

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **2018**



### **ST. CAMILLUS DALA KIYE CHILDREN WELFARE HOME**



### **A Compassionate Response to HIV and AIDS Impacts on Children**

January – December 2018

## **Program Profile**

<b>Organization:</b>	St. Camillus Dala Kiye Children Welfare Home
<b>Program Name:</b>	Dala Kiye Program
<b>Programming Areas:</b>	Orphans & Vulnerable Children (OVC) & HIV/AIDS
<b>Total Target Client:</b>	12,500 OVC & 540 Caregivers
<b>Program Location:</b>	Karungu Division, Nyatike Sub - County
<b>Reporting Period:</b>	January 2018 – December 2018
<b>Reporting Person:</b>	Fr. Emilio Balliana
<b>Designation:</b>	The Program Director

## **Introduction**

St. Camillus Dala Kiye Program is an initiative of the St. Camillus Mission - Karungu. The program supports orphans and vulnerable children who have been victims of HIV/AIDS pandemic.

St. Camillus Dala Kiye works with community members who are living below poverty levels and who on one way or another were affected by HIV/AIDS. The Organization provides care and support to OVC in the areas of food and nutrition, health, education, shelter and care, child protection, psychosocial support and life skills. To help promote sustainability, the project also rolls out economic empowerment programme to the OVC caregivers by providing entrepreneurship and agricultural training and assisting them to come up with income generating activities of their choice.

Dala Kiye Program emerged from the dumbfounding experiences in the St. Camillus Mission Hospital where the cumulative AIDS deaths continued to rise and hence impacting negatively on the community members as most children were orphaned and the number of those infected and affected in the community increased. This prompted the initial inception of St. Camillus Dala Kiye Children Welfare Home in 1998. The institution was eventually registered in July 2002 with the Department of social Services, Migori County and later with the Children's Department as a Charitable Children's Organization to address the welfare of children.

The program is implementing different OVC projects modeled on School - Based care and Foster Care and Protection for Children with special needs. It has partnered with different international NGO, the government local partners and the community for financial and moral support in providing for these vulnerable children.

### **The physical facilities of the program comprise of the following:**

- (a) An administration block with furnished and equipped offices, meeting room, library, auditorium and washrooms.
- (b) A well-furnished and equipped dining hall with a capacity of 300 children and also housing laundry room and stores.
- (c) Six family houses for hosting 60 children living with HIV and AIDS
- (d) A recreational facility for sports/games for both the children and adults. These include ball games, athletics and bathing.
- (e) A public primary and secondary school [B.L. Tezza Complex Schools] with our supported OVC being part of the total school enrolment.

In pursuit of the stated goal and objectives, Dala Kiye designs, develops and implements projects which are child and community-focused, participatory and sustainable. All the activities are mainstreamed to rights-based; community needs assessment and de-stigmatization methodologies. The projects are comprehensively formulated with a commitment to implement the National Legislations, Policies and Action plans for the protection of the rights of children in Kenya. The program is based on a framework of wide consultative process involving all

stakeholders. The program implementation team is headed by the Program Director who is the chief Administrator of all the initiatives of the St. Camillus Mission in Karungu. The team comprises of qualified and competent professionals who are responsible for finance and administration and program development and management.

Currently, the program is designed into two care models: -

### **1. School based Care and support for OVC affected by HIV and AIDS.**

This model is designed on the assumption that every OVC has somebody within the community to provide care and support. Hence the project is intended to compliment the efforts of the caring community to provide quality care and support. This was the first project initiated in 1998 and currently targeting over 2200 OVC who have a living and responsible caregiver. The entry point of OVC care and support are the primary schools working with Dala Kiye. In this model the program promotes retaining and maintaining the OVC in the guardianship of their extended families while allowing them to attend schools closer to their homes.

