

MAPPING OF STREET CHILDREN INSTITUTIONS IN NAIROBI.

DRAFT REPORT

21 OCTOBER 2010 TO JANUARY 21 2011

RESEARCH Director:

Vera Akinyi

RESEARCH ASSISTANTS:

1. Sammy Mwangi - Embakasi
2. Patrick Mudogo - starehe
3. Millicent Agutu – Makadara & Kamukunji
4. Vera Akinyi - Kasarani
5. Joseph Nabwera - Dagoretti
6. Samson Odhiambo – Lang’ata
7. Martin Ndichu – Westlands
8. James Mboha – Kasarani
9. Julius Mwangi-Data entry

"If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much"

Contents

FOREWORD	3
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	4
CONTEXT	5
METHODOLOGY	6
Field visits and data collection	7
Key Findings	7
Existing Gaps	8
Conclusions and Recommendations	8
Challenges Faced.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Annexure	9
Annex I:	9
Annex II:	11
Annex III:	15
Annex IV:	17
Annex V:	18

"If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much"

FOREWORD

Mention vision 2030, effects of the PEV

Koinonia community commissioned this study and has since 1986 been involved in addressing the problem of street children; it's involved in various social activities and projects that support the growth of the local society with a major focus on the well being of children. As a precursor to this study, in 2006 an initial study was done and an e directory listing of street children was created, a report on the study was also published in 2007; as a follow up to this we did a study to come up with an updated online directory listing of street children homes in Nairobi and its environs

The main objectives of the study were;

- Map the existing organizations that protect and care for street children in eight constituencies, namely; Embakasi, Kasarani, Makadara, Dagoretti, Westlands, Kamukunji, Starehe and
- To update the information contained in the 2007 directory of "Projects and Activities for Street Children in Nairobi" both in the web and in print.
- From the updated information, organizations will benefit from knowing each other, networking and sharing common knowledge with each other.

"If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much"

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

KARDS (Koinonia Advisory Research & Development Service) is a community development consultancy inaugurated in the year 2002 by Koinonia Community a lay Christian organization implementing projects of human development. KARDS is geared towards the socio economic empowerment of the lowly and the humble in Africa. It accomplishes its mission of empowerment through the provision of training, conducting and coordinating research on social issues as well as offering consultancy services. It is on this footing and in line with our vision that we saw it fit to engage in this study.

In this regard, KARDS would like to express our sincere gratitude to all the stakeholders who made valuable contribution towards the development of this report, all those interviewed and research assistants. Many thanks to Richard Ochanda who validated this report. We want to thank most profoundly Fr. Rennatto Kizito Ssesana for his financial support.

It is our hope that all stakeholders will remain focused and committed to rescuing children from the streets and that this report will encourage more responses and interventions that are geared towards the same.

"If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much"

CONTEXT

UNICEF has defined three types of street children: Street-Living, Street-Working, Street-Family.

- Street Living Children: children who ran away from their families and live alone on the streets.
- Street Working Children: children who spend most of their time on the streets, fending for themselves, but returning home on a regular basis.
- Children from Street Families: children who live on the streets with their families.

Today, orphans and vulnerable children are living on the streets of sub-Saharan Africa's cities due to a multiple of poverty related issues. Street-life can be devastating and extremely traumatic. Street children are at risk from sexual abuse, rape and exploitation; hunger, violence and disease. Substance abuse, in particular sniffing glue is prevalent and used as a way to escape the harsh realities of street life. Street children also get caught up in petty crime in order to survive and if caught engaging in crime may end up losing their lives.

HIV and AIDS has also led to an increase in the number of street children on the continent. With Sub-Saharan Africa having the highest cases of HIV infection in the world,ⁱ the disease has fundamentally changed the circumstances under which children come to the streets. The number of children living on the streets is considered by many as likely to increase; this is in spite of family networks that absorb thousands of African orphans, despite the added pressures this place on their resources.

Over the past couple of decades the donor community's attention has focused on Africa's orphan crisis in the context of the HIV and AIDS pandemic yet street children have continued to remain a largely forgotten and marginalized group, this sees many projects and organizations struggle to develop sustainable funding to allow them to grow and develop models of care and prevention that can really make a difference.

The dominant interpretation of street children is that of passive victims and deviants. Society tends to accept what happens to them without trying to control, change events or react to issues facing them; in addition portraying them as displaying socially unacceptable behaviors places them outside mainstream society.

