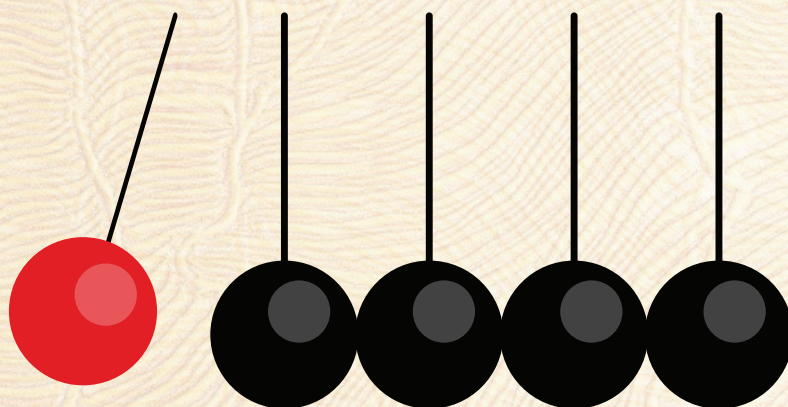




SPRINGS OF HOPE FOR COMMUNITIES



impact
narratives

Introduction

Springs Of Hope For Communities is a ministry centered foundation founded in the year 2021 and registered with the NGO Coordination Board in July 2022 as a Non-Governmental Organization. It's a not-for-profit organization formed with the objective of driving transformation initiatives with a view to contribute to the attainment of a just, fair and equitable society for all regardless of race, religion and class as envisioned by the SDG's. The foundation seeks to drive intervention in the areas of education and mindset change, financial and entrepreneurship development, and environment conservation in collaboration with highly vulnerable communities in Kenya.

Our call to action is informed by the need to endeavor to make right the inequalities manifested in the Society. The foundation operates in the geographic areas of Kajiado, Makueni and Mathare valley slum. Being a not for profit and at inception stage, we are solely reliant on well-wishers, volunteers, and donors to support our project activities as we work on identifying and looking for resources to invest in own income generating projects for sustainability.

Above all, we are ministry centered; besides working to transform our beneficiaries on societal parameters; we also give focus to spiritual and canonical teachings for the soul.

Our Vision

To give hope to children and vulnerable households from the Masai community, Makueni County and Mathare slums in Kenya.

Our Mission

Passionate about transforming lives by providing education, talent nurturing and spiritual nourishments to bright and needy children from the Masai community and Mathare slum dwellers.

Tagline

The world has enough for all of us if we cared for ourselves and for each other.

Core values

- Christianity
- Selfless service
- Commitment to the poor
- Focus on problem solving and transformation

Concept inspiration

This concept is inspired by two heart touching case studies;

- 1). The story of Mother Teresa , the founder of missionaries of charity whose primary task was to love and care for those persons nobody was prepared to look after.
- 2).The story of Kevin Carter, the winner of the Pulitzer award. Through his photo journalism work, he brought the entire world to attention after highlighting horrifying photos of the twin problems of war and drought ravaging what was then the Sudan. In one of the photos was the picture of a starving girl waiting to die as a vulture lay on the wait to feast on her.

Through the years of existence, the foundation has registered impacts in the various programmatic areas we operate in as follows;

Impact summary

Evangelization

- Initiated opening of 8 churches
- Ministered to 1,000's of people
- Constructed (2) social halls as income generating projects

Education

- Initiated a (2) church owned schools- AIC Zion and Metto
- Started own school
- Provided education to 1,000's
- Transitioned 67 to University

Women and Youth Empowerment

- Youths in AIC Zion primary excel in music festivals
- Empowered 10 members in Mathare group
- Trained 100's of other women members
- Empowered 50 women members in Makueni

Environmental Conservation

- Reclaimed 10 acres of waste land
- Planted trees 1,500 within school and community
- Provided indirect employment to youth and women groups operating tree nurseries

What is the problem?



The Masai community occupies two expansive Counties in Kenya:- Kajiado and Narok. Because of their nomadic way of life, they live in cow dung constructed Manyattas, practice pastoralism as their main economic activity thus denying their school aged boy's opportunity to enroll in School. They subject their girls to female genital mutilation and give them out through arranged marriage. Living In the midst of the world renowned national parks, School going children are always exposed to the danger of marauding wild animals. With schools located far apart from areas of settlement, this danger occasions

delayed enrolment by learners until very later when they can face a lion which causes misalignment to learners. Low levels of education among members of the community coupled with poor infrastructure has seen the community live a life of deprivation and indignity manifested through low income and lack of savings, inhuman housing, diseases and high mortality rate due to lack of hospitals, poor dietary habits (raw milk from cows & meat), outdated cultural practices- circumcision of women and trafficking of human beings for livelihood through early marriages.