### **2. Foster Family Care and Protection for OVC With Special Needs.**

This model targets OVC who are living with HIV and AIDS and are enrolled on ARVs and are apparently under the care of aged or incapacitated caregivers. The project provides an alternative family in which the child will access quality care and protection. Based on the health assessments conducted among the current clients and with the ever-increasing challenging complexities of the needs of HIV positive OVC, the program has already initiated a facility for Foster Care and Protection for such children. 60 children are covered with this care model.

## **Key Intervention areas for 2018**

### **Education and Vocational support**

St. Camillus Dala Kiye has always partnered with primary schools, walking with them year in year out improving the physical and social aspects of education. The actions in the education sector like provision of school uniforms, payment of ECD levies, construction and renovations of schools, pit latrines and provision of desks are meant to help retain the children in school and also to help improve the learning environment for the children.



In the year 2018, the programme was involved in different activities that helped to boost the education component as one of the key intervention areas. 946 OVC drawn from B.L.Tezza, Gunga, Kopala, Lwanda Magwar, Wachara, Nyamanga, Seka, Lwanda Gwassi, Nyatambe and Alendo primary schools received school uniforms while 435 OVC benefited from the ECD levy support. On the same note, 75 students were supported through secondary education with 2 being in special secondary schools. 10 were supported in universities and colleges and another 10 in vocational training centers. In the same year, Dala Kiye provided 450 desks to ECD children, this was a unique step compared to the past years, where provision of desks was to the primary pupils only. The ECD desks were designed in such a way that they were lower to fit and match the young children in the ECD. All the 18 primary schools that work with Dala Kiye received these small learners' desks in their ECD departments.

The interventions in the education sector also targeted 324 BOM (Board of Management) members from 18 target schools with a one day sensitization on awareness of their role in the school board of management. Dala Kiye engaged the Nyatike Sub County Education Officers who took the participants through topics such as; the BOM roles and operations, administering and managing resources of learning institutions, enforcing guiding principles on leadership, accountability and integrity in learning institutions, education policies and guidelines and procurement and assets disposal for schools.

All the above mentioned interventions have improved the lives of pupils, caregivers and teachers immensely. The young learners are enthusiastic to continue coming to school because they are not straining while writing, the school environment is safe and child friendly. To the caregivers, it is such a relief from the constant request by school administrators of finances for structural developments in schools.

## **Health Support**

Another key intervention of Dala Kiye was health support that mainly targeted orphans and vulnerable children enrolled in the Program. Major activities under this line are medical support through the payment of medical bill to OVC upon receiving treatment. 551 OVC reached their nearest health facilities, they were treated and the computed bills paid by Dala Kiye. The Health facilities that work with Dala Kiye on this intervention are; St. Camillus Mission Hospital, Riat Dispensary, Seka dispensary, Sori dispensary, Lwanda Gwassi, Nyamanga dispensary and Lwanda Magwar.

25 OVC households were also enrolled to the National Health Insurance scheme in the same year. This health intervention has been a way of introducing sustainability among the caregivers in case of program exits. All the caregivers were reached through community dialogue meetings and educated on the benefits of NHIF.

The construction of VIP latrines was completed in 4 schools that are Gunga, Lwanda Magwar, Sidika and Aringo. Each school benefitted from 2 blocks of VIP latrines constructed by the Disii enterprises which were picked after competitive bidding process. In most schools, due to insufficient funds, both boys and girls share a toilet which is unhygienic and gets crowded. Dala Kiye in partnership with We World Kenya Foundation resolves this by constructing two blocks with two doors each so each sex would have their own privacy.



Another intervention in health was comprehensive school health education which was enrolled by teachers who were earlier on trained on issues of life skills, HIV/AIDS, child rights, health education and nutrition education. Each school of the 18 target schools provided two teachers for the training one ECD and one primary school teacher. A total of 253 teachers (125m 128f) were trained. The trained teachers then had to roll out the education to the pupils in their respective schools. 3667 pupils (1733m, 1934f) were reached with this intervention. Dala Kiye social workers monitored each session of those trainings and did reports.

