

Orphans and Vulnerable Children's Program Fact Sheet

Website: www.hopewwkenya.org

Year Organization was Registered:1999

Launch of Programs: 2003 Mission/Vision:

To work with underserved communities to improve their quality of life through providing health services, education support and strengthening local groups in governance and accountability in Kenya and Eastern Africa.

Vision: Empowered Healthy Communities.

Areas of Expertise:

- HIV related services
- Economic Empowerment
- Orphans and Vulnerable Children
- Community mobilization
- Community systems strengthening
- Community-based service delivery
- Partnership building

Strategic Focus

HOPE *worldwide* Kenya supports HIV-related services, community system strengthening, economic empowerment, and children.

Children's Program

Primary Target:Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) and their caregiversSecondary Target:OVC Households

Current Services and Strategies

Within the children's pillar we focus on ensuring vulnerable children access healthcare, food & nutrition, shelter & care, psychosocial support, social & legal protection, and education. We integrate age-appropriate HIV related services in all OVC projects and we provide caregivers with socio-economic skills to support their households. To equip service providers, we implement an open distance learning (ODL) project supported by Regional Psychosocial Support Initiative (REPSSI).

We are supporting 10,200 children and 1,200 caregivers in Nairobi and Makueni Counties and 300 ODL students throughout the country.

To ensure sustainability, our entry into communities is through involving stakeholders, conducting needs assessments, and forming or strengthening community structures. Some of the structures developed or/and strengthened include: Area advisory councils, child care forums, caregiver groups, community based organizations, schools, faith-based organizations and Kids Clubs. Seventy-six structures already formed are being mentored in Nairobi and Makueni Counties.

In addition to a structured community entry system, we are adopting a 3-year household support model. The model focuses on 3 years with 3 key stages: 1) In the first year caregivers are encouraged to belong to a group (low-income communities are more economically productive when they form groups) whereby they will identify their projects and receive training; 2) In the second year, implementation of group and household activities are done; 3) The third year is about evaluating the caregiver projects. There are no financial inputs provided to the groups or caregivers at this stage.

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Completed Projects

With support from European Union through International Labour Organisation (ILO) we implemented a 3-year (2009-2011) project on eliminating the worst forms of child labor in Siaya County. Three hundred children were withdrawn from worst forms of child labour and returned to school. A further 500 who were at risk of engaging in child labour were supported to attend school. The project further initiated a farmers' cooperative union that took over the running of the project in 2011.

Between 2007and 2009 HWWK also implemented the APHIAII OVC project in Kibwezi district.

<u>Successes</u>

Sustainable program design and approach

- Thirty-three community-based organizations and one Farmers' Cooperative are strengthened through acquiring legal status, improving their management, economic and service delivery skills.
- Older OVCs have been employed after receiving entrepreneurship training in hairdressing, fashion & design and computer application skills.
- Caregiver groups have self-sustaining income generating projects in poultry farming, goat keeping, kitchen gardens and table banking and are able to support their children. The farmers' cooperative in Siaya markets watermelon, vegetables and honey for their members and profits go into paying school fees for vulnerable children.
- HWWK emerged overall best local implementing partner 2007 2010 under the APHIA II Eastern - USAID funded, OVC/ Home and Community Based Care project.

Advisory Roles

HWWK works with the Government of Kenya through the Department of Children's Services and the local community administration in support of children needs. We participate in the Area Advisory Council meetings in the respective sub-counties and in national events that involve children. In addition, HWWK is a member of the National OVC Technical Working Group and we participated in the development of the National Minimum Service Standards for Quality Improvement of OVC Programs in Kenya in 2012. We are also participating the first standardized psychosocial support guidelines.

Geographical scope

Nairobi County:

- Mukuru Slums Ongoing
- Mathare 2006 2012
- Huruma- 2006 2012
- Makadara 2006 2008
- Starehe 2006 2008
- Dandora 2007 2009

Kiambu County:

• Kiambu – 2007 – 2008

Makueni County:

- Kibwezi 2006 current
- Makindu 2006 current
- Nzaui 2008 current
- Makueni 2011 current

Source of Funding

Funding for the children program come from

- USAID APHIA*plus* Kamili through JPHIEGO
- The Coca-Cola Africa Foundation
- Shell foundation
- Trusts and individual sponsors

Previous funders include:

- USAID APHIA II, AED and Hope worldwide South Africa
- ILO International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC)