



BWC RUMURUTI - PROGRESS REPORT FORM

SECTION 1 - GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

Name of Project:	Empowering Women	Name of Organization:	Baraka Women's Center 2-Rumuruti
Contact Person:	Dr. Teresia / Wanjiru	Contact Details:	0721417993/ 0721381008 barakawomen2015@gmail.com wjnknngigi@gmail.com
Project Start Date:	10/10/2025	Report Date:	20/06/2026
Project End Date:		Reporting End Date:	20/06/2026
Location:	Rumuruti, Kenya		
Target Beneficiaries (description):	<p>The socio-economic injustices faced by women are due to lack of education and cultural traditions of marginalization. The criteria for enrollment in the SED program are that the applicants:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reside in an impoverished settlement; 2. Support school-age children; 3. Are aged 17 through 60, the range of prime income-generating ability; 4. Are literate to the level of standard 8 or willing to receive adult education from the center 5. Agree to complete a full course of the training they select. <p>Women tend to be adept at saving and appreciate the value of help received. They are highly motivated to succeed because of their commitment to improve the welfare of their children.</p>		



<p>Summary of Project:</p>	<p>BWC is situated in an area where economic activities are limited to menial jobs; semi arid areas where the communities are pastoralists and marginalized . Many women have undergone female genitalia mutilation , forced to drop out of school and into early marriages where there are 2nd or 3rd wife . Sexual gender based violence is very common in this area and there is no rescue center nearby for women , girls and youths who undergo such harassment . Their poverty is enforced by traditional culture and beliefs (that Nomadic communities are livestock keepers and all women should give birth to as many children as possible because it's a sign of wealth</p> <p>Most of these people are domestic workers where they go for casual jobs or herd their husbands animals .But as the result of BWC's training, more are entering into small businesses such as hair dressing / beauty therapy , clothing and craft sales, tailoring, cyber / stationery business while others have been employed . However, these women still face a myriad of survival challenges. The women also lack a place to sell their bead products and other lack seed capital to start their small business</p> <p>Women with small businesses account for as much as 70% of the total of the community's income in Kenya. The majority are young mothers who are 2,3 or 4th wife , single moms or widows with an average of five children, making them vulnerable to rising costs and reduced livelihood options. Their poverty is enforced by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Under-education and underemployment ▪ Gender-based violence and substance abuse ▪ Lack of self-esteem ▪ Feelings of discouragement and despair ▪ A burden of poor health ▪ Lack of business or vocational skills and knowledge ▪ Lack of knowledge about where to go for help. <p>Entrepreneur women are more likely to join savings circle as a means of financing (table banking groups) their businesses and they use less start-up capital and or formal credit than men.</p> <p>Women managing small businesses are more likely to rely on unpaid and unskilled help.</p> <p>Their businesses are near their homes where they know and understand the market and can manage both home chores their business.</p> <p>They are more likely to work in temporary structures and without utilities.</p> <p>They are more likely to leave business for personal reasons rather than business failure.</p>



Given their central role in the welfare of the children and families and their dual role as primary income producers, the effort to enhance their economic success is vital in both short and long term.

Goal

This program expands existing vocational training programs at Baraka Women's Center and is aimed at ensuring that disadvantaged women and youth who've left school are engaged in economically viable and sustainable activities. All the trainees will be mentored and guided on table banking formation and management , business start up and management , and livelihood life skills

Objectives

The primary objectives are to empower women to compete profitably in the local business markets, improve their capacity to access formal credit institutions, build savings, and reduce or eliminate dependency on government aid.



SECTION 2 - KEY DEVELOPMENTS/CHALLENGES

An overview of the progress your project has made, the challenges you have faced and the lessons learned.

