

Tumshangilieni mtoto

Founded in 1994 by the Late actress Anne Wanjugu, Tumshangilieni Mtoto is a project in Nairobi, Kenya whose aim is to give underprivileged children and other children from economically challenged backgrounds a chance to be reintegrated into Kenyan society and to give them education and vocational training. In so doing the children are economically empowered and are able to overcome the vicious cycle of poverty.

Development Issues:

Children.

Key Points:

Street children remain amongst the most highly marginalized and vulnerable human beings in Kenya, and there are up to 500 000 Kenyan street children. They are found on the streets of every city and town in Kenya. They are largely driven out of their homes by poverty, destitution, and the breakdown of the family and other social welfare structures. The children have no access to shelter, education, health care, or protection. Even the youngest, of both sexes, are often sexually abused and exploited, traumatized and suffer from mental challenges. Furthermore, substance abuse is almost universal with the most common being glue, which, when used over a sustained period, results in permanent brain damage. This street children who are rounded up by police and taken to social halls often resort to petty theft, begging, and various other means to find their daily bread.

Home

Tumshangilieni provide these children with a place to live where they are accommodated at the boarding facility. The children are under the watchful eye of the matron who is responsible for their daily needs food, clothing, hygiene and medical care. Above all the most vital need for the children is to experience love, safety and security.

Education

Kindergarten - primary school

Our school runs from baby class up to class 8 attended by the children's in the home together with 75 others from neighboring Kibagare slum. The children finish primary school by taking the Kenyan certificate of primary education (KCPE). The school is led by two principals one for administration and the other school development (academics).

Secondary

Most of the children make the leap to the secondary school. At present there are 34 children attending secondary school.

College/ university

On successful completion of secondary school, the children have the opportunity to do vocational training or attend university. A vocational training concept developed by tumshangilie guides the children with their career decision making. They are supported through this process by the social worker.

Farming

Tumshangilieni mtoto farm is designed on the principles of permaculture which is a continuous natural and permanently functioning cycle of sustainable food production without pesticides and artificial fertilizers.

Our goal is to set up an ecologically sustainable project with:-grey water recycling, solar, biogas which is in progress, rain water collection and practice of waste separation, biodegradable and non-biodegradable.

The farm is prepared in blocks from block 1 to block 10. over the past few years we have been planting several plants randomly in each bed, but we saw the need to bring forth diversification of crops in our farm to ensure sustainability.

We get vegetables and eggs from the farm feed the children.

Performing arts

Tumshangilieni uses the performing arts, including drama, acrobatics, choir, tae-kwan-do, and mime to help build self-empowerment. performances are designed to both empower the young performers and sensitize society to the rising predicament of “young lives lost on the street, sniffing glue, picking pockets, and exposed to prostitution.” performances prove that the performing arts are effective in building children's self-confidence and worth, as well as demonstrating the potential of all children.

Skate Park

Skate was built by skate aid Germany & Dirk Nowitzk foundation Germany.

It's a multifunctional skate park and a basketball pitch.

Reasons for the skate park construction

- Give children an opportunity to be children
- Identify talents in children i.e. different tricks in skating
- Help keep the children of kibagare and kangemi community away from the street life
- Help release stress that affect their family's
- Help them gain self-confidence and that in life all that one has to do confidence is key