There was a series of key days marked in the year; Menstrual Hygiene Management Day was marked on 28<sup>th</sup> May. St. Camillus Dala Kiye joined the rest of the world to address the challenges and to catalyze a growing, global movement that recognizes and supports girls and women's rights. The venue for the event was at Bondo Kosiemo primary school. During the event, proper use and disposal of sanitary towels was demonstrated and different types of the sanitary towels were also displayed. This event is usually a motive to keep girls in school even when undergoing the menstrual flow.

In October, Celebration of World Food Day was in Alendo on 16<sup>th</sup>. The theme of the year was "Our actions are our future" in the same month, Malezi Bora campaign kicked off where 15 community units were reached with nutrition information and breastfeeding week. Malezi Bora and Breastfeeding week targets children under 5 years and women of reproductive age. The target groups were informed on deworming, maternal and child health services.

Global Hand Washing Day was also marked on 15<sup>th</sup> October at Dala Kiye grounds and attended by 889 participants who were mainly pupils. The theme for the event was, "clean hands – a recipe for health" the purpose of this event is to educate the public on the benefits of hand washing with clean water and soap and also on the critical moments of hand washing.



In November, World Toilet Day was marked on 19<sup>th</sup> at Alendo Resource Center. The day was attended by 476 participants. The theme was “when nature calls, take action.” The day served to urge those present on the need of constructing latrines so as to eliminate open defecation that contribute to the spread of diarrhea.



The last event marked this year was World Aids Day which was marked on 1<sup>st</sup> December. About 1000 people attended the celebration. There was free voluntary counseling and testing that reached 67 people all who turned negative. Theme of the year was “Know your status”



The health docket is a wide area. Another activity under health was Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) in Ng'ira and Alendo community units. This activity started off by Community Health Volunteers training. There were a series of inception meetings then later triggering followed in those two community units. The sole purpose of this activity was to educate the public against open defecation and encourage building and use of pit latrines

### **Food and Nutrition Support**

Also under health, the school based feeding program which targets OVC enrolled in B.L.Tezza Complex Primary school benefited 207 (118boys, 89girls) pupils this year. This activity is one which involves collaboration from the community which provides firewood and the caregivers supplement the OVC meals by providing supper. Supervision was done by the social workers spearheaded by the nutritionist. End results were recorded by measurements of weights and heights of all the pupils under the program.



Another activity under this support area was promotion of good nutrition practices in schools and communities where sessions were held and members drawn from 9 schools were reached with the information on good nutrition practices. Similarly, 15 schools were reached and the pupils in the health club were educated on nutrition and classes of food. This education encourages children to set up a kitchen garden.

### **Shelter and Care Support**

St. Camillus Dala Kiye was founded on the basic principle of taking care of orphaned children due to HIV/AIDS pandemic. In line with this principle, a foster family hosting 60 HIV positive children was set up in Dala Kiye. The foster home has 6 houses each having a capacity of 10 children. In this year, the number of boys was 40 and girls were 20.

Also on shelter and care support, St. Camillus Dala Kiye in collaboration with We World Kenya Foundation, built 35 semi-permanent shelters for the caregivers who had dilapidated shelter and were worthy of help. This intervention has improved the living conditions of OVC generally

improving their performance in school. Dala Kiye provided the materials as the community spearheaded the building process.



### **Economic Empowerment**

Sustainability is important in community development and to achieve this, 420 caregivers from the target households were trained together with 140 groups of food producers in the 14 communities. The objective of the training was to empower farmers with knowledge and skills to enable them carry out farming activities effectively. The areas of training were on kitchen gardening, poultry keeping and goat keeping.

433 caregivers were also trained on entrepreneurship skills. The areas trained included enterprise selection, agribusiness, and market linkages among other topics. From the training, 9 caregiver groups were supported in starting incoming generating activities.



Three exchange visits were also conducted in the same year where 42 caregivers participated in each trip of the exchange visit. The visits were in Migori Agricultural show, ICIPE Mbita, and Christian Impact Mission in Yatta Sub County Machakos. The purposes of these visits were to learn new technologies and help local food producers to acquire new farming techniques.