Understanding them as such fails to address the difficulty of their situation. Interventions are therefore designed to rescue or take out children from the street and to socialize them into mainstream society.

"If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much"

METHODOLOGY

The main task was to collect profile data of all street children homes in Nairobi and its environs. The researchers did this by first visiting the homes that had previously been visited in 2006 to check if their profiles and contacts had changed since that time. The study also tried to find out whether these institutions were still surviving. Of much interest however was to find out institutions that were established after our study of 2006.

This was achieved by sending out 8 research assistants with a questionnaire to act as a data capture tool, the questionnaire was administered to relevant personnel at the centers. A consultative participatory approach and an all inclusive strategy was adopted for this exercise.

In carrying out the assignment, we broadly undertook the following;

- Established the scope and the purpose for the whole exercise
- Identified the key questions to be included in the questionnaire i.e. data capture tool
- Identified the organizational arrangements for the assignments in terms of the resources required
- Developed terms of reference for the whole assignment
- Identified the techniques to be used for comprehensive data capture
- Data was captured so as to be fed into SPSS for data analysis, the profile data for each centers was also uploaded onto the website

An in depth data capture tool (questionnaire) was used to collect information on the background of the centers, its history, area of intervention, operational budget, activities done, their capacity building needs, what they are doing differently from other homes, challenges facing them, coping mechanisms, future expectations and the exit strategy in use. During this study, it was established that there are many preventive and response initiatives being undertaken by mostly non state actors at times in collaboration with state actors with the main focus being to;

- a. Rehabilitate: To restore to useful life
- b. Reintegrate: To restore to a condition of unity
- c. Reach out: Provide children with the information, help, support, advice and connections they need
- d. Street work: Moving to the streets by offering support to the people still living in the streets and starting the process of enabling a life off the streets.

"If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much"

Field visits and data collection

The exercise commenced on 21 October 2010 and ended on 21 January 2011. The research assistants were drawn from Koinonia Advisory Research and Development Service, Riruta Environmental Group and Koinonia Action for Peace.

The research team conducted field visits to the centers to collect relevant data through interviews with the street children centers representatives. Embakasi constituency was used for tool testing during the first two days of the field visit.

Key Findings

- a. Prevalence of Street Children: There is high prevalence of street children than the care providers can presently support due to limited resources.
- b. Existence of state and non state actors: The government provides medical, food stuffs and legal services (through the district children departments), the non state actors play a major role in providing education, basic needs and psychosocial support. Other services provided by non state actors include:
 - Provision of food, clothing and food for the children and at times to their immediate guardians
 - Provision of free medical services both in house and for children still living in the streets
 - Provision of legal services/ child rights advocacy by institutions such as the CRADLE
 - Education support through school placement, raising funds to pay school fees
- c. Notable Government efforts towards street children: The government has made numerous efforts to help rescue children from the streets. Notably the government has:
 - Established children desks in police stations
 - Provision of free medical services in all government hospitals that include Ear, Nose and Teeth check up,
 - Provided information, education and communication through the ministry of gender, children and social services. Campaign awareness tools such as brochures educating the public on child rights were available at most government ministries and offices
 - Established children departments to handle children cases

"If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much"

Existing Gaps

This study established that there exist gaps in care giving among the various institutions.

- a. Increasing number of orphans and vulnerable children due to HIV and AIDS, the children are either fully orphaned, single parented or living with ailing guardians. These institutions lack adequate facilities to cater for the increasing number of children.
- b. Economic Instability due to irregular pattern of funding. In provision of economic services there is inadequate financial support for the rescued children, and weak collaboration among the donor community.
- c. Lack of capacity. Most institutions lacked trained personnel to effectively run the institutions. Most of them relied on volunteers both local and international who would work for them for a specified amount of time
- d. Psychosocial services, Lack of adequately qualified personnel to do comprehensive counseling sessions for the children. The counseling services offered were uncoordinated as the institutions relied on external counselors who were not available at all times.
- e. Poor infrastructural resources, most institutions did not provide a clean and comfortable environment for the children. The structures are hardly adequate to serve all the children.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The study came up with several recommendations some of which are outlined below. They include: collaboration and networking, medical, staff capacity building, legal, psychological services in addition to improved government participation.

There is need to strengthen the street children institutions linkages; collaboration through communication and sharing information to encourage referrals thereby leading to networking

Medical services

There is need to provide comprehensive medical care for the rescued children by availing skilled doctors/ nurses, psychologists and social workers to make regular follow up on the status of their health

Legal Services

Some children end up in the streets due to mistreatment by their guardians. Currently the institutions feel frustrated by the many times they go to the authorities to ensure that justice is done. Campaigns to have lawyers offer pro bono services in support of the children encourage reputable child rights organizations like the CRADLE and CREAW to track progress of children cases in courts.

