

# 2012

## Zawadi Fund International



Annual Report

[www.cyec.net](http://www.cyec.net)

## Background and Mission

The Zawadi Fund International (ZFI) was established in 2009 as US-based non-profit corporation to support the Children and Youth Empowerment Centre and affiliated programs in Kenya. ‘Zawadi’ is the Swahili word for ‘gift’ and was selected to represent our desire to develop the gifts of each child for the betterment of the community.

The Children and Youth Empowerment Centre (CYEC), Nyeri, is a dynamic and innovative residential and educational program for street dwelling children and other highly vulnerable young people in Kenya. Created in 2006 as a public-private initiative to address specific gaps in the care and support of disadvantaged children and youth, the CYEC is partnering with local civic organizations, the private sector and Kenyan and U.S. universities to find *effective, sustainable solutions* for this population.

*The Children and Youth Empowerment Centre is focused on the comprehensive development of its target population, including life skills and entrepreneurship training, to enable these young people to lead fulfilling lives and contribute to the well-being of their communities. Zawadi Fund International is partnering with the CYEC to create innovative models for program sustainability, including mobilizing local resources and developing entrepreneurial initiatives for the Centre.*

## 2012 Accomplishments and Activities

Thanks to your support, the CYEC was able to have an exciting and successful year across its programs! Youth enterprises have expanded and grown, children expressed themselves through the arts and the young people shone in educational activities inside and beyond the classroom.

### Zawadi Youth Enterprise Program

The Zawadi Youth Enterprise Program (Z-YEP) serves as a business incubator for youth at the CYEC. Through the Z-YEP, the youth start businesses (individually or in teams), develop leadership skills and learn how to grow and manage their businesses.



The hay-making business has taken off! The youth cut and bale hay as a service and build and sell balers. They've exhibited at farm shows in Nairobi and Nyeri in conjunction with Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology. This program was started by a faculty member at Penn State, and they've received funding from the Global Knowledge Initiative to train youth in Uganda in 2013!

Z-YEP recently opened a shop which they intend to use as an outlet for products made by the youth in addition to traditional retailing. Among the Z-YEP products currently being sold through the outlet are charcoal briquettes, pastries and farm produce. They intend to have bar soap and liquid detergents as well as flour (milled at the Centre) in April 2013.



Youth also produce vegetables for the Centre, sew the school uniforms and build the school desks. Production of eggs and dairy goat milk also supplements the children's diet. Two students at Kansas State also won a grant to develop an export business for the shoulder bags and other items produced by the tailoring program.

## Education

It was an exciting year in the education program at the CYEC for students young and old!

The nursery school grew, as we had five children from the Centre and 17 from the community. This allows us to provide a vital service to the community, and these paying students help support the costs of the program, while ensuring that more children are ready to learn when they reach primary school.



We had 97 children in primary school in 2012. Of the children in grade 7 and below, 56% were in positions 1-10 in their respective classes while 17% were in positions 1-3. Class sizes range between 50 and 60 children. These children value education and work hard! Recent additions at the Centre to help with education include the Khan Academy computer based learning program and refurbishment of the Centre's library.

While primary education is free in Kenya, secondary education is not. In order to attend secondary schools, students must pass a rigorous set of exams at the end of eighth grade. In 2012 we had 17 students in high school, and in 2013 we'll have 27. Your support helps pay their school fees, as well as school supplies, exam materials and field trips for all the students!

We are also very excited that five of our youth are now in college level programs. Most of them attend colleges or universities in Nyeri so they can still participate in the Z-YEP and fill leadership roles at the CYEC.

The CYEC received a generous grant in 2012 to refurbish the metal-working and wood-working shops from the Government of Japan. This will allow us to provide higher levels of skill-training in the vocational skills program this year.

We were pleased to be able to implement the HealthWise lifeskills curriculum, thanks to the assistance of a volunteer from Australia. HealthWise was developed by a Penn State faculty member to help youth learn to use leisure time positively. Youth in the Z-YEP also participated in entrepreneurship workshops offered by Penn State students, in which they learned to identify opportunities, develop business plans and manage finances.

## **Residential Care**

The CYEC has a residential program based on a boarding school model, which provides a safe and healthy environment for children who are homeless or from difficult domestic backgrounds. Through its programming, the CYEC strives to develop values and behavior patterns to prepare these young people for successful reintegration. In 2012, some 130 children were in residence at the CYEC.

**Nutrition Support:** Thanks to the generous support of Zawadi Fund donors, all of the children in primary school or younger have a nutritious porridge every morning. In addition, 20 children under the age of 12 also have fruit four days a week.