## Child Protection

The interventions taken under this area of protecting the orphans and vulnerable children included; training of 108 children in leadership skills. According to the Kenyan constitution, in protection of children's rights, any child has the right to opinion. Training children on leadership skills empowers them to boldly speak their mind and stand for their rights when infringed. 53 females and 55 males who were officials in their respective schools were taken through the following topics; child participation, children parliament, challenges children face in the society among other topics. The end purpose of this training was for all the children to set up a child governance council in their respective schools to help promote children welfare in school and within the community.

There were a series of meetings for the Location Area Advisory Council where 3 meetings took place and issues affecting children were discussed. This year's focus was on child labor in the local markets and beaches, school drop outs and teenage pregnancies. During such meetings, key partners were identified within the ward to identify issues affecting children within the community and how to curb such cases. From these meetings, 40 children (19 girls and 21 boys) in Nyatike Sub County attended the Nyatike Sub County Children Assembly where they were made aware of their roles when it comes to issues of child protection.

In this line, sessions with caregivers were organized by the project to educate the caregivers in the target communities on issues of children living with disabilities. The sessions were held by officers from the Ministry of Education. The purpose of the sessions was to enable parents to provide same education opportunities to the disabled children as the other normal children. They were educated on types of disabilities how to handle such cases and which hospitals to go for referrals and need to register such children under persons living with disabilities. At the end of the education sessions, positive impact was recorded in 3 schools out of 18 reached caregivers set up a support group of the same.

Two community open days were marked, World Orphans Day was marked on 7<sup>th</sup> May, for the sub county at St. Gemma girls' secondary school, and Day of African Child was marked on 14<sup>th</sup> June at St. Camillus Dala Kiye. World Orphans Day was meant to enhance participation of communities support to orphans together with knowledge and understanding of challenges facing orphans. The Day of the African Child was meant to enhance knowledge and understanding of challenges facing African children and the plight of vulnerable children.



## Accomplishments

1. Health care services provided to 551 OVC enrolled in Dala Kiye Program to improve their physical health status. 25 OVC households were enrolled in National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF)
2. 2 meals a day provided to 207 OVC enrolled in school-based feeding program in B. L Tezza Complex primary school to improve their nutritional status, school attendance and academic performance.
3. At least 3 meals a day provided to a total of 60 OVC living with AIDS enrolled in 6 foster families in Dala Kiye to ensure that they receive regular meals and improve their health and nutritional status.
4. School fees support provided to 75 OVC to ensure that they access secondary education, retain them in school and improve their academic performance.
5. 2 OVC who are physically handicapped supported with school fees at special schools for the physically handicapped to access special education; retain them in school and gain basic literacy and survival skills.
6. 10 OVC supported with vocational training fees and other vocational training expenses to attend technical training institutions, gain technical skills in various trades and contribute to their ability to improve their livelihoods.
7. College fees provided to 10 students to enable them access education in various institutions of higher learning.
8. Foster care services provided to a total of 60 OVC enrolled in foster family care to ensure that they are protected and access services for continuity in social reintegration within family settings in Dala Kiye and community settings in Nyatike community.
9. Comprehensive school health education provided to 3667 OVC enrolled in Dala Kiye Program to enhance knowledge and skills for prevention and protection against HIV/AIDS infection among OVC and their care givers, child rights, health and nutrition education.
10. 324 BOM (Board of Management) members from 18 target schools with a one day sensitization on awareness of their role in the school board of management. Development.
11. 450 small school learner's desk provided to 18 different primary schools.
12. Dala Kiye was at a position to interact with her partners through the monthly newsletter, **'Milome'**

13. The project established 5 child protection structures in 5 different locations within Karungu and Gwassi.

### **Lessons Learnt**

- Increased education sessions with children and caregivers has contributed greatly to awareness creation on issues of health and child rights.
- Better coordination of activities help to bring about better results

### **Recommendations**

- There is need for aggressive resource mobilization to continue supporting the vulnerable populations in the community

Report prepared by

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