and daily use.

Treatments at CEDES.

- CEDES is a center for special education for children with autism, Down syndrome and cerebral palsy. Several of our children who are on a program there, have received treatments in collaboration with the therapist and a pedagogical assistant treating them there.

Treatment at the Sonrisa foundation

- Sonrisa is an after-school care for children with a disability. Our children have been treated by our therapists for years at this facility. This involves regular coaching and knowledge transfer to the pedagogical staff.

Collaboration with Brighter Future

- Brighter Future is a center especially for children with autism. They are treated there and can participate in a day program. There has been regular consultation with specialist Uleike Geerman, about issues surrounding our children who are in the autistic spectrum.

Information evening general practitioners association Aruba.

- During project 11, at the invitation of the Aruba Association of General Practitioners, our therapists gave a presentation about their work

to 20 invited interest groups of people with disabilities. The evening was hosted by Trampoline pa Trabou, an organization that guides people with disabilities to work.

PPL membership

- PPL stands for Plataforma pa Persona cu Limitacion. This is an umbrella organization for NGOs that work for people with disabilities. Together, common interests are converted into projects, whether or not to inform the government.

Coaching parents and care givers

- Our therapists work at home, which means they always have the opportunity to give specific advice and relatively easy to carry out assignments to the parents. They can then perform these exercises in a playful way with their child during fixed daily rituals to support the therapeutic goals.

Specialibilities Week March 2018

- Foundation Amazing Reality from Miami, with its origins in Aruba, developed many awareness activities together with Micky's Foundation in the week of March 19-24. A fun walk with the Prime Minister Ms Wever-Croes; an info evening at the University and an afternoon consultation with our therapists at the Ritz-Carlton. Amazing Reality has made a donation of very useful splints to Micky's Foundation.

Caminata EPI and Fundacion Zinnia

- Three EPI students have completed a successful third-year assignment in collaboration with Micky's Foundation and Fundacion Zinnia. They organized a fundraising caminata on November 18, 2018, during which a team was formed with Fundacion Zinnia who organizes awareness campaigns against drunk driving.

Fundacion Museo Arubano

- In July and August four of our children were able to participate in the monthly museum tour along the major museums of Aruba. Special transport for wheelchairs made the round trip possible from Oranjestad to San Nicolas. The collaboration also revealed the inaccessible facilities and infrastructure

for wheelchair users in and around the museums. Action has now been taken on this by constructing a wheelchair-friendly ramp to the entrance.

Bon Nochi Drumi Dushi Foundation

- A collaboration project was started to make the reading project of the Bon Nochi Drumi Dushi foundation accessible to 10 of our children. The BNDD read-out coaches are instructed by our pre-verbal speech therapist, how we can effectively and playfully read to our target group. With this there are all kinds of communication skills that can be stimulated between the reader, parent and child. In this context, book week gift writer (and child physiotherapist) Mrs. Eveline van Dort donated her children's book to our foundation.

Promotion and Public Relations

Transparency and information provision

Because Micky's Foundation offers its therapy completely free, the foundation is also completely dependent on donations. Transparent information from and communication to all relevant relationships is essential for building a reliable reputation. A clear promotion of the vision and mission contributes to perpetuating transparency.

Annual reports

- In the first quarter of every year an accurate picture is sketched, in the annual report and the financial annual report, by describing the activities of the past financial year, supplemented with the financial expenses of that year. These reports are sent to all stakeholders by email. In this way all our donors can gain insight into the way in which their funds are used to achieve the objectives of the foundation.

Website and Facebook

- The website and the Facebook page are regularly updated and updated. Especially on the Facebook page (with almost 1450 likes), videos or photos are posted every week that give a good impression of working with the children and the progress made.

Television interviews

- In 2018, the chairman and founder of the foundation, Mr. Gijs de Rooij, held a television interview three times, with the aim of informing the community of Aruba about the method and objectives. These broadcasts had a major effect in the subsequent period, on an increase in

the number of registrations of children. The interviews were given in the well-watched talk programs Voices & Choices by Marisol Lopez-Tromp and Un Rato Cerca Dika, with Dika Fingal and Awe Mainta the morning show of Tele Aruba.

Newspapers

- Several times a year articles appear in local newspapers such as the Bondia, Aruba Today, the Amigoe and Diario. The articles often describe the work of the therapists who are currently working, specific children and their treatments. In addition to their informative function, these articles also have a function to make society more aware of the large number of children with special needs.

