

PROJECT STATUS REPORT

FOD SECURITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION PROJECTS

1. Food security (farm project)

With the help of NHS Organics and customers, we managed to purchase seeds, farm tools and equipment. This has successfully enabled us to carry out nutritious food production for the children at Milimani orphanage centre. This has further transformed the children's diet and reduced the centre's dependence on inconsistent donations. The centre for many years has always depended on inconsistent donations and struggle to give the orphans food and proper nutrition. Previously were forced to choose between feeding the children a well balanced diet or providing education and other basic necessities. As a result, the children subsisted on starch based diets with very little access to proteins and other micro nutrients, and have higher rates of malnutrition.



Other than the NHS monthly donations, the centre relied on unstable food supply and donations from the international volunteers and well-wishers who spent time at the project, offering their skills. This kind of arrangement has been thwarted by the emergence of covid 19 disease that has stopped willing volunteers to travel. In the past, the children experienced stunted physical and cognitive growth along with reduced energy, poor immunity and concentration. The children who live with HIV/AIDS felt the brunt because their bodies need well balanced food for proper immunity. The HIV drugs are so strong and should not be taken in an empty stomach. *Thanks for the support.*

With this initiative, we now have the ability to offer vegetables and plant based protein that adds variety to the diet and combat these problems. The centre will be able to reallocate donations formerly used for food to pay other educational and necessary expenses.

Long term impact

Older children will learn farming skills, god work ethics and take pride in sharing duties.

They will learn the connection between the farm and their plates, develop a sense of self esteem and personal responsibility



that is not easily fostered in orphans. These lessons they will carry with them into adulthood. The proper feeding program will transform orphans health and give Milimani Orphanage the power to give quality nutrition and orphan care while assisting them out of the circle of poverty and dependency.

In future we intend to start poultry and small scale fish farming to achieve full self reliance and supplement the nutrition. Right now, there is fish decline in Lake Victoria and this makes fish farming lucrative income. The demand for eggs and other chicken products are high in the region.

2. Environmental conservation

Connecting children with nature

Thanks to NHS organic and customers for the support that has enabled us to initiate this wonderful project that now that not only conserves the environment but also instills the art of responsibilities and god values in our children.

Milimani orphanage centre strategy emphasizes the importance of children and young people connecting with nature and developing conservation knowledge, values and skills to enable them to get involved and make a difference.

Creating worldwide change is not just done with one person; it has to involve everyone. In order to involve more people in the efforts to help the environment, it's important to get younger generations involved in the efforts. With the support of NHS Organic oils and customers, we have successfully managed to come up with a vibrant environmental conservation and education project that specifically involves the children. The children are willing to extend to the other neighbouring communities and schools. This project has enabled the children to have more outdoor activities that have encouraged their interests and questions, and foster their appreciation. They have begun to associate their environment with interests and happiness. The children are change of agents and are sharing the good lessons learnt with their peers in the community.

Teaching conservation to the next generation is important as attitudes about earth's natural resources begins at an early age. Awareness conservation when kids are young will lead them to be proactive adults concerned about the welfare of their environment and the world they live in. Our children are the future and teaching them conservation at a young age ensures a healthy and a vibrant world for them to enjoy as adults.

The children have moved a notch higher and made this a club that they intend to spread to other children in the entire island and it's environment. They have dubbed it *CHULA RUSINGA BIODIVERSITY*. *Chula* is a local dialect to mean *Island*.

The link <https://rusingabiodiversit.wixsite.com/website>