"If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much"

Capacity building and education services

Continue with mass sensitization on child rights through radio campaigns and brochures. Training of project staff on relevant courses such as effective resource management,

Government participation in service provision

There is need to enhance the relationship between the government and the donors, it should also raise the budgetary allocation for the district children departments

Annexure

Annex I:

Introduction Letter

Date:

To:

RE: PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES FOR STREET CHILDREN

Koinonia Advisory Research & Development Service (KARDS), a community development consultancy is carrying out a study on:"Projects and Activities for Street Children in Nairobi"

The objectives of this study are:

- To make an inventory of organizations that protect and care for street children
- To update the information contained in the 2007 directory of "Projects and Activities for Street Children in Nairobi" both in the web and in print.
- From the updated information, organizations will benefit from knowing each other, networking and sharing common knowledge with each other.

Kindly follow this link <http://streetchildren.kardsafrica.org/> to access the 2007 online directory.

The focus of the study will be on what is being done on prevention, social support, judicial/ legal, reintegration and any other innovative interventions.

The study will be conducted in Nairobi county and its environs from 10th January 2011 - 10th February 2011.

We thank you in advance for taking part in this study.

Kindly Yours,

"If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much"

Patrick Mudogo

Executive Consultant

"If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much"

Spiritual accompaniment

Institutional care

Other (please specify)

ii. Reintegration Activities

Family empowerment

Contact with family

Self help initiatives (IGAs etc)

Counseling

Spiritual accompaniment

Community involvement

Working with young adults

Travel expenses back home

Other (please specify)

iii. Street work Activities

Medical care

Spiritual accompaniment

Counseling

Life skills (cleanliness etc)

Basic needs support

Home visits

Street sports

Tertiary institutions

School visits

Reproductive health

Advocacy for child rights

Referrals to other care givers

Other (please specify)

iv. Outreach Activities

Orphans & vulnerable children

Self help initiatives

School fee sponsorship

Counseling

Spiritual accompaniment

Family support

Other (please specify)

v. Value Added Activities (what do you do that others do not)

Tackle basic questions of life

integrated approach

Community building

Gender responsiveness

Value based approach counseling of caregivers

Training of trainers

Spiritual accompaniment of care givers

Other forms of accompaniment/ training

Other (please state)

E. Measurement of outcomes:

i. How often do you prepare your progress reports

() yearly () Bi annually () Trimester () Quarterly

"If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much"

ii. How often do you conduct internal audits of your programs?

- yearly Bi annually Trimester Quarterly

iii. Do you conduct external audits

- Yes No

iv. How often do you conduct internal evaluation and assessments of your programs

- yearly Bi annually 2 yrs 3 yrs above 3 yrs

v. How often do you conduct external evaluation and assessments of your programs

- yearly Bi annually 2 years 3 years above 3 years

F. Programme Resources

ii. How much money do you use (approximately) to cover your annual costs? (KES) (Please give a rough estimate)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 0 – 500,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> 500,000 – 1,000,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1,000,000 – 1,500,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1,500,000 -2,000,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2,000,000 to 2,500,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2,500,000 to 3,000,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3,000,000 and above | |

Please provide additional explanation if necessary

iii. What are your sources of human and/ or financial resources?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local contributions | <input type="checkbox"/> The government of Kenya |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International organizations | <input type="checkbox"/> United Nations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Religious organizations | <input type="checkbox"/> Other governments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Own resources (social enterprises) | |

Other (please specify)

iv. Have these sources of funding changed over the past five years? What do you think could be the reason?

G. Programme Issues

i. What is the number of personnel employed in your project?

	Male	Female	Total
Board Members			
Staff with contract for over one year			
Staff with contract for one year			
Contract less than one year			
Volunteers			

"If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much"

Permanent staff			
Others (specify)			
Total			

ii. What is the average number of street children targeted by your programs per annum in each of the following objectives?

Objective	Male	Female	Total
Reintegration			
Rehabilitation			
Street work			
Outreach			
Others			
Total			

iii. Kindly share with us any capacity building needs you may have as far as your work with street children is concerned

iv. What is the number of other persons apart from primary beneficiaries reached per year by your service (s)

Male Female

iv. What age groups of children does your organization serve?

