

MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD- RIRUTA NAIROBI
KENYA

NARRATIVE REPORT JANUARY TO JUNE 2022

PROJECT NO: PO9G

TITLE: A CHANCE FOR STREET CHILDREN IN RIRUTA,
NAIROBI, KENYA

PRESENTED TO: KINDERMISSIONSWERK

SUBMITTED BY: PRECIOUS BLOOD CHILDREN'S FAMILY
NAIROBI

30TH JUNE 2022

NARRATIVE REPORT FOR JANUARY TO JUNE 2022



The dumpsites where we rescue the pupils, in market places and in the street begging for food



The Head Teacher- Sr. JASTINE Asande. CPS and Rehabilitation class pupils re-integrated to various classes in May 2022

The Missionary Sister of the Precious Blood was founded by a German Abbot Monk in South Africa. The sisters came to Kenya in 1957 & settled in Mombasa. Precious Blood Children's project was established in 1987 with the aim of rehabilitating and offering educational sponsorship to the vulnerable children who are mainly orphans and street children and provision of food security. Those who are sleeping in the streets, we re-integrate them with the families through a process of re-socialization and also for those working in the streets and going home in the evening. For those who are working and sleeping in the streets we offer accommodation by organizing that they get a one roomed house where they can call home as they come to school. Usually, we get one of the alumnaes of the program to offer them the care and guidance they need as minors. After care services which covers basically care and guidance that is offered to children who are of school going age but are not in school (that follow up service). That is between ages 6 to 14 years, whom we rescue, re-integrate and socialize back in to a structured life. That is process of building rapport

with them and their family as we offer food security support to enhance the parents/ guardians and child relationship.

In the above spirit the needs of the children and their parents increased as the sisters found out that many household bread winners were girls, whose parents were infected with HIV/AIDS and the girl child was responsible of the family. However, the Centre through Kindermissionswerk generous support become very helpful to the program, the support enables all the pupils & students from the rehabilitation access to all the basic needs they require. The rehabilitated pupils in the next pictures from rescue to various normal classes as below where pupils from the rehabilitation to normal classes holding their brand new uniforms & each child received two pairs of uniforms. While some of the new rescued group possess for a picture, they are sixteen (16) in number.



In January & in May this year 2022 we the rescue activity, hence we have currently 16 pupils, among them three are girls & thirteen boys. Some children in the group are malnourished whom we rescued from Kawangware and Dagoretti market. Many of them are being used to carry/ ferry luggage's for customers who purchase items and are not able to carry up to the bus stage. The girls were rescued from a nearby brothel where they were being used to fetch water for cleaning the beddings and cooking. The girls are between 6, 8 and 11 years. Rescue activity is ongoing to establish the suitability of six (6) more, whom we are creating/ building rapport in order to establish if they will join our rehabilitation centre. Its challenging for young children when they begin entrepreneurial jobs to accept schooling is a process, it's not easily acceptable.



Statement of the Problem

Based on the current situation and background.

Poverty accompanied by ignorance among slum dwellers and the ethnic clashes experienced in Rift valley that rocked the country in 1991/2 covers the main reason why Kawangware/ Riruta have many vulnerable/ street children/ orphans. From the post-election violence in the Rift Valley families that were displaced came to seek for cheaper houses for rent and its surrounding environs. While other managed to trace their relatives. These got accommodated by their relatives but they never secured jobs to earn their living and to educate their children. Whereas many never traced their next of kins and house rent became a challenge. A number of children opted for street life to earn their living and get food for a day, while their parents got casual jobs, washing clothes for a pay if they are lucky. Other families earn through sex trade as a commercial activity as well as an affordable leisure activity for most of slum dweller. This led to infection and re-infection of HIV/AIDS among many households. Making it worse, in Dagoretti where Kawangware Ward belongs, there are three notable brothels where young girls are taught and mentored for sex trade. However, we have tasked the responsibility to close these rooms to the community and government leaders.