Magazines

- More extensive interviews are given in widely read three-monthly magazines such as Exclusivo. The 5-page interview with founder Gijs de Rooij, in the July edition, has received many responses from yet another group of readers. As a result, you again saw an increase in registrations during that period.
- The foundation is also promoted in the Netherlands. For example, there were calls in the widely distributed magazine Arts & Auto (for general practitioners) for recruiting therapists for our projects.

Celebrity Co-ops

- Micky's foundation acted as main sponsor for a pop-up comedy night with Dutch celebrities Trijntje Oosterhuis and Jurgen Raymann. Positive messages regarding Micky's Foundation have been posted by Trijntje Oosterhuis, among others, on her much-followed Instagram account. This support is very significant for a growing awareness of the foundation.



Aaron is 2 years old and was born with severe multiple disabilities. Due to his continuous state of severe spasticity, "bathing in a bowl of balls" is very relaxing for him. In this way ergo therapist Inger encourages him in project 9 to make more and better visual contact. You can tell how much he likes it!

2019 ambitions & plans

Quality and continuity

In 2019 the focus will be to build on the successes of the previous projects and ensuring the high quality of work by the therapists. In addition, more and more initiatives arise from parents themselves.



Parent Support Group

Therapy

- The quality of the therapy offered remains of high quality. This means that the therapists who come to Aruba for the projects are selected not only based on their diplomas and certificates, but in particular on their work experience with our target group. In addition, the therapists also have a very pleasant ability to adapt within the Aruban context and culture, and to transfer their knowledge and skills.

Waiting list

- The foundation has been working with a waiting list during all years of its existence. On this list are the most recent registrations of children who, after an intake by our therapists, are waiting for a place in the weekly schedule of the therapists. The place on the waiting list is determined by urgency, medical status and time of registration. As soon as space becomes available in the weekly schedule, new children enter. In this way we prevent children from being on the waiting list for a long time. At the end of 2018, almost all children on the waiting list were placed within the therapy sessions through efficient planning. No more than 5 children remained on the list at the end of 2018.

Parent support group

- Through the initiative of parents, in collaboration with the therapists, a parent support group has been created. The

first meeting was at the beginning of 2019 and brought many parents closer together. Recognizing each other's experiences created a platform for emotional connections and support. The group communicates via whatsapp and will now meet on a monthly basis to discuss relevant topics related to daily care, therapy and assistance.

Continue with partnerships

- All partnerships that were set up during 2018, but also in previous years, will be carefully continued and, where possible, expanded. In this way, more and more can be worked towards systematic assistance around (the request for help from) the child (and parent). The relationships with doctors and therapists breathe professional trust, giving the foundation a lot of confidence for the future.



Work visits

Work visits chairman to the projects

In 2018, the chairman of the foundation, Gijs de Rooij, paid work visits to the projects on Aruba in March and October 2018 for a period of 9 days.

March and October 2018

- The purpose of both work visits was varied. Various interviews were given during that period, both on TV and in the newspapers. Existing and potential new sponsors were visited and presentations were given. Gijs has attended many therapy sessions at the parents' homes. The projects were thoroughly evaluated with the therapists working at that time. In addition, many conversations were held with parents and Gijs was introduced to new children.
- For a more detailed representation of the working visits, reference is made to the reports written as a result of the work visits.

Financial annual report 2018.

Annual figures 2018

In the financial annual report 2018 a clear and concise picture of the income and expenses of the foundation is given. These 2018 annual figures, together with this report, are sent to all our stakeholders.

Where did the money go?

Of course to our children, our heroes:

Ameila, Rose-Marie, Disjonrick, Jonathan, Nina, Juan-José, Louisa Gabriela, Felix, Andrea, Brandon, Ramsey, Yildun, Xaenah, Senn, Stacey, Derron, Dylan, Marie-Louise, Zyljenka, Isaleen, Roshianne, Antonella, Isla, Jeanelly, Ginella, Kendrick, William-Alexander, Amaziah, Aaron, Eduardo, Jah-Niu, Kris, Shwandré, Athina, Neylla, Jared, Gedian, Christian, Johanny, Jeandré, Noni, Elias, Janella, Jayda and Sophie.



F O U N D A T I O N

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Bank account number

Arubabank 2570960190

www.mickysfoundation.com