0–5 yrs 6–12 yrs 13–18 yrs 0–18yrs young adults

H. Networking and Partnering

i. Are you part of a formal or informal network of other actors in your area of intervention () Yes () No

If a formal network kindly share with us the name of the network and the organizations in your network:

ii. Please describe the types of linkages or relationships (e.g. capacity building, referrals, specific services etc):

I. Impacts and Lessons

i. What area(s) of your programme do you feel you're doing particularly well, and would want to share with others?

ii. Please mention the most important change your programme is bringing to the street children's lives?

ii. What has been/is the greatest challenges to your organization?

iii. Are there un anticipated factors impacting negatively on your work i.e. HIV&AIDS, weather, increasing number of OVC, global financial crisis etc?

iv. Please describe how you are coping with adversity

v. What are the most significant lessons your organization has learnt over the years for success in working with street children/youth?

vi. Kindly share with us your future expectations/ plans?

"If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much"

vii. What are the organization's catchments area(s) served? (Places of outreach- within and out of Nairobi)

viii. Please explain what happens to children when they outgrow the age of focus of your organization. How do they exit from your services?

We thank you sincerely for participating in this networking activity

Annex III:

Street Children Homes in Nairobi (Directory)

1. Africa Hope Centre
2. Amazing Grace Int'l Children's Centre
3. Baraka Za Ibrahim Children's Centre
4. Bella Rehabilitation Centre/School
5. Bethel Outreach Centre
6. Bethlehem Community Centre
7. Boma Rescue Centre
8. Bosco Boys Nairobi
9. By Grace Disabled And Orphaned Centre
10. Children Garden Home And Home
11. Community Health Information Link(Dandora H/C
12. Dandora Youth Football Club
13. Embakasi Catholic Church
14. Embakasi Methodist Academy
15. Emmaus Educational Centre
16. Equipping People Changing Lives
17. Galilaya Pentecostal Christian Mission Church
18. Gibens Blessed Community Centre
19. Good Samaritan Childrens Home
20. Grace Children's Home
21. Grapes yard Organization
22. Greater Love Children Centre
23. Hands Of Care And Hope
24. Havilla Children's Home
25. Holy Mary Mother Of Mercy Home
26. Imani Rahabilitation Agency
27. Jehovah Jireh Children's Home
28. Jobenfa Community Centre
29. Joy Divine Children Org
30. K.A.G Mathare Child Dev. Centre
31. Kanyaa Childrens Project

"If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much"

32. Kao la Tumaini Mission To The Slums
33. Kids To Kids Foundation
34. Kwetu Home For Peace
35. Lari Self Help Group
36. Life Spring Chapel
37. Made In The Street
38. Maji Mazuri Children's Centre
39. Makao Junior School
40. Mama Fauzia Children's Home
41. Mary Immaculate Rehabilitation Centre
42. Mercy Children Centre
43. Mukuru Educational Centre
44. Olympic Rehabilitation And Training Centre
45. Palace Academy/Living Water F. Church
46. Pehucci Orphan's Home
47. Potential Youth Group
48. Pumwani Child Survival And Rehabilitation Project
49. Queen Rose Day Care
50. Rehema Day Care And Orphans Centre
51. Rehema Ta Allah Community Dev Group
52. RGC, Korogocho Street Children Programme
53. Riruta Shade For Orphans C/D
54. SALVATION ARMY (Community Centre)
55. Salvation Army Dandora V Community Centre
56. Salvation Army Kabete Children's Home
57. Shining Hope For Community(Shofco)
58. Shunem Community Centre
59. Siloam Fellowship Ministry Academy
60. St. Joseph Upendo Program
61. St. Mary's Keris Community Centre
62. St. Prisca Childhood & Rehabilitation Centre
63. St. Benedict Children's Centre
64. St. Kizito Boys Rehabilitation Centre
65. St. Martins School And Care Centre
66. St. Prisca Childhood And Rehab Centre
67. Stara Peace Women Group
68. Stars Of Hope Children's Home
69. Super Action Ga Rehabilitation Centre
70. Thayu Primary School And Youth Centre
71. The Change Initiative
72. The Cradle - The Children Foundation
73. Tumshangilieni Mtoto

"If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much"

Annex V:

References

1. National plan of action for orphans and vulnerable children
- 2.

ⁱ Regional statistics for HIV and AIDS, end of 2009, published by UNAIDS in November 2010, and refer to the end of 2009

"If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much"