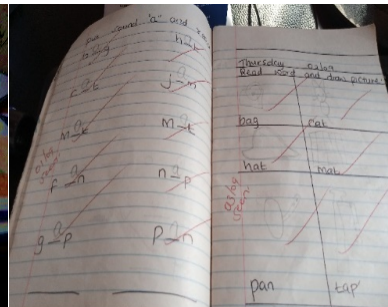
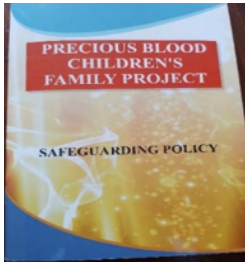


Seminars & workshops: The children from these vulnerable background needs a lot of training & seminars for HIV/ AIDS input, as a prevention remedy for the pupils as they grow in this environment. The pupils/ students and their parents/ guardians who are single mothers between age 20 to 31 years are usually earning a living through sex trade and casual work. These population comprises mainly those who did not complete their primary education level, they drop on the way between class three and six. They are now mothers of four to six children among them are in

Amani, while the rest are hawking somewhere in the street because the centre cannot afford to educate four children from one family.

Intervention: The project empowers the parents/ guardians by encouraging the parents/ guardian to form self-help groups. These formation aims at building themselves towards self-reliance for sustainability and ensuring that the parents/ guardians is the ability to meet other sibling basic needs at a family's level. Behavior change campaigns/ life skills provision directed to adolescent group of pupils who are at a high risk of being manipulated and abuse. These are held quarterly in the year also to ensure pupils are not loitering in the streets. The Centre also provide safe space where the pupils can come for private studies/ revision over the weekend and run for safety if they sense danger at home.

Other activities undertaken by the Centre: Ensuring protection of the child's dignity is safeguarded. All staffs in the centre have signed a Centre safeguarding policy and they have been taken through an induction process in order to understand and ownership. The staff also signed the code of conduct that each one is responsible to promote children's right.



Food security: The Centre ensures pupils access to meals three times a day, early breakfast at 9 am (EAT), lunch at 12 :30 pm and an early dinner at 5 pm. The food is usually nutritional to meet the needs of those who are rescued with marasmus related issues, kwashiorkor, ring worms, HIV/ AIDs, TB and underweight. There is special diet daily provision of fruits, milk and green vegetables for those with health complication, while the rest get the provision fruits thrice a week.

There is also a provision of clean water for drinking, electricity and cooking firewood, some pupils come to wash or fetch water for washing.



Pupil's

Agricultural lesson at the farm and pupils from grade 4 harvests tomatoes from their small farm

Educational provision: In order to fight ignorance in the community, the centre offers the educational facility for the vulnerable children of Kawangware/ Riruta slums and its surrounding. The area has five Wards, namely Kabiro, Gatina, Kawangware which are purely slums, whereas Kileleshwa and Kilimani are the Two Wards that have residential estate with affluent people. This is where the poor go to seek for casual jobs for cleaning to earn their day to day earning. However, since Covid-19 this life style has changed, families are no longer allowing strangers to provide casual jobs in their houses as it was before. Therefore, life has drastically changed and there is a lot of suffering for those who do not have jobs as they cannot meet their basic needs. Five families have become depressed however, we rescued the case of two before depression reached to the level of mental illness. The other three disappeared and left the children to a neighbor and the centre is now caring for all the needs including paying their house rent.



Pupils enjoys the educational facility through taking their studies seriously.

Some of the Secondary school students who sat the National Examination in March 2022 Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) now in form one while others joined vocational training to further their education.



Class 8 prayer day in preparation for the National Exams for March 2022 & some pupils of class seven & eight possess after attending a retreat session at the Resurrection Garden



Counselling for both the family & the child: To ensure mental/ psycho-social issues are identified early and preventive measure are administered before it gets worse. To pupils and those girls who fell pregnant during covid-19 pandemic and alcoholics parents/ guardians are usually offered counselling session to overcome self-pity and move on with life.

