Here at SOS Children’s Villages Kenya (SOS CV Kenya), we have a unique childcare model in which children under our SOS Family Care model live within a family unit, receive all-round care, love, affection and protection through a caregiver. This model is anchored on four principles - The Child (every child is unique and respected), The Parent (every child needs a caring and stable parent), The Family (every child grows up in a supportive family) and The Community (every child is part of a safe and supportive community). Children admitted into our children’s villages (CVs) are those that have either lost their biological parental care of face real threat of losing their biological parental care. Our strict admission processes ensure that the most meriting of such children are admitted in our CVs where highly qualified and well trained SOS mothers provide emotional, psychological and nutritional needs and these children live in an environment full of love, security and respect. Our childcare model’s theory of change is that

**WORD FROM THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR**

7 children who sat their Distance Intervention Programme (DIP) entrance exams in April 2019 qualified and joined Hermann Gmeiner International College.

The DIP is a two-year learning-support schedule for students aged 13 to 16 years and in grades 7 to 9 from SOS Children’s Villages globally.
when children who have lost or are at great risk of losing parental care are offered new beginnings; provided with all round care, love, affection and protection; given a parent (to build close relationships and provide stability to the child as she guides their development), a family (to offer a sense of belonging to the children) and a community (of SOS families forming a supportive village environment for children to enjoy a happy childhood), then these children are better placed to shape their own futures, become successful and positive contributing members of their communities.

For this reason, it was very encouraging to see all our seven (7) children who sat their Distance Intervention Programme (DIP) entrance exams in April 2019 qualify and get selected to join the highly competitive Hermann Gmeiner International College (HGIC) in Accra, Ghana. The DIP is a two-year learning-support schedule for students aged 13 to 16 years and in grades 7 to 9 from SOS Children’s Villages globally. The main DIP subjects are English, Mathematics and Science with a focus on continuous preparation and build-up of core knowledge, skills and understanding of candidates. This year, the graduation ceremony of the HGIC was held in June 8th 2019 and witnessed three of our children – Hillary Mudasia, Mercy Wanjiru and Phillip Musila successfully graduate with an International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma.

Children under our direct care are nurtured to live integrated, non-discriminatory lives and to actively participate in local community affairs. SOS families in our Mombasa location hosted the Senator of Mombasa County HE Mohamed Faki Mwinyihaji and a host of local Muslim leaders and friends to an Iftar dinner during the month of Ramadan.

Advocacy and partnerships for quality childcare is part of what we do to realize our vision as an organization of ensuring that no child grows up alone and that each child is guaranteed the best care possible. SOS CV Kenya continued with its advocacy and partnership initiatives with government agencies, civil society groups that advance child rights, and like-minded organizations including Plan, World Vision, Child Fund, Terres Des Homes, and Save the Children to advocate for quality care access to essential services of children across Kenya through the Child Rights Now (CRN!) coalition. In the coming period, SOS CV Kenya and CRN! Coalition partners will additionally be joining forces to end violence against children under the Ending Violence against Children (EVAC) coalition.

On behalf of the children, SOS mothers and SOS co-workers, I would like to most sincerely thank our funding and support partners for enabling the successes so far experienced in our childcare work. We look forward to continued partnership and support as we jointly ensure no child grows up alone.

Walter S. Odhiambo | National Director
SOS Children’s Villages Kenya
HOSTING DELOITTE EAST AFRICA AND STORYMOJA PUBLISHERS

In April we were delighted to host Deloitte East Africa led by the CEO Mr. Joe Eshun, CSR leader Gladys Mukami and other staff to SOS CV in Buruburu. Also accompanying them for the visit was Storymoja Publishers - a creative Kenyan publishing company with a wide variety of children story books, who engaged the children in games, book reading and storytelling sessions.

Deloitte has been a corporate house sponsor at SOS Children’s Village Nairobi for the past 9 years. Making his remarks during the visit, Deloitte CEO assured that Deloitte and SOS CV partnership is a long lasting one from the heart, to ensure the children are impacted positively in alignment to Deloitte’s mission. He shared that Deloitte’s mission is to impact on people, their clients, society, government and 50 million future leaders through education. A native of Ghana, he recalled that he has had a personal interaction with SOS CV from when he was just 7 years old when he used to visit SOS CV in Ghana. He was accompanied to the visit with his daughter who joined the rest of the children in the fun and games and a tour of the village. Thereafter together with Storymoja brought on board courtesy of Deloitte, they donated books to be used in the Nairobi village library. A keen reader himself, Mr. Eshun encouraged the children to take reading seriously in order to open up their minds.
The Association of Charitable Children Institutions of Kenya (ACCIK) organized a Regional Child Care and Protection Conference held at the Eldoret National Polytechnic, Eldoret in April. The theme of the conferences was: Strengthening Family and Community in Child Care and Protection: Experiences, Challenges and Opportunities. The conference brought together stakeholders in Child Care and Protection from North Rift including SOS Children’s Villages Kenya Eldoret. The participants from Eldoret had an opportunity to share alternative care project-highlighting on experiences, learning and needs of children and caregivers in foster and kinship arrangements. SOS Eldoret shared Fairstart Training concept for effective parenting among the foster and kinship families. Eldoret CV is also location which CAQAC-Community Action for Quality Alternative Care a 3 year programme funded by CISU-Civil Society Fund-Denmark was implemented. The forum was attended by 310 participants from North Rift as well as other regions including western, Nairobi and Mombasa. In attendance from Eldoret CV were 25 participants (staff and para social workers) notable among the guests were the chief guests Hon. lady Justice Teresia Matheka- High court Nyeri, Hon John Mututho among others.
SAVE MY MOTHER SOS CV KE PROJECT COMES TO A SUCCESSFUL END

SOS Children’s Villages Kenya through its medical centres in Nairobi and Eldoret implemented a cervical cancer prevention programme dubbed Save My Mother (SMM) between 2010 and 2017. The medical centres that have an average reach of 80,000 clients per year provide among other services cervical cancer screening and treatment through facility based visits, outreaches and referrals. Through the support of Female Cancer Foundation in partnership with SOS Children’s Villages Netherlands the project was executed in two phases: Phase 1(2010-2014) and phase 2(2015-2017) The implementation was undertaken with the aim of providing women aged 15 to 55 years in the two locations and neighboring informal settlements with cervical cancer screening and related services. A total of 45,604 women were screened with 11% (5201) treated through cryotherapy during the six year programme. Training of community health volunteers and on job training was also conducted during the project.

Phase 2 of the project saw the expansion of the project services to include advocacy to improve the projects sustainability. Six satellite health facilities were identified in Nairobi and Eldoret counties, through a rigorous assessment from level 2 and 3 facilities according to Ministry of health’s categorization to equip these facilities in order to build their capacity and provide required medical equipment and materials. SOS Children’s Villages in May handed over the equipment both in Eldoret and Nairobi. This will allow for the continuity of cervical cancer screening and treatment. In Nairobi the health centres that received the

Nairobi county health representative Mr. Gregory Miyanga and representative from Ministry of health receive equipment from SOS CV National director Walter Odhiambo
CBA VISIT TO KISUMU CV

CBA Bank CEO Jeremy Ngunze led CBA staff in a visit to Kisumu CV where they support a house under the house sponsorship programme.

equipment are based in Kayole, Umoja, Jericho, Kayole Soweto and Mukuru. The equipment was received by Nairobi county health representative Mr. Gregory Miyanga and other representatives from the ministry of health. In Eldoret the health facilities that received the equipment were Kesses, Ziwa, Moiben, Kapteldon, Burnt forest and Chepsaita sub county health centres. The deputy governor Uasin Gishu Mr. Daniel Chemno was at hand to receive the equipment from SOS National director Mr. Walter Odhiambo. The Save My Mother programme has enabled the SOS Children’s Villages to create stronger links with the Ministry of health, other NGO’s and Community Based Organisations.
Family Strengthening programme is one of SOS Children’s Villages Kenya programmes which supports families in the communities and in partnership with UMANDE Trust are in the process of constructing a bio center in Soweto slum, Kayole. The project is funded by Danish companies, the Denmark TV Galla and Ecco Shoes Company in Denmark through SOS Children’s Villages Denmark. The Ecco shoes company visited the site in March to see the development of the project that is under construction.

