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**Annual Report 2013**

**Background**

**Nenkashe Education Centre** (**NEC**) is a **Community Based Organization (CBO)** which was registered in April 2010 under the Social Laws of the Republic of Kenya.

The CBO has 12 members based in Kenya. Three (3) of the members have been teachers and Education Administrators. Two are holding managerial positions, a Psychologist, Special Education specialist, a counselor, successful business women, a former director of the Wild Life Department and one in public health.. The NEC has active partners both locally and outside the country.NEC has close consultative partnership with local leaders, schools, relevant local Organisations and with The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Development particularly the Children’s Department.

The NEC is based in Kajiado District in Maasailand --75 km. south of Nairobi. NEC aims at addressing the predicaments of girls who are at risk of varying adverse traditional practices such as Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), forced early marriages leading to adolescent motherhood often resulting in complications during labour and during delivery, child labour due to poverty. Girls invariably are forced to discontinue with education in favour of the brother’s education, orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) including children with physical challenges.

Research has shown that where a community is challenged by dry lands, poverty, traditional structures and systems, low levels of education and Inadequate Essential Elements of Decent Living (EEDL), that women and girls are the most affected.

The people of Kajiado, Narok and Pokot are classified as people living in these conditions therefore the reason why NEC’s main focus is the girl child from these communities.

The key areas of focus are education, health education including HIV and AIDs, mentoring and Counseling.

The long term vision is to give the girl child Vocational Training that will empower her financially to become independent and eventually able to educate her daughter.

**Goal**

-to help create a society in which the girl child can enjoy her rights and secure her place socially to be able to decide her destiny

**Objective**

-to sustain 31 girls and 3 boys in primary or secondary schools, either in boarding, day schools or in children´s homes.

-to equip the children with school uniforms, books, pay school fees, school trips and what the school might require of the parents/guardian during school term and pay for medical services including transport expenses whenever necessary.

-to visit and interview primary and secondary school that could eventually give vacancies to the NEC children

-to refer rescue girls to appropriate institutions in collaboration with the Children’s Office.

-to give mentorship and counseling sessions at the beginning and end of each term for all the NEC children or whenever required.

-to develop a Commitment / Agreement form and conditions between parents/guardians and NEC

-to pay reconciliatory visits to the homes of the girls accompanied by the Children´s Office, local Leader(s) and religious leaders, including the local community to discuss the importance of the girl child education, the adverse effects of FGM, forced early marriage and the parents role and importance in supporting the girl and protecting her from adverse practices and to encouraging the girl to continue with school education as far as she is able.

-to raise for funds for sponsorship both locally and outside the country.

-to attend a Capacity Building Seminar

-to write six monthly and annual reports and a end of year Financial and Budget Report

**Input**

Human Resources are members of the NEC and support groups

Støtteforening Dk

Partners from USA and Scotland

Well wishers

Local sponsors and friends

Local Leaders, chiefs, religious leaders

Department of the Social Services

Primary and Secondary Schools

Children´s Homes

Office equipment and Stationary

Vehicle

5 acre plot

**Output / Impact**

***Human Resources***

The NEC members have continued to mature and cooperation and networking between members has continued to be stronger. Division of tasks is much more marked and carried out geographically according to members’ residences and their vicinity to the schools, homes and relevant officials.

The members have continued to carry out the routine tasks such as payment of school fees- this is usually paid into the designated banks, which entails queuing buying of uniforms, shopping for school requirements, seeing to sick children if called for, visiting schools during visiting days and for parents / teachers meetings including visiting homes for reconciliatory purposes and networking with the local leaders and the relevant officials.

The number of members remains the same although members are encouraged to invite interested friends to join the organization. The members have had many personal challenges and other commitments and therefore only two (2) meetings were held during the 2013.

One of the members visited Denmark to participate in the annual fundraising day and was impressed by the wonderful coordination and cooperation between the Støtteforetnig and the hard work that goes into raising the funds that supports the NEC Kenya. It was also impressive to see the support and donations received from firms, and individuals.

The NEC Profile has been reviewed and revised to match the objectives and activities carried out by the organization according to the availability of funds.

*Home Visits*

Home visits have continued to prove beneficiary considering the results seen. Parents have become much more cooperative with NEC; they are much more interested in the child’s school progress and well being both in school and at home. Some have committed themselves to sharing the school shopping expenses according to their ability.

Six (6) home visits were carried out in 2013.

One of the visits was carried out because the girl was observed to be unhappy, withdrawn and crying just before the school break of the Christmas holidays. During the visit the NEC members found out that the daughters of the home had just undergone FGM. The fact that the members had announced their visit a week before the actual visit must have saved our girl form the FGM, the parents assured us that she would not have undergone the act since they had promised NEC.