Pictorial photos



March 2022 class eight candidate



School Scouts/ girl guide



Assorted Donated items



school team acrobats



**Art work seminar for pupils/ students
Over the long March to April 2022
holidays**



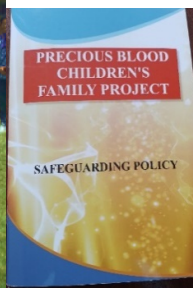
Staff spiritual retreat in the shrine



Amani pupils seems to say “I was naked & you clothed me



Marking of African Child Day celebration in Amani



Family visits/ therapy: The social workers have three days a week home visits activity to the pupil's family before and after they are rescued. This helps to ensure bonding between the child and the parent/ guardians. The exercise promotes the child's healthy relationship with the family and it fosters a sense of belonging among family members.

Spiritual health care: Once a month we have Holy Mass in the Centre and on Fridays we have Religious Education as a way to promote cardinal virtues and values among pupils. Also the centre offers faith sharing sessions as we invite religious ministers to administer to children who are bereaved/ loss of a loved one in the family and they have not overcome the situation particular those whose relatives die of covid-19 or HIV/AIDs. Where a child undergoes stress as a bread winner and she/ he skips school most of the time to care for the sick one. This service is extended also to the staff too for a smooth running of the Centre. Sometimes this service is offered in the Centre by an invited external counsellor or the school counsellor administers the service to those in need.



Spiritual growth confirmation pictures after baptism exercise 2

Meeting with community stakeholders: Before and after rescue activity, the centre invites the community leadership in the area of operation for a session of updating them on the lesson learnt. This is during the rescue activity and what support we need and their role in the educating the community the importance of education among children. Once they are outside the school compound, it is the community that is supposed to safeguard them, unfortunately the result is the opposite, as members are messing up with young girls for cheap food and money. We have noted that pupils are safe in school, but when they are outside the school challenges multiply as they interact with the older citizens.



staffs and community

leaders brainstorming forum



Household assorted items for

school and as well as household support for poor families.



An alumnae of Amani, Patrick Wainana who dropped from class six and joined beauty salon course for six months in 2017. He qualified very well as a Barber and he normally offers the service to the pupils in the centre. He charges per pupil kshs 60 shillings and he does five pupils free from free will. David Nene a former Amani pupils completed secondary school in year 2021, he was a head boy in Pumwani secondary. He is currently employed by the government as a supervisor to

supervise those who are working in the city council cleaning department and therefore he is able to support his six siblings.



Mary sat for her class eight exams in March this year 2022 and scored a 203 mark. She could not get a good school and so she joined vocational training, she's taking a catering course for six months, then she goes for internship of three months in the sister's guest house after three months she will go back to college to finish her course. While a former Amani pupil, Doreen Nthenya a nurse student at KMTC in Bungoma completed her three years training, she is volunteering in the sister's dispensary as she waits the government to assign her a job.



School Prefects enjoying refreshments after a prefects meeting



Amani pupils

during monthly Hall mass in the parish



COW



A six month first born calf

A stable for livestock donated to the centre by a couple in reference to their thanksgiving celebration marking their 50th years of marriage anniversary 16th May 2022. The milking cow was donated to the centre to provide milk for the pupils, especially the weak. The cow is providing eight (8) litres in the morning at 7 am & 6pm in the evening. The centre 's consumption daily was seven (7) litres every day, the Centre saves kshs 25,000 per month that was being spend formerly buying the staff & children's milk daily.



David and Alex posing with the grandmother the day both were rescued thirteen years ago. The two lives under the custodian of their old grandma who by now can no longer walk. David has completed form four in March 2022 and scored a C+, and he will be joining a teacher training college in September 2022 intake. He wants to become a physics teacher in Secondary school. In physics he scored a B+. While Alex Dropped in form two & did driving, he is now a tout in Kawangware B2 SACCO transport operators



David seated in the middle, was a head boy in Ituru boys secondary sch, a school among the best in Kiambu county, the picture above depicts him presenting a motivational talk to those in form three & four this year 2022 during the long holiday (March- April 2022).