1. Describe the progress or key achievements of your project this month.

Jan/Feb

1. The 75 trainees have progressed well with their training in different vocational skills
2. 3 table banking groups have been formed where trainings do their monthly savings
3. 15 new business have started their own business
4. 11 have been given part time jobs in different business
5. The trainees who have joined table banking groups are able to save at least 500 monthly
6. 5 trainees have taken small loans from their groups to boost their small business
7. 34 business have been mentored/monitored during this two month
8. Training of the 4 vocational skills has started
9. 4 more trainees have joined the existing table banking groups
10. All the trainees have been mentored and some of the trainees can now share their life history with others
11. Most of the trainees self esteem has been raised and livelihood raised

March/ April

- 75 trainees have completed their trainings and are awaiting graduation
- 60 of the trainees have joined the table banking and are doing monthly savings
- 45 trainees have started different types of business in different fields
- All the 45 business have been mentored and monitored
- 15 trainees have jobs placement
- All the trainees have been mentored
- 7 young girls have been rescued from early marriage
- All the children of the trainees are in school
- The Women Empowerment Fund /Uwezo Fund have trained all the table banking groups in finance literacy and assured to given the groups loans to



boost their business on a small repayment rate

2. Describe any challenges that your project faced this month, and how you dealt with these challenges.

Challenge(s)	Solution(s)
<p>Jan/Feb</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some of the trainees attend classes with their babies who keeps disrupting the training - Most of the young mothers are the bread earner in their families hence attend classes at different times - Some of the trainees attend classes late or few days due to the distances they cover. - Illiteracy level of some trainees is affecting the training and delaying - Being a pastoralist/ nomadic area, the mothers have problems in feeding the babies / themselves hence affecting the trainings - - Being a pastoralist / nomadic area, many children follow the mother to BWC to be fed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The trainees volunteer on daily to take care of the babies and cook for them porridge - The trainers have grouped them according to their availability - The trainees are arranged according to their locations and availability - BWC engages the mentors to translate into their language and also adult education has continued for basic skills - BWC directors have sourced for food from well-wishers for a feeding program - The trainers train the trainees affected when available - BWC buys porridge/ snacks with profit from the business to feed the babies / elderly



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some of the women who received seed capital in their table banking groups have defaulted as their families relocated from Rumuruti due to their pastoralist nature 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New members will be recruited as we wait for the defaulters to settle down
<p>March/April</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some trainees are missing classes for 3 days a week as their go for casual jobs - Young mothers attend sessions with their babies who keep disrupting the trainings - Some of the trainees are highly illiterate hence training in English or Kiswahili is difficulty - Its holiday time hence most of the young school going children follow their parents to the center for the feeding program - The new premises where BWC relocated to is have problems of water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The trainers create time for the trainees when they come for sessions are extend the training times - The young mothers continue volunteering as care givers to the children - Mentors are used to translate while training and to do adult education - The volunteer of the day cooks for the children while BWC directors / well-wisher source for food - The 7 graduates are being mentored by the mentors and given refresher courses in entrepreneurship skills - BWC management is in the process of applying for water from the Ministry of water
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -
<p>3. Describe any lessons learned this month.</p>	



SECTION 3 - IMPACT INDICATORS

How have you measured the success and progress of your projects?

General Indicators	M1	M2	M3	Q1 Total	Comments - e.g. Give reason(s) for any missing or incomplete data
Total number of direct beneficiaries	75	75	75	75	All the trainees have received their trainings
Total number of female direct beneficiaries	72	72	72	72	72 of the 75 trainees are female .
Total number of indirect beneficiaries	770	700	870	2340	<p>Explain who are indirect beneficiaries and how do they benefit from the project: These are the family members of the trainees, women in table banking who attended in great number as they were receiving their dividends / education booster and other members who visit the center. They benefit in counselling, mentorship and also get trained in entrepreneurship/ leadership skills . Others visit the organization to seek advice/ information about the center , buying products / services from the center Others are partners , government officers and friends of the organization</p>



Output Indicators	M1	M2	M3	Q1 Total	Comments
Number of Staff/Trainers	4	4	4	4	The staff number is the same
Number of Curriculum Topics Taught and Description	16	16		32	<p>M1 Curriculum Description: Jan-April</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Measuring / cutting a shirt , shirt collar / sleeves and sewing it - Measuring / cutting and sewing a unisex short with elastic - Measuring / cutting and sewing short sleaved dress - Entrepreneurship – Vision/ mission/ goals development and marketing skills .Mentorship – Self-value/ Personal SWOT analysis / Parenting skills <p><u>Hair dressing/ Beauty Therapy</u></p> <p>Jan-April</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Different designs of plaiting school going girls - Braiding hair piece - Pedicure / Manicure/Facial theory / practical's - Entrepreneurship- Vision, mission / goal development and business communication skills . Mentorship- Self-value/ Self- respect and parenting skills



