

TUNZA CHILDREN CENTRE JANUARY 2010 REPORT

The month of January was really overwhelming because we discovered that the kids had set back to their previous attitudes and behaviour. We began one-on-one counselling and the kids vented out many of the issues that had heavily bound their hearts. We even had to outsource professional counsellors from our University to help us in the one-on-one.

Consequently, we got reports through the counsellors that the kids were happy being in a new home (Ngong), but they felt emotionally neglected. They missed that close rapport they had already established in Kibera. They also expressed their feelings about wishing that they had parents; they would even narrate the sad deaths of their parents. In addition, they portrayed emotions about their families back home.

Moreover, at some point we had to intervene between Dan and Mama Tunza for Mama Tunza to agree to release Bramwell, Mercy and Vincent who had gotten an opportunity to school at Musa Gitau primary. It was not very easy even at the point when the administration had rejected Bramwell and Mercy because of their health status, Mama was very happy, but all in all we intervened and at long last they were accepted. We are very grateful for the kind assistance of the sponsors for the better education of the children; we wish all of them would get the best of schools to enhance a better future for all.

In addition to our report last month, we had stated the poor performance of the boys and girls who did their K.C.P.E last year, though the most hit were the girls. They have now managed to secure for themselves a secondary school nearby their centre thus they will be day schooling. They were accepted at Kibiko secondary. However, one of the boys among those who cleared their primary lost his mother and therefore we are helping him to cope through a debriefing process which would take us at least three weeks counselling hours but because he is going to school we might be forced to reduce the sessions.

Besides, there is a complaint from the kids, which we take it up as a major issue because of the exchange of matrons and care takers at the centre. The abrupt change affects the human growth and personal development of the children. For instance, Amina was sent away and replaced by another lady. Oscar is still a bother having had assumed

the position of an administrator so sometimes he dominates the whole programme such that we get to the centre and we have to wait for him to finish his tuition so we end up spending less time than we expected to cover.

We have sternly advised Mama Tunza to halt her intake of kids to the centre because she has been bringing more kids but only fewer resources are available until the centre stabilizes financially. There has been an unexpected overflow of children at the centre. At long last we are glad that the form four leavers are coming at the month end and we are ready to roll out our programme for them that will run for six months with our curriculum running once a week. We will forward the curriculum before then.

Lastly, are the common issues at the centre: soaps, jelly, toilet papers, sanitary towels for the girls, etc. The kids complain of an uneven distribution.

We are passionate to seeing a great transformation for all the kids and therefore we are ready to instill all tools available within us.

Report compiled by:
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