On the other hand, the Mathare slum in Nairobi is the second biggest slum in Africa after Kibera slum. People live in poor housing facilities; 6 ft. x 8 ft. shanties made of old tin and mud. Utilities like running water and electricity are nonexistent. There are no beds for sleeping as people sleep on pieces of cardboard on the dirty floors of the shanties. Public toilets are scarce and the few there is are shared by up to 100 people and residents have to pay to use them. Those who cannot afford to pay must use the alleys and ditches between the shanties with others making use of "flying toilets" (plastic bags used by the residents at night), which is thrown into the Nairobi river and which serves as the source of water for the residents.

Approximately 600,000 people live in an area of three square miles with most living on an income of less than a US\$1 per day. HIV/AIDs is common as many parents die of AIDS and leave their children to fend for themselves. The absence of parents/ responsible guardians at this early age for the children coupled by the need to tend for themselves implies that majority of the affected children do not enroll into School. Given the prevailing socio economic environment where people lead gang like life, the young and growing become socialized into juvenile delinquency and immorality from which they graduate into hard core criminals and candidates for prison facilities thus wasting

Responding to the problem- our theory of change.

In line with the foundations vision "To give hope to children from vulnerable households from the Masai community and Mathare slums in Kenya' and well aware of the magnitude and deep entrenchment of the problem, our theory of change takes the form of gradual, organic capacity building interventions in the form of the form of provision of education to learners (education sponsorship program), protection of the severely exposed children (children's facility), developing and nurturing youth talent for livelihoods(talent development and nurturing program), conducting advocacy on education for mindset change to the affected and vulnerable communities, imparting financial literacy, entrepreneurial skills and providing micro loans to empower vulnerable members from the affected communities and finally conducting advocacy on environmental sustainability- use of clean energy, proper waste management and disposal and planting of trees . It is expected that the above outlined initiatives would create a pathway to small consistent changes which would gradually lead to the high levels of desired change and impact.

Pillars to the theory of change (TOC)

- I Protection of vulnerable and exposed children
- I Education & Advocacy
- I Talent development
- I Financial and entrepreneurial empowerment
- I Environmental conservation

Program Outputs

1. To Provide learning opportunities to at least five hundred learners through sponsorship to orphans, bright children from needy households and the vulnerable Masai girls fleeing from the archaic cultural practices of FGM
2. Work with the children's department to acquire safe custody for children exposed to abuses and bad influence in Mathare valley.
3. Conduct advocacy and sensitization on the importance of education to girls and the value of the female gender to the Masai Community.
4. Conduct economic empowerment initiative to the Masai women who have been relegated to housewife duties and the vulnerable women residents of Mathare slums whose hope in life has been lost and have been reduced to eking living by practicing commercial sex and brewing illicit liquor which tends to fuel the criminal life in the slum community.
5. Conduct activities geared towards promoting youth talent and skills development and use the same as a means to galvanize, shape and inspire their future and keep them away from the beckoning juvenile delinquent activities within the Mathare slum community.

Hypothesis of the desired high levels of change/impacts

- i. Educated children equipped with skills and capacity to drive not only their own lives but those of the communities from which they come.
- ii. Mindset change among the Masai community against outdated cultural mal practices of FGM, under age marriages, nomadic and pastoral ways of life and non-economic participation of women.
- iii. Empowerment of women living in Mathare slum and leading undignified life of commercial sex and brewing illicit brew to eke a living by bequeathing them with a sense of self-worth, entrepreneurship skills and seed capital to ply socially acceptable economic pursuits.
- iv. Foster peaceful, harmonious and law abiding co-existence among the slum community population and therefore prevent unwarranted deaths from criminal activities, penal justice and the resultant loss to productive energy as a result of lawlessness and criminal activities.
- v. Combat recklessness and drunkenness and therefore check the spread of HIV and other infectious diseases thus increase mortality rate among the slum dwellers.
- vi. Protection of vulnerable children from the preying agents of vices, immorality and crime.
- vii. Protection of environment through slum cleaning activities, other environmentally friendly activities like use of clean energy, apply recommended re use of environment unfriendly materials and planting of trees in rural communities.
- viii. Foster community development as educated members would acquire ability to lobby and pursue projects like electricity, water, roads, hospitals and schools.

IMPACT NARRATIVES

1. Impacting access to the word of God.

Since ordination in the year 2000, Rev. Wambua has served God in various Districts of the African Inland Church generating impact as follows;

Evangelical impact at AIC ZIWANI

Introduced morning glory prayers. This would see the congregation grow in faith thus enabling the conversion of thousands of non-believers of the word of God into Christianity and thus the growth in the number of worship services conducted on Sundays in the church.

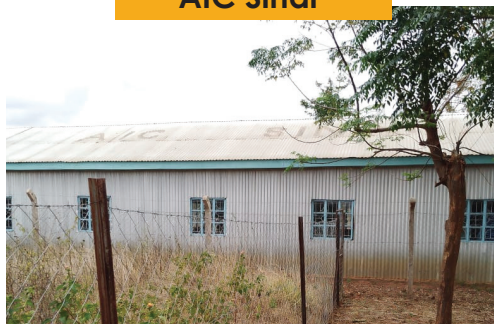
Evangelical impact at AIC ZION.