*The other challenging visit was a700 km visit to Pokot in search of a secondary school for the 4 Pokot girls who were in different secondary schools hundreds of km from home. It was also important to meet the parents and local community to discuss the transfer and partnership.*

*It turned out to be a very successful visit, the parents were appreciative of the girls coming closer home and were ready to partner with NEC in sharing expenses according to their ability, visit the girls and attend all school meetings.*

*The above move will reduce travel expenses from the different schools when going home during the* *school holidays, reduce expenses during visits and school meetings, including expenses of the Holiday Centre.*

The community selected 5 small girls from very needy families to be sponsored by the students of the Baylor University.

A group of NEC supporters visited the Pokot community in December to deliver clothes and food stuff to the community while the NEC members delivered the school shopping that is, uniforms, bedding, toiletries etc. for the Secondary and Primary School girls for 2014.

*Counseling / Mentorship*

Reson has been active in counseling girls during school term and during the school holidays for the children, who spend their holidays at the holiday centre,

Some of the schools’ head have shown an interest in having all the girls counseled. Which must mean that it is producing good results. Hence with only the Nenkashe girls were receiving this service.

**Sponsors**

*Nenkashe Denmark*

Støtteforening has continued to be the organization’s largest financial contributor.

The støtteforening has financed all expenses, such as, school fees including boarding expenses, uniforms, books, and transport to and from schools to homes, six home visits and holiday accommodation during the school breaks for 19 girls.

*Other sponsors, donors and well wishers*

The organization has experienced an increasing interest and supports both internationally and locally.

One girl has been admitted to an ambitious school whose motto is an all round development for the child. The school is well equipped for sports, IT, farm and grows its own food. It offers many extra curriculum activities. The NEC finances the child’s fare to and from school and bought bedding and toiletries only. The girl is in class 4.

Another girl has gotten full sponsorship as from the year 2014. The organization has gotten about Dkr 11.000 during the year from friends and partners.

Friends of Nenkashe have donated clothes, foods and sanitary towels and donated them to homes and schools.

*Visits*

Friends from Baylor University U.S.A. have visited the AIC school where the majority of the primary school girls attend and aided the school by painting 2 dormitories and the dining hall. The face lift was badly needed.

It was during the above visit that the students decided to sponsor 5 girls as from 2014.

The other visit was from Scotland by the Steadfast Brigade Group which visited the Olosho Oibor Primary School, donated food for the Safe House where four of NEC girls are housed. The group donated some money for the organization. Their donation is included in the above mentioned sum.

Another visit was from a journalist from DR. P1 Radio who visited and interviewed some girls at the Olosho Oibor School, committee members, teachers and Nenkashe members.

**Networking**

Members of the organization have continued to improve and strengthen networking with the communities where the children come from through the local and religious leaders

These leaders are always part of the visiting group during reconciliatory home visits including officials from the Children’s Department.

Nenkashe’s children are spread out to five (5) secondary schools and three (3) primary schools and one Children’s Home. There has been good cooperation and networking between the teachers and the Nenkashe members and parents.

The parents have shown more trust and cooperation towards the Organization during this year. There is a lot of communication between the parents and the members regarding the children and schools.

*Towards the end of 2012 the members of the Nenkashe had long discussions regarding the huge expenses which would arise as five (5) girls would finish primary school and would have to be placed in secondary schools. Secondary school expenses are much higher than primary school. Three (3) of these girls originate from Pokot which is ca. 250km from Nairobi.*

*It was therefore decided not to admit any new children in 2013.*

**Stationery / office equipment / vehicle**

The organization does not have an office; therefore meetings are held in each other’s homes, all communication—locally and internationally is carried out and financed by individual members. Cyber Café is used for scanning, photocopying, printing and emailing.

The organization uses members’ vehicles whenever necessary or use hired cars when the terrain requires a robust car.

Two or three times a year, a member is paid a small fee for book keeping.

**Future Plans and Activities**

-Nenkashe members will continue to carry out the activities and tasks mentioned above and to network with leaders, the relevant officials and parents including the increased schools.

-Continue to raise and solicit for funds from the County Government, friends and other organizations.

**Challenges**

Nenkashe,s biggest challenges are ;

-Communication is slow owing to lack of computers, scanners, photocopy machines etc. Some members have to travel 5km to a cyber café to collect reports or to send reports to each other.

-Documentation between members and Denmark and for reports could be improved if cameras were available to members.

-Follow up reconciliatory visits are rarely carried out owing to lack of means of transport and of course the expenses of hiring a suitable car.

The 2013 year started off with uncertainty of how the 5 girls will perform in the final primary school examination which would determine their future.

It turned out that 3 of the girls had done very well and were called to academically good schools. One of the 3 girls had performed very well and was admitted into a national school which was expensive and far from Kajiado.

The other two girls managed to get into a low cost private school. All the 5 girls managed to perform well in their new schools and some even improved their performance.

At the end of the year, the organization had managed to place all the 5 girls in a good school in Pokot close to their homes and with cooperation and support of the parents and the local community.

This move will enable the organization to take 5 more children including the 5 children that will be sponsored by Baylor Univ. USA.

See attached

The Auditors report will be send in 3-4 days.

Budget 2014