IMPACT OF THE ABOVE ACTIVITIES

The project has yielded positive results based on child development in terms of physical muscles building, well-functioning of psychological thinking, increased class concentration, counselling & guidance and a reduced absenteeism as well as a provision of a balanced nutritional diet for all.

The most important impact is that it has reduced relapsing of boys back to street life and girls have reduced cases of early pregnancies. The ongoing holiday seminars although it was an expense that we under estimated, it turned out to have improved the mannerism of pupils. We have identified a change in behavior among upper class girls and boys. Last year 2021, a number of boys & their parents/ guardians through peer pressure confessed having joined drug abuse and gang groups, but later they realized they are endangering their own future and stopped. Others went to confess to their pastors, a number of them confessed they want to join religion instructions to know God and love His teachings. A number of girls who had opted for prostitution related behaviors confirmed having reduced the times they visit their boyfriends for fun & beautiful gifts, they said they are trying to stop the habit and asked to be assigned an external counsellor which the management has provided already by May 2022. The holiday seminar lasted for two weeks, whose theme: Purity from within and with Out, basing on a call to “protect your dignity message” became very instrumental. Topic on Iluminati and its signs, family’s challenges, self-esteem, the ugly, positive side of Social media and sexuality were among the favorites as every day the turn up of participants/ pupils increased positively and they were participating actively. This seminar has proved to have impacted the pupils/ students positively as it was an informative one for behavior change. Despite the seminar being an expensive exercise it seems to be of great effect on the pupil’s/ student life and an extension of the parents too could be another added advantage.

OBJECTIVE ACHIEVED

The project has achieved so much in terms of holistic development; girls are able to share freely about their life experiences. Fifteen students sat for their Kenya Secondary Certificate Education (KSCE) Certificate and completed their form four level. Six out of fifteen will join public university, whereas in Amani primary Nineteen pupils from Amani School completed class eight, seventeen joined various public secondary school for form one intake, while three are already in vocational training.

Towards 2021 September we rescued two boys who attended classes in Amani but went back to sit for their national exams in their previous school where they had registered for the national exams but were chased away due to school fees arrears in public primary schools. The two boys performed as follows 295 and the other scored 138 marks. The one with 295 got a good school, while the one with 138 is currently learning computer courses in the centre in a container bought for the centre by the government street families grant, he will later join a vocational training in September 2022.

School counsellor: The presence of a school counsellor seems to play a big role as well as the seminar whose attendance was a hundred percent something unusual. This is because formally the pupils closed school term going to the market places to look for work in order to have money for themselves. This time they have valued life skill knowledge over hanging in the market places & tv shops watching movies. They usually complain that class set up is very tedious and they long for being out of school, this time it was a different case during the seminar.

Catechesis classes: In the month of March 2022, forty-five (45) pupils who undertook lessons and all of them were Baptist, while among them received first communion. It was a great celebration as the current group has thirty-two members (32) in number and the girls requested to be trained as mass servers and the lessons are also on going twice in the evening.

CHALLENGES EXPERIENCED BY THE PROJECT

The project has achieved a lot despite the pandemic hitting everywhere such that what we had achieved seems to have almost been watered down. However, we managed to mitigate majority of major problems with God's help and your timely support that the management has tried to outshine the challenges which could have negatively affected the quality delivery of the project.

One of the major challenge we encountered throughout the year is COVID 19, that has led many of our local donor deaths. Others withdrawing themselves due to huge hardship that caused them financial constraints. However, the management managed to plan a four days' seminar for the parents/ guardians on parenting tips and also to plan the reestablishing of their once a week seminar of self-reliance and peace building. As a country we approach general election in Kenya and since Kawangware is known to be among the hot spot for electoral violence. The management thought it wise to have a series of peace building workshop for our beneficiaries.



