

PROJECT PROPOSAL DOCUMENT TO GLOBALGIVING

Title of the project: : Remember the Forgotten Old Carers

Duration of the project: :3 years

Name of organization: :Rehema Community Based Organization

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Contact Persons :Mr. Joseph Kirui – Chairman
Mr. Benard Korir – Secretary

Location of the Project : Trans Nzoia East District, Rift Valley Province

Office Location :Cherangany CDF offices, Cherangany Market

REHEMA COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATION

Rehema Community Based Organization is a Kenyan organization established in 1998 and registered in 2001 in Trans Nzoia district. It provides technical assistance to grassroots organizations within Trans Nzoia East District and partners in strengthening responses to HIV prevention and care. It partners with the Ministry of Health, National AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections Control Programme (NASCOP) and AMREF Kenya to strengthen the scaling up of quality home based treatment and care programmes, and services to people living with HIV/AIDS. The organization is mandated to carry out district wide development projects on HIV/AIDS. The organization is a membership organization. The organization is governed by a committee made up of five.

The organization is currently working with AMREF Kenya through its Maanisha Programme funded by SIDA and DFID. The programme is currently funding a Home and Community Based Care project that is benefiting people living with HIV/AIDS. The programme has seen the training of 22 Community Health Workers on Home and Community Based Care (HCBC). The organization works with the following other partners; Works with the Japanese government and World Bank through Kenya Community Development Foundation (KCDF) – which is funding our Income Generating Activities for the youth, Maasai Reto Conservation Programme- supporting income generating for youths, Gender Equity Network (GENET) supporting widows, Ministry of Health and CACC giving technical support on HCBC. We also work with KECOFATUMA giving technical support on fundraising for HIV/AIDS projects.

Majority of our beneficiaries are old people who have been left with the responsibility of caring for orphans after they lost their parents to AIDS. Currently, the organization support orphans, old carers and people who are living positively with HIV/AIDS. We provide for educational and nutritional needs of the orphans under our care. We also link our members who are living positively with HIV/AIDS with other service providers within our district. This has resulted in educational and medication support for our members and other needy cases within the community.

To support the people the organization has been able to fundraise from members and outside. Our organization has also managed to use contribution from members to plant crops that has been a source of food for the orphans. We have also worked with other stakeholders in the district to assist our project beneficiaries.

PROBLEM STATEMENT AND JUSTIFICATION.

In Trans Nzoia district, HIV/AIDS has struck the heart of the family and community to support structures for the old and the young, and is leaving a whole generation of children to be brought up by their grandparents. Most of the children under 15 years in the location have lost their parents to AIDS and many other will lose their parents soon since it has been reported that there are many cases of HIV/AIDS in the location (Cherangany CACC) estimated to be 7827 in number. Other children are living with parents who are sick and many more are living in households headed by older people who are struggling to provide care for a number of orphans. Older people have always been involved to some extent in the care of children .However, as a result of HIV/AIDS, the problem now is the increased extent of this care. The number of older people who are now taking full responsibility for the care and upbringing of orphaned children is alarming in the district. Many orphans in the location are now living with their grandparents and they are now the largest category of carers of orphans who are under the age of 10 in the district.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION.

In Trans Nzoia district, the older people are making up a significant proportion of the poor, and even without the added threats created by HIV/AIDS many older people struggle to survive and suffer poverty, social exclusion and age discrimination. Old people have few forms of support outside their families. Despite the exclusion they face, older people provide a vast pool of social knowledge as knowledge bearers and educators, as well as , taking on the triple roles of care givers, home makers and income earners in many households.

HIV/AIDS in the district is placing tremendous strain in the already limited resources and capacity of older people who are caring for orphans and vulnerable children. The loss of the middle generation of adults has severely reduced the income and consumption of families affected by HIV/AIDS. This is particularly the case for older people and orphans and vulnerable children. Older people are now selling land, property, cattle and other assets in the struggle to meet their own basic needs, and to care for their grandchildren. Additional costs include food, healthcare, secondary school fees, college and uniforms for primary schools. This depletes the family resources and often jeopardizes the livelihoods or inheritance of the children and other family members. Older people have been routinely excluded from obtaining loans for small businesses from financial institutions within the district because of age discrimination and lack of assets to offer as security. Older people income –earning is further compromised when they are caring for their dying adult children/ or young children, leaving them little time to earn.

This challenges calls for support to the old carers in the district so as a future generation can be brought up. If this project is not supported many orphans will not be able to complete their education, many will die from disease and hunger. Many will also be displaced into towns and therefore increase the number of street children within the district. The girl orphans will turn into prostitution so as to earn a living and support their siblings. This prostitution will increase the prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the district.

PROJECT DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

This project will carry out the following activities in order to attain its objectives;

a. Purchase of Hybrid dairy goats for old carers and other guardians.

Since dairy goat keeping is not labour intensive, this project will be suitable for old carers that we work with. The goats need little amount of food compared to cows. This programme will buy dairy goats. Agricultural extension officers from the Ministry of Livestock will provide the much needed capacity building for the goats' project. The goats will provide milk for orphans and the extra milk will be sold to supplement family income. Kids produced from the initial breed will fetch better prices among other farmers within the district and will be sold to sustain the education and other needs of the beneficiaries

b. Education support for the orphans.

This will involve payment of secondary school fees for orphans. Currently the organization has orphans who are attending different day secondary schools within and outside the district. We need this project to benefit them and primary going pupils. They have been facing problems to meet their school fees needs, since the old carers are not able to raise the fees required. This project will also involve purchase of school uniforms to orphans who are attending day primary schools. We will buy school uniforms, shoes and bags for orphans.

c. Medical support.

This project will avail some money for purchase of drugs for orphans and referral services to district hospital and other health institutions. We have lost some to HIV/AIDS opportunistic diseases due to lack of funds to take them for specialized treatment at the local health facilities.

d. Income generating Projects

In order to sustain the old carers and guardians of the orphans we are working with. This project will work to enable them set up income generating projects through provision of small interest free capital and trainings. This will reduce high dependency on the organization by the project beneficiaries. Some of the income generating projects will be poultry keeping, kitchen gardening, rabbit rearing, dress making etc.

PROJECT BENEFICIARIES.

- Primary school going orphans.
- Secondary school going orphans.
- Older carers.
- People living with HIV/AIDS.

PROJECT RESULTS.

- a. Improved food security for the orphans and older carers through availability of goat milk and other food materials.
- b. Increased number of orphans completing their primary and secondary education as a result of availability of school fees and other educational support.
- c. Reduction in the death of orphans as a result of availability of money for medication.
- d. Strengthened capacity of older carers due to the income accrued from sale of dairy milk, goats and their products.
- e. A prolonged life for people living with HIV/AIDS.

PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY.

The rearing of dairy goats and setting up of income generating projects for old carers and guardians in this project is meant to sustain the project. This will be through funds accrued from the sale of dairy goats and other products of this project. In future the profits from dairy goats project will be used to buy uniforms, pay school fees, buy food and provide medication for orphans and old carers.

Summarized Estimated Project Budget per Activity.

- Educational support -US\$ 14000
- Medication support. US\$ 11000
- Purchase of hybrid dairy goats – US\$ 16000
- Income generating projects - US\$ 11200
- Administration, monitoring and evaluation – US\$5800

Estimated Project Total – US\$ 58000