					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exams from BWC/NITA <p><u>Computer</u></p> <p>Jan-April</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction to Microsoft word - Typing and type setting / creating new word document - Introduction to Microsoft excel / creating a spreadsheet / feeding information /formatting the spreadsheet - Entrepreneurship – Vision/ mission/ goals development and marketing skills .Mentorship – Self -value/ Personal SWOT analysis / parenting skills - Nita /BWC exams <p><u>Bead work</u></p> <p>Jan- April</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Designing and making of different types of earrings - Designing and making traditional Maasai women necklaces for events - Entrepreneurship – Vision, mission and goal development , and business communication skills - Mentorship – Self-love , Self-respect and Parenting skills - Adding value to traditional dresses using beads/ shells - Entrepreneurship -5 Ps in business, Business communication and early stages of business plan development Mentorship – Leadership skills, stress management and parenting skills
--	--	--	--	--	--



Impact	M1	M2	M3	Q1 Total	Comments
Number of Women Who have Started a Business or are Employed after Vocational Training	12	20	18	60	60 of the trainees are in business and others employed
Number of Women who are able to Pay Back Loans	57	60	67	67	These are the women with loans in the 21 groups and are able to repay
Examples of Personal Success	<p data-bbox="712 730 1086 762">STRENGTH OF WOMAN</p> <div data-bbox="712 778 1279 1442"> </div> <div data-bbox="1368 730 1868 767" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> <p data-bbox="1368 730 1868 767">Jennifer displaying her Hen projects</p> </div> <p data-bbox="1294 772 1912 826">When the going gets tough the tough gets going “</p> <p data-bbox="1294 842 1912 916">My name is Jennifer and a graduate from BWC in beadwork , mentorship and table banking</p> <p data-bbox="1294 922 1912 1059">Am now in business and a members of Mathenge Table banking group where through my business of selling chicken I am able to save 500 -1000/ shillings per month .</p> <p data-bbox="1294 1066 1912 1203">Three Months ago I took a loan of 30,000/ and added my chicken where I buy young ones and rear them. Within 6 months they will be mature and will take them to the market</p> <p data-bbox="1294 1209 1912 1394">My chicken project has 60 grown up chickens and 40 chicks. The grown-ups are laying eggs and I sell eggs on daily basis . At least now my children cant sleep on an empty stomach and they usually eat two eggs per child every week .</p>				



I am always pay fees for the children and my rent on time . I have also upgraded my sitting room and kitchen as well as my dressing code .

My parents are elderly ,so I always buy them their medications because they are ailing and food . I am also supporting children of my late sister who passed on 2 years ago .

It doesn't matter how your past it but with God and determination you can rise to a better grade . I appreciate what BWC/ Global giving have done for me . They have lit the candle and I am lighting candles of other women on my path for their progress . I will continue lighting the candle of other women because my light won't go down . God bless Global Giving / BWC for me



Jennifer selling her matured chicken to BWC



M2: **Margaret Letaba**

Margaret in class doing her plaiting practical's with her baby on the back . True African woman



Margaret Letaba

My name is Margaret Letaba,19 years old and a single parent to one baby boy . Am a Turkana child from Laikipia County. My parents are peasants' farmers where they keep animals like other pastoralists communities. My father has 5 wives and my mother is the 4th wife with 7 children while her co-wives have a total of 29 children. This means survival for the fittest for each mother and her children. I got enrolled in primary school and at least I was happy because I was away from home and never went to graze goats and calves until in the late

afternoon.