**Health Services:** The CYEC provides for the physical, mental and emotional health of the children under their care. The Centre has a medical clinic for basic healthcare, managed by a qualified and experienced nurse and two part-time counselors for psychosocial support. ZFI supported the purchase of medicines and supplies for the clinic in 2012.

**Zawadi Shop:** Children and youth at the CYEC have the opportunity to earn and save Zawadi points to buy toys and non-essential clothing at the Zawadi Shop. This initiative, with in-kind and financial support from ZFI donors, rewards children's effort and good behavior and promotes a saving culture.

**Clubs & Sports:** The CYEC has an active club and sports program to engage the talents and special aptitudes of the children and youth at the Centre and to facilitate their self-understanding. These clubs include an art club, drama club, environmental club, football (soccer) club and acrobatics club. A reading club and film club are set to be introduced.

**Arts:** A US volunteer partnered with the Zawadi Society of Kenya and local artists to develop a mural arts program at the Centre. The children created the ideas for the murals and had fun painting them! This allowed them to express themselves and provides color and beauty in their environment. The art program is currently being run by two youth graduates of a program similar to the CYEC in Nairobi.



**Program Sustainability:**

To increase sustainability and give the children and youth responsibilities, production of many necessities, e.g. food, clothes and furniture, as well as chores are handled nearly entirely by the youth and children. Volunteers from Kansas State University helped create a system of value exchange

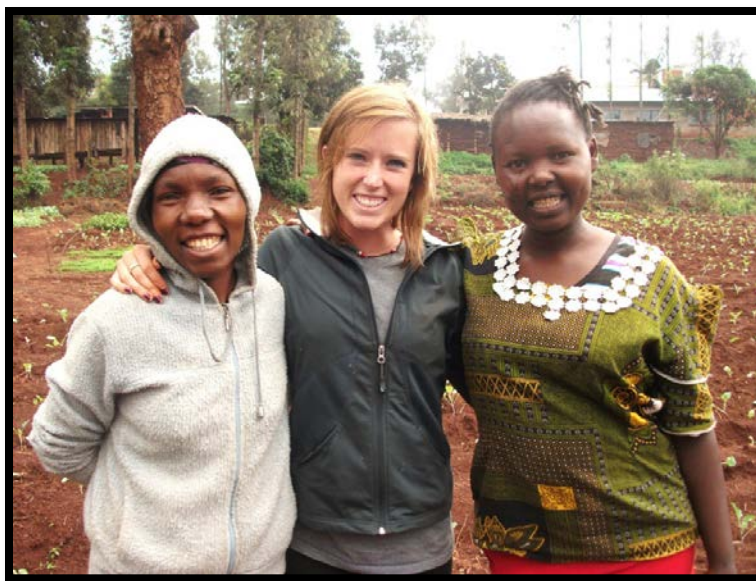
to track these activities.

**Basic Needs:** In 2012, ZFI donors helped to meet critical operational expenses including food, clothing/shoes, utilities, and staff expenses when needed. Your support gives these children a place to call home!

## Partnerships

The Centre continues to benefit from the network of partnerships it has created to bring together creative, dedicated people and institutions to develop and implement innovative programs. Key among these are US and Kenyan universities including Penn State University, Kansas State University, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology and the University of Nairobi.

The Zawadi Society is a Kenyan organization through which local civic groups, businesses, religious bodies and individuals support the Centre's programs through volunteering, financial or in-kind support, especially in the arts programing.



## 2013 Priorities and Initiatives

- Strengthening and expansion of the Zawadi Youth Enterprise Program including:
  - A 'waste-to-value' initiative to make productive use of waste and when possible, generate income or employment for the youth.
  - Expansion of the retail outlet business to sell additional products produced by the youth.
- Develop and deliver a youth leadership and civic engagement curriculum in Kenya, funded by a grant from UNESCO.
- Settle the first group of youth in the Zawadi Eco-Village program.

## Zawadi Fund International 2012 Financial Statement

<b>Donations</b>	
Direct donations	\$87,858.80
Indirect donations (Global Giving & Network for Good)	7,818.30
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$95,677.10</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Dispersal to CYEC	\$92,125.89
Residential care	66,285.49
Education and Training	8,605.35
Production and Enterprise Development	9,989.37
Infrastructure/Facilities	7,245.68
Business expenses	185.13
Transfer and on-line collection fees	227.13
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$92,538.15</b>
<b>Net Change in Assets</b>	<b>3,138.95</b>
<b>Assets at the beginning of the year</b>	<b>17,867.26</b>
<b>Assets at the end of the year</b>	<b>\$21,006.21</b>

EIN: 27-0726956

ZFI has no paid staff, keeping our overhead expenses to a minimum (0.4% of expenses). That means **99.6%** of your donations go straight to support the children and programming at the CYEC!



## Personnel

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