The partnership between UMANDE Trust who is the Contractor that has managed similar projects and SOS Children’s Villages begun in 2015 after SOS Denmark expressed interest in supporting a sanitation project. This bio centre project is to solve part of sanitation problems experienced by the slum dwellers and to be a source of income for the Family Strengthening caregivers who are members of Self Help Groups that will run the projects. Since 2014, Family Strengthening programme has encouraged caregivers to form table banking groups (VSLAs) with some of them have having been registered as Self Help Groups and CBOs. The registered groups will eventually run the bio-centers and later own them after an agreed period of time. After the construction and a few years of monitoring, SOS Children’s Villages will fully hand over the projects to the groups who will use the bio-centers as income generating activities. The current bio centre is being constructed on space donated by the Kayole Baptist Church with construction of the bio centre within the church compound that is also accessible to the slum. The community members especially the ones in our programme were tasked to search and identify spaces/land in places with high population and less toilets and through them we have been able to get another space in Carton Slum for the second
bio-center. Before any construction begins, the land clearance process is done and this includes land search, preparing and signing of agreements with the leasing party (in our case it has been churches) and community involvement through sensitization. In the process to acquire the suitable locations the local authorities i.e. Chiefs and MCAs are also involved every step of the way. The bio centers will have a bio-digester in the underground. The bio-digester converts human waste into energy which is used as gas fuel for cooking. Women and families around the bio-centre will use the gas for cooking at a fee which will be paid to the management of the bio-center. The ground floor of the structure will have bathrooms and toilets and these will be divided into various sections for men, women, children and the physically challenged. Adult users will pay a fee after every use or on a monthly basis depending on the agreement with the management. The first floor will be dependent on the agreement of the group and the partners including the community. Some centers will have multipurpose halls which will be for hire by the community, some will have a day care centre that will be run by the management and the parents will pay a fee for the baby care, some will have computer colleges or other short course training colleges, and other will have movie theaters. In addition some bio center blocks will have water points where community members can buy water from as income to the project too. The money generated from this project will be used by the group for its maintenance and for their salaries and savings. After constructing this first bio-center we will be able to access impact and construct others in different locations.
SOS ELDORSET MEDICAL CENTRE WELCOMES THE FIRST BABY

Eldoret medical centre team was excited to announce the very first delivery in the new maternity at the Medical Centre. A new baby boy was born on 18th March 2019 and her mother proudly named the boy Xellian after the Xellia Pharmaceuticals the company supporting the Medical centre. We were also privileged to have Camilla Olsen the Director SOS Children Villages, Denmark who presented the bouquet of flower to the mother. Congratulations to the mother and the may the boy grow up in wisdom and full of blessings. Eldoret medical center was officially opened by SOS Patron Her Excellency Mrs. Margaret Kenyatta in June 2018 when she visited the village to commemorate SOS Founder’s day. SOS CV runs 2 medical centres under health programme and both medical centres are open to serve the community around the two villages.

MOMBASA SENATOR VISITS MOMBASA CV DURING RAMADHAN

Mombasa senator Mohamed Faki was at SOS CV Mombasa for Ifutar during his maiden visit to the village. He was accompanied by friends and donated food for all the children and staff at the village. At hand to receive him was the National director Mr. Walter Odhiambo and Mombasa Village Program director Mrs. Ireneous Kombe. He urged the children to be obedient and work extra hard in their studies in order to shape their future. SOS Children’s
Villages Kenya is a non-religious organisation that offers long term care to children who have lost or are at risk of losing care of their biological family. We were grateful to the senator and his friends for the kind gesture towards us.

CELEBRATING SOS FOUNDER’S DAY

Every year SOS Children’s Villages celebrates the Founders day on 23rd June to celebrate the birthday of Herman Gmeiner the founder. This year he turned 100 years and there were celebrations in different activities in all the villages.

In Buruburu Village Coca-Cola was kind to make a donation of beverages that included water and assorted sodas to the children.
Coca Cola donated beverages that included soda and water for the day.

The bouncy castle was a popular spot for the younger children.

Radisson Blu also added color to the day by visiting the village and providing the children’s games, food and cakes.

Lunch was provided for and served by Radisson Blu staff.

To crown the day we played two matches between Radisson staff and SOS youth which SOS youth won.
We were glad to host Radisson Blu senior management team led by Rob Kucera-District Director East Africa & GM Radisson Blu Upper Hill, Carsten Wappler- GM, Park Inn by Radisson Westlands and Gerard Moutou-GM Radisson Blu Aboretum that is the latest entrant into the market. Radisson Blu support SOS Children’s Villages in various activities towards ensuring the children and youth have a loving home. During the visit, the team toured Nairobi Buruburu Village, the Medical Centre, Kindergarten and the Technical Training Institute (T.T.I) and familiarised themselves with the programmes we run. Being in the hospitality sector, the team got to experience SOS Children’s Village hospitality and we were excited to be rated highly. Also accompanying the team was Charity Gachau, HR Manager Radisson Blu Upper Hill, Frida Konde HR Manager Radisson Blu Arboretum and Scovia Mwenda Ouma, HR Manager Park Inn by Radisson. We sincerely appreciate the partnership with Radisson Blu that enables us to provide for the children under our care.
PARK INN BY RADISSON STAFF VERSUS SOS CV YOUTH MATCH

In April 13 youth from SOS CV Buruburu participated in a mini tournament organized by the ParkInn by Radisson hotel at the German school grounds in Nairobi. This was in an effort to promote a culture of sports for recreation and bonding for individuals, and to enable a meeting of ParkInn by Radisson Staff and SOS CV youth away from the CV and the Hotel respectively.