As a result of the growth he inspired at AIC Ziwani, Rev. Wambua would be posted to start a new church at the sprawling, crime infested Mathare valley from the year 2002 to date. Upon mastering the dynamics of the valley and thanks to the many uninterrupted years of service, he would set on initiating activities whose impact would transcend far and wide.

Year	
2003	AIC Upendo-Mathare north, Nairobi
2004	AIC Trinity- Huruma, Nairobi
2013	AIC Metto-Kajiado
2016	AIC Oloontona-Magadi
2022	AIC Kitawa-Homa bay
2023	AIC JOY-Saika, Nairobi

Besides ministry and evangelical work which saw the start of the above churches, Rev. Wambua has also donated land for construction of church and social hall to AIC KAIANI AND SINAI of Kathonzewni DCC in Makueni County as well as donated land for environment conservation work to KISAANI DCC

AIC Sinai



Social Hall at AIC Kaiani



AIC Kitawa



2. Impacting access to education for children from vulnerable communities:- Masai and Mathare valley slum.

The seed to impact education of bright children from vulnerable communities germinated early in the life of Rev. Jonson Wambua. As a young man working with the national social security fund, he started a School in the slums of Kibera in Nairobi. Although owing to challenges, he would close the School it gave him early insights on how to successfully run an education institution.

On this front and together with the Local church council AIC ZION, they started a church owned primary School squeezed within the church grounds. The school has plugged in the big gap in the area of access to education by children from the slums of Mathare valley. The school which charges very subsidized tuition fee and caters to over five hundred learners and has since inception registered a mean score of over 300 marks. The school has since the first KCPE in 2010 transitioned learners to various good high schools with 67 of them proceeding to the university.

The school serves the role of nurturing youth talent and has done exemplary well in the area of music where the School team plays up to national level. The talent acquired continues to serve the youths past School life.

Having identified education as a powerful tool to impact transformation in young people, having also analyzed the disadvantages faced by the Masai community, Rev. Wambua would be moved to start a community School in Masai land at Metto in Kajiado County. The school is on growth trajectory and due to its proximity, it has served to encourage Masai parents enroll their children into school.

To combine the aspects of quality academic and upbringing of children, Rev. Wambua started the Lion of Judah Wisdom School on the border of Kajiado and Makueni Counties. The School caters a population of 400 learners and has accessed quality affordable education. Located within proximity of the Masai community, the School has particularly addressed the unique needs of the Masai s-nomadism, inadequate School in their community and the FGM and early marriage to underage girls. Under the latter, the School plays host to thirty Masai girls who reported to the School as refugees fleeing the cultural abuses perpetuated by their communities by providing them with parental and academic support.



Maasai Children at School



Graduation ceremony



Escorting the Maasai girls home to their parents

3. Impacting empowerment to women groups- Makueni, Mathare and Masai

The foundation programs have not left out a significant component of the community-the women. In Mathare which abound with thousands of vulnerable women- drug and substance abusers, teenage mothers, commercial sex workers, HIV infected cases and peddlers of illicit brews, we worked with women groups to empower and transform them to live dignified lives. One such is the Women of Faith group. We have worked with the group of ten members to train them on entrepreneurship and supported them with a seed capital of kshs. 100,000/=. They have used the funds to fund their business and also buy land which has enabled them relocate to safer habitats away from the challenging life endured in the slums. Leveraging on the capacity developed among the group members, the group serves as trainers of trainers (TOT) and extends the acquired training to other groups and non-members on how to do self-help. The result has seen empowerment multiply to hundreds of other community based groups.

In KATHONZEWI of MAKUENI County, we have since year 2010 worked with a fifty member women group on a goat rearing project. The foundation purchased an initial seed of 7 goats and spray pumps to fight against livestock pests. They rear the goats as a group and from the initial heard, the number has multiplied through giving birth and each member of the fifty members of the group has acquired own goat and even developed further interest which has seen them acquire more goats. The group has remained cohesive and is exploring possibilities of venturing into table banking and lending to further enhance their financial status.

We have plans to work with the Masai women by organizing production and providing marketing services to their precious beads and artifacts internationally and thus help to transform them from mere housewives to become actors in the economic space.



4. Impacting the environment

In line with the global agenda of fighting the vagaries caused by climate change, the Foundation has set on conserving the environment through reclaiming arid wasteland and making it conducive for human use. As such we acquired a 10 acres piece of land which we have reclaimed by cutting terraces, planting grass and trees. The land has been donated to KISAANI DCC to be put into development. Decarbonization exercise, we have set out on an ambitious tree planting project in conjunction with the community. We seek to grow ten thousand trees in five years. To date we have grown one thousand five hundred trees and are driving broader collaborations to enable the foundation to play a significant role in climate change intervention.





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