CHILDREN'S BENEFITED FROM THE PROJECT

The project has been in existence for 28 years having served over 50,000 alumina some of whom passed the Missionary sisters programs and still to date we have those in colleges, secondary and others enrolling themselves with vocational training to empower them. Hence the beneficiaries have been great people in society of today and they try giving back to society as leaders of tomorrow by offering the pupils a talk, seminar to encourage them.

PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY

The project being Charitable and looking at the situation of today we are putting more effort to look the way possible for future sustainability of the project. The government donated a fully partitioned container, which can be used for dress making, Computer classes and catering Courses as a way of Empowering our pupils, especially the school dropout girls and early teenage mothers.

Important to Note

The new Competent based curriculum (CBC) program which is very expensive by nature of its requirement also possess a challenge to the marginalized. Once they complete Grade six (6) They are supposed to join junior secondary school. However, this level can be settled in the centre since our pupils may not be able to learn from other normal institution because our Centre is a pupils with special attention rehabilitation school. The classes are available in the centre, the only challenge is the funds to pay the new teachers for grade seven, (7), Eight (8) & Nine (9).

In the next year 2023, in (6) grade six, we have thirty pupils (30) who will join grade seven & the current class 8 who are supposed to join form one in the old education system and they are twenty-six (26) of them, that bring the total number to fifty six (56) pupils transiting to secondary school, junior secondary for the new system (Grade six) & Old system class eight joining form one) in 2023. Thus, paying up school fees for 56 will be a huge expense. Therefore, grade six could be retained in Amani for the 3 yrs, since desks and uniforms are available, toilets are enough and in the dining hall, meals can be served separately on different hours. The Junior secondary (grade 7 pupils) can eat after the other pupils an hour after that is at 1 pm. The class Eight could go to

normal secondary school as usual in government school and these could save the situation due to the limited resources availability.

The Kenya government Education sector is currently encouraging private school that have facility to partner with the government to enroll pupils from Grade six in their facility even if they have only one class to accommodate their pupils. The Govt is in a crisis as many primary schools do not have space to keep their grade seven in the new curriculum based system. Amani school has classes but the challenge it shall face is that of salaries for the lower level secondary teacher. We can begin with two or three teachers, however, the available budget cannot be sustainable for the future.

After this level the pupils will join the upper secondary school for three years. However, at this stage they can join other schools as secondary school. Those who will manage to this level, they will be majoring in a specialization of their choice, for Art, can join an art school or train in our well-furnished container, where they can learn local artists, music, cookery e.t.c such domestic creative courses.

This will enable the centre to cut the costs of paying school fees to other schools whereas we could offer the training in our centre. The management also wishes to re-introduce the empowerment group sessions for self-help formation groups for the parents/ guardians to build their capacity towards self-reliance. The global as well as locally in the country economic related crisis is hitting on marginalized families hardest. This program enhances a saving culture among them as they save and loan each other the little they have managed to save.

However, it's an idea not yet implemented but looking forward for implementing in the near future. For the courses of arts to be offered in our well varnished container, we are in the process of out sourcing & appealing for local donors and well-wishers to support the initiative. As it is meant to offer basic Computer lessons, dress making & catering courses and award certificates to the participants. This will also cut the cost for taking pupils and students to other training centers. This will enable the management to empower the learners with equipment's from the saved money that could have been used to pay training fees elsewhere. The saved money will be used to empower the trainer with facilities that will lead to self-employment initiatives & they will be able to employ others. An example a dress designer, once empowered with a designer's machine, he/she will be able to employ two or more for the dress designing initiative, in saloon, also the same will offer jobs to other two or three. The beauty of these courses do not take long, three to six months for a certificate is good enough, upon when a student want to advance they can join other schools elsewhere, but for basic our Centre could be sufficient.