Drastic change in my life

When I got to class five my father informed my mother that I had matured hence I needed to undergo female genitalia mutilation. We our three of us in our family of that age and we never loved it because it meant dropping out of school and also being forced to early marriage for my father to acquire wealth. Girls in Turkana community is a sign of wealth in terms of cows and goats. I tried to talk to my mother to rescue me from this rite but she informed me that she would be beaten and chased away by my father. My two half-sisters and I underwent through the rite of FGM which was done in a cruel manner, painful and psychological torture. After the rite we were taken to our elder mother to be nursed and trained on how to be responsible wives and mothers. In four months, we had healed and my mother informed us that we were not going back to school as we had now matured for marriage. I was so bitter with life and hated my father as he wanted to benefit from us



Darkness in my life

One year after Female genitalia mutilation an elderly man visited our home with two other men. My father summoned my mother and demanded I be dressed and brought forward to my suitor. I was dressed in Turkana traditional wedding regalia and brought to my suitor who paid bride price on me. We left with my husband and was taken to my elder co-wife house where she was to train me. On the third week I was taken to my husband's house and he had sex with me which was a very painful and traumatizing experience as I was a virgin and this made me to tear so much. It was so painful that I cried but this did not stop him from sleeping with me for a whole week. After three months I realised I had conceived and started nursing my pregnancy and after nine months I delivered a bouncing baby boy . Two weeks later the man wanted to have sex with me and I was still in pain due to prolonged labour. I refused and went back to my mother's house after a though beating from him. My mother just kept me for a night but in the morning, she told me to go back to my husbands house since my father was not ready to return the bride price. I returned and stayed there for 4 months until I could not bear it any more and decided to walk out from my marriage and I knew I could not go back to my fathers place



Margaret Letaba
Blow drying another
Student in class

Scars turn to stars

The following morning I took my babe, our clothes and went to stay with a friend of mine. I narrated to her what had happened to me and she accommodated me with my babe. She later asked me if I would love to train in a vocational skill and start my own business . I informed her I was willing and would love to be independent and raise my own child . The



following day she took me to Baraka Women Center and I enrolled in hair dressing and beauty therapy. I started training and I realised that I have the passion in hairdressing. At Baraka Women Center we are also being mentored in life skills especially appreciating and loving ourselves as women. I have rediscovered myself and this has raised my self-esteem. My parenting skills have gone high and am relating well with my friends. I usually attend classes in the morning and in the afternoon, I go for casual jobs to get daily bread for my child and I. During the weekend and sometimes in the evening I do some hairdressing and am paid. This is helping me in perfecting my skills and also getting more money. I have registered in one of the table banking groups where I do savings and merry go round. I want to save enough money that by the end of the training I will be able to buy the equipment I will require for my salon business.

My Parents have reaccepted me

As I continue looking for casual jobs and also doing mobile hair dressing, I am getting good money and able to send to my mother and father. Last week my mother came looking for me at BWC training centre and informed me that my father has forgiven me and will return the dowry. She is supporting my training and wants to be staying with my baby as I train and do casual jobs. Thanks to BWC which has rescued me from self-hatred, raised my self-esteem and made me to rediscover myself. I am now walking with my head high and ready to face the world as a single mother and very independent. Apart from mentorship we are being trained on entrepreneurship and leadership skills, financial literacy, reproductive health, mental health and sexual gender-based violence.

Thanks to BWC for what it has done for me and our other young mothers . Women are the backbone to families, communities, nation and the whole world.



M3:

SMILE OF A YOUNG EMPOWERED MAASAI GIRL



My name is Mercy Milanoi and born in Rumuruti in a polygamous family . I completed secondary school last year after being rescued from female gentalia mutilation by Baraka



Women Center three years ago . This would have made my father to force me drop out of school and into early marriage . I remain grateful to BWC TEAM
After my parents failed to take me to college due to lack of finances and having many children in school , I joined BWC for a tailoring /dress making course in August . I am being trained in tailoring and dress making
We are also receiving also receiving entrepreneurship and leadership training together with table banking group formation and management . Mentorship and one on one counselling happens every week and this has helped me in discovering myself , raising my self esteem and knowing how to repackage myself
We are in our last month of training and I have perfected in dress making . I now get materials from clients and make for them garments and they pay me . Every week I am making at least 1000/ Ksh where I give back to BWC 20% and the rest is mine . I have also joined one of the table banking groups where I do my saving of at least 1000/Ksh per month . I wish to save for 1 year and after get a loan to buy my own machine and tailoring material to start my own business .
Sometimes I think I am dreaming and pitch myself for awake up call but I have realised a dream has come true and completely changed my life style . Am grateful to BWC for changing my story from sad one to an inspiring story . Long live BWC .