

## Fundraising Project for the building of the Assistive Technology Innovation and Training Center



### Background information

SEP has worked with children with disabilities and their families for over 30 years and has come across an urgent need for **assistive devices and play opportunities**. Families often live very far for the nearest intervention center therefore need effective intervention at their homes.

The use of assistive devices and adapted furniture such as adapted chairs, splints and walking frames are important to enhance better posture, body alignment and mobility. Training the caregivers in how to operate and maintain the devices is equally important to ensure efficient and effective use and longevity. Adapted aids enable carers to incorporate therapeutic activities into daily life, which is crucial for consistent development and preventing further complications. Assistive devices also ease the physical strain on (grand)parents and carers and help them to take care of the child comfortably and safely without physical overload. This makes it easier to sustain long-term care.

With adapted aids, children can **better participate** in their daily environment and social activities. Play, which is a fundamental right for every child as recognized by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, increases their self-esteem and independence and promotes **interaction with family members and peers**, which is important for their social and emotional development and their

overall well-being. By providing play opportunities attached to the assistive devices, children with disabilities have access to play and can participate in activities.



However access to assistive technology remains **severely limited** due to several barriers, including the high cost of products and services, limited availability in key markets, and insufficient financing at both national and global levels.

SEP started the **production of assistive devices** to solve this problem by providing customized, high quality assistive devices, made **from locally sourced materials** which are provided without charge to the people who really need them but cannot afford them. The workshop is currently located in Langata but is bursting at its seams. Due to the increasing demand and visibility SEP needs to expand production.



## Project Goal

SEP has purchased a quarter acre of land situated in Kamangu, Thigio, Kiambu County for the development of the Assistive Technology Innovation and Training Center. The location is easily accessible by public and private transport.

The Assistive Technology Innovation and Training Center is aimed at **increasing productivity and development of new devices** to improve the quality of life for children with disabilities and their caregivers.

In addition, the center will also provide **training to professionals and caregivers** in the correct handling and taking care of children with disabilities. Newly graduated therapists will receive specialised training in therapy intervention and the design of individualised assistive devices with incorporation of play activities.

## Design Workshop



Front view



Side view

## Expected Outcomes

Development of a sustainable model for assistive technology innovation in Kenya.

Improved access to affordable assistive devices for children with disabilities.

Enhanced capacity of caregivers to provide effective support through assistive devices

Strengthening the skills of the therapists and professionals in creating individualised assistive devices and best practice in therapy intervention

Increased participation in activities (play) and social inclusion of children with disabilities within the family and the communities.

An increased number of children with disabilities will be reached and impacted.

Developmental progress in children with disabilities and better quality of life.

Increased number of children with disabilities attending school and improved participation in education through individual adaptations as well as school modifications.

## Budget

The estimated cost for the project is Ksh 17,868,564.

Ksh 13,903,800 has been raised and partly put towards fencing, design, land, lawyers and fees.

**Ksh 4,078,980 still needs to be raised for the main building** (all rates in Kenyan Shilling, the local currency).

Costs for land and construction	Total estimated cost	Total already raised	Total already paid	Total needed
Land and fees (lawyers etc)	Ksh4,755,000	Ksh4,755,000	Ksh4,755,000	
Design, drawings and approvals	Ksh522,800	Ksh522,800	Ksh522,800	
Fencing	Ksh695,534	Ksh695,534	Ksh347,767	
Main Building	Ksh11,895,230	Ksh6,902,682.97		Ksh4,992,547.03
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Ksh17,868,564</b>	<b>Ksh12,876,016.97</b>		<b>Ksh3,921980.06</b>

Budget in USD dollars

<b>Costs for land and construction</b>	<b>Total estimated cost</b>	<b>Total already raised</b>	<b>Total already paid</b>	<b>Total needed</b>
Land and fees (lawyers etc)	\$36,860.47	\$36,860.47	\$36,860.47	
Design, drawings and approvals	\$4,052.71	\$4,052.71	\$4,052.71	
Fencing	\$5,391.73	\$5,391.73	\$2,695.87	
Main Building	\$92,211.09	\$53,509.17		\$38,701.91
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$138,516</b>	<b>\$99,814.096</b>		<b>\$30,402.95</b>