

The Umbrella of Hope Foundation

Project Report: Girls' Empowerment through Sports and Livelihood Improvement Project



the
Umbrella of Hope
F O U N D A T I O N

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Partners:



Location: Mulanga Village, Iganga District. Uganda

Reporting Period: February-March, 2016

Report of activities carried out during the period under review as identified in the organization's project work plan.

Funders: ISS of Erasmus University Rotterdam, FIS Global Amsterdam, HSV Schools Den Haag and Individual Donors.

SUMMARY:

Objective of Activities: 1. Assistance to disadvantaged families, children and the elderly remains sorely needed. 2. Identify and help the most vulnerable families through provision of clothing especially those without adequate clothes (torn, ragged, bare / naked). 3. Work with the local school to enable Girls Empowerment through participation in sports together with boys.

Activity 1

Title of Activity: **IDENTIFICATION OF BENEFICIARIES**

Date(s) conducted: February, 2016

Location(s)/venue(s): Mulanga Village, Iganga District.

TUH staff involved in the activity:

S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
1.	Mutengu Joshua	Project Officer
2.	Susan Naisanga	Community Volunteer
3.	Batambuze musa	Community Volunteer
4.	Alice Naigaga	TUH Volunteer

Activity summary: A survey of households and local school classes was carried out to identify the most vulnerable families that needed support. In order to identify vulnerable families' indicators were set to determine priority level of households; indicators were based on the scale of income level of the household and employment status. As a result, 50 of the most vulnerable families were identified.

Method:

- Methodology employed: Survey of households
- Group(s) of persons reached: 100 families

Outcome of the activity and next steps: Identified the most vulnerable children and progressed with needs assessment.

Challenges: There are more vulnerable children identified than available project funds.

Activity 2

Title of Activity: **NEEDS ASSESSMENT OF BENEFICIARIES**

Date(s) conducted: February, 2016

Location(s)/venue(s): Mulanga Village, Iganga District

TUH staff involved in the activity:

S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
1.	Mutengu Joshua	Programme officer
2.	Susan Naisanga	Community Volunteer
	Batambuze musa	Community Volunteer
	Alice Naigaga	TUH Volunteer

Activity summary: Arranging home and class visits and in-depth consultation with identified beneficiary families. Visiting the homes and talking to families, conducting personal interviews and observations with parents and children on their level of needs regarding their overall welfare and clothing needs.

Method:

- Methodology employed: Stakeholder consultation, interviews, observation
- Group(s) of persons reached: 30 families
- Number of persons reached: 50 people.

Outcome of the activity and next steps: The clothing needs of the children were documented and identified.

Challenges: Issues outside of scope discussed, re-iterating the mission of TUH of children education.

Activity 3

Title of activity: **PROVISION OF CLOTHING DONATIONS**

Date(s) conducted: March, 2016

Location(s)/venue(s): Mulanga Village

Organization staff involved in the activity:

S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
1.	Namaganda Rachel	Programme officer
	Susan Naisanga	Community Volunteer
	Batambuze musa	Community Volunteer
	Alice Naigaga	TUH Volunteer

Activity summary: After the needs assessment, second-hand clothing items (clean, not torn) including sports clothing and shoes were collected donated from donor groups to provide to the beneficiary families. The project received clothing donations from Netherlands schools, workplaces, organisations and individual donors. Due to project funds, the amount of donations for shipping-costs and customs cost meant that 45kg of clothing was shipped.

This shipment provided clothing to the following families (See Section A);

- Milly aged 15 – girls/women’s clothing, t-shirts, underwear, and toddler clothing for 2 year old daughter
- Hellen aged 8 and two sisters (aged 9 – 12) – t-shirts, dresses, skirts and shoes, clothing for grandmother (women’s tops and dresses).
- Silas and Joet aged 7 & 9 – t-shirts, shorts and shoes, clothing for mother – women’s tops
- Alamanzani and Mirumizu aged 11, 9 – t-shirts, shorts, tops, clothing for mother – women’s tops
- 10 impoverished children - clothing from HSV Schools.
- 60 School Children – 30 Girls and 30 Boys – sports t-shirts (ISS Welfare office), footballs, whistles*.

*football and whistle bought locally in Uganda from donation

Outcome of the activity and next steps: Provided 60 school children and 4 families with clothing donations.

Challenges: There are more vulnerable children identified than available project materials/funds.

Activity 4

Title of Activity: **MOBILISE STUDENTS TO ENABLE GIRLS' EMPOWERMENT THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN SPORT**

Date(s) conducted: March 2016

Location(s)/venue(s): Mulanga Village, Iganga District

TUH staff involved in the activity:

S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
1.	Mutengu Joshua	Programme officer
2.	Susan Naisanga	Community Volunteer
	Batambuze musa	Community Volunteer
	Alice Naigaga	TUH Volunteer

Activity summary: From the sports clothing donations, the local school mobilised students - 40 school children (30 Girls and 30 Boys aged 11-15) to participate in a football tournament and sports activities together. (See Section B below). In addition, a donation was provided for the purchase of footballs and whistles for sports. The sports clothing enabled children to play sports freely together without fear and enabling girls empowerment (a) challenging stereotypes of playing together – girls can do what boys can do (b) improved sports participation among girls at the school (c) reduced fear of tearing or dirtying uniforms (considered expensive commodity for poorer families).

- Group(s) of persons reached: 60 school children (30 Girls & 30 Boys aged 11 - 15)

Outcome of the activity and next steps: Mobilising students to fully participate in a football tournament and sports days and challenge perceptions - football was viewed as a traditionally 'boys only' sport. This enabled Girls Empowerment, with joint participation by boys and girls – students learnt about equality and teamwork.

Challenges: There are more vulnerable children identified than available project materials/funds.

Activity 5

Title of Activity: **EVALUATION OF INTERVENTION**

Date(s) conducted: June, 2016

Location(s)/venue(s): Mulanga Village, Mayuge District.

TUH staff involved in the activity:

S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
1.	Mutengu Joshua	Programme officer
2.	Alice Naigaga	TUH Volunteer

Activity summary: An evaluation was carried out on the clothing intervention. This included a review of the children's: attendance, school reports, and overall well-being through progress updates. It was found that school reports showed children had improved in their curricular abilities and children themselves showed increased confidence.

Method:

- Methodology employed: Review of school reports and interviews.
- Group(s) of persons reached: 50 families

Outcome of the activity and next steps: The intervention was evaluated; it was decided to renew school fees as a priority over clothing donations due to sustainability and organisation priorities.

Challenges: Sustainability of clothing donations – the need of organisation to focus on economic empowerment initiatives in the long-term. The project was limited in scope due to cost of shipping.

SECTION A: IMPOVERISHED FAMILIES CLOTHING DONATIONS

Milly and daughter (aged 2)



Alamanzani and Miramizu (with mother)



Hellen and grandmother, Silas and Joet



HSV Schools – 10 impoverished children clothing donations



SECTION B: GIRLS' EMPOWERMENT THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN SPORT

Sports Clothing Donations - Inspiring Change and Advocating Gender Equality through Sport

The provision of designated spaces for women's and girls' sport activities can have practical benefits but also a symbolic character, especially if these areas are public. In general, access to community areas is primarily granted to men and boys.

In some cases, should women and girls frequent these community spaces, they are usually allowed to do so under specific conditions (e.g. while being accompanied by a male family member). Experience shows that by women and girls claiming public space, the community may become slowly accustomed to seeing women and girls sharing public space with men and boys.

The Umbrella of Hope Foundation received sports clothing donations therefore launched a project to mentor girls from deprived communities towards addressing issues that undermine girl-child education and empowerment.

The project is themed as "Sports to Help Keep Girls in Schools and Promote Gender Equality".

OBJECTIVES

- 1). Equip over 40 girls with the opportunity to develop values, knowledge and skills they need to lead physically active lives and to build self-esteem.
- 2). Support female participation in sports to change public behaviours and attitudes towards girls capabilities.
- 3). Encourage girls to participate and balance co-curricular activities and schooling.

ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN:

- 1) A football match between female and male teachers (This was aimed at inspiring the young students to learn the importance of working together as boys and girls.
- 2) The game between girls and boys consisted of student teams with equal numbers of boy and girl players and only girls could score goals, so teams could only win by valuing and supporting their female team members.
- 3) There were also advocacy speeches from the local leaders and one youth role model about the importance of involving girls in school and household activities just like boys do.



PROJECT IMPACT

- 1) The elder boys and girls learnt how to guide and coach the younger ones in a 30-minute session of play-based activities. This session encouraged participation in healthy physical activity for the younger children, and developed leadership skills for the older ones.
- 2) Promoted gender equality on the sports field and beyond by valuing female participation in sports. Over 80 girls are now active in sports.
- 3) Behaviours and attitudes towards girls participating sports and school activities have now changed among the male teachers and students. This is witnessed in the number of girls participating in sports and other school activities
- 4) An assessment done so far shows a positive change in social interaction and friendship among girls and boys in schools. This has caused positive shifts in gender norms that enable girls and women greater safety and control over their lives.
- 5) Girls have developed their self-esteem.