Besides the 2 teams, there was a team comprising of GP-German Parents who have students in the school, and are friends of the ParkInn by Radisson establishment. They came together to share time and support the idea of sporting among young people as a preferable way of spending time.

The first Match was between PI and the GP, then followed GP and SOS before PI and SOS met. In the match with the German parents, the CV team lost 0-1 and later won against the ParkInn team 2-1. The latter reign over the German parents by winning 2-1. The SOS team later went to the hotel for a joint meal with the hotel staff.

The general manager of the hotel Mr. Carsten Wappler promised to organize a tournament that will be gender inclusive so that both boys and girls from the CV can participate. He promised to make a follow up so that it happens in June 2019. The SOS CV team was very grateful for the opportunity to tryout against different teams, as they were motivated to look for such tournaments so that the team strength and exposure may advance.
DAY OF THE AFRICAN CHILD CELEBRATIONS

The theme for the Day of the African Child (DAC) 2019 selected by the African Committee of experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC), established in accordance with Articles 32 and 33 of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (the Charter) was “Humanitarian Action in Africa: Children’s Rights First.” The event gives children an opportunity to actively participate in awareness creation of children issues and collaborate with decision makers on matters affecting children.

SOSCVKE was funded by CAQAC (Community Action for Quality Alternative Care) project to implement activities in collaboration with the government on issues concerning violation of children rights. Activities were geared towards enhancing children participation on issues which concern them in each respective location as well as the need for the duty bearers to respect their rights and hold them accountable. In Eldoret CV creation of awareness to children and youths on their rights was done in collaboration with Kapsoya Catholic church, Children’s department, the chief, Morning star, St Mary’s Mission hospital, SOS children’s village Eldoret and Area Advisory Council representatives. The community members who were present were enriched on child rights and their responsibility as duty bearers. The children were able to educate the masses on the children rights across Kapsoya location through innovative ways for example writing their rights on balloons and posters to communicate to the wider community. The children participated in play activities such as sack race, egg race, hula hoop, football and skipping. They were encouraged to showcase their talents which included poems, dances, songs and drawings. A total of 175 children and youths from family strengthening and alternative care program participated in the event among other community children who were not counted due to large number of participants but approximately, over 300 children attended the meeting. In Nairobi CV corporate partners (Radisson Blu) engaged the children in games and activities to mark the day while in Kisumu, Meru, Mombasa Villages held different activities with the children and joined hands other likeminded organisations in child care to mark the day.
The month of June was Radisson Blu Hotel, Upper Hill and Park Inn by Radisson, Westlands Community Action Month. Radisson is our corporate partner who supports the work we do to ensure a loving home for the children under our care.

During the month we were excited to be engaged with them in activities that brought some fun and cheer our way. Children from Buruburu visited the Giraffe Center a wildlife conservation park in Nairobi, Langata a treat by Radisson Blu Hotel and on the Day of the African Child there was yet another treat waiting as we visited Park Inn Hotel in Westlands for more fun, food, games and learning to mark the day. We are grateful to the two hotels for the thoughtful gestures during their community action month.
SOS Children’s Villages celebrated its 70th anniversary in June. Over seven decades, we have transformed the lives of four million children. We have supported them to grow up in a safe and caring family environment. To mark the occasion, a report ‘70 Years of Impact’ that tracks the organisation’s impact on the lives of children and young people through its family-like care and family strengthening services was released. The report concludes that SOS Children’s Villages has contributed to transforming four million lives since its founding on 25 April 1949, by supporting children and young people to grow up in a safe and caring family environment. These children have grown up in stronger families, thus breaking the cycle of separation and abandonment, their own children and grandchildren also have a better life. This means about 13 million lives will have been positively impacted through the support of SOS Children’s Villages. Importantly, the report also quantifies how the work of SOS Children’s Villages contributes towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and in particular the goals for eliminating poverty, ensuring quality education, providing access to decent work, creating a more equal society, and preventing violence. Siddhartha Kaul, President of SOS Children’s Villages International, said: “The evidence shared in this report demonstrates that our care services have achieved positive results, reflected in the lives of children we have worked with – both in family-like care and family strengthening.

“Our aim as an organisation is to ensure every child can grow in a secure and loving family,” he continued. “We celebrate that we have achieved this for many children and young people over the past 70 years who have gone on to live successful lives.”
The Next Economy is a 3 year programme implemented by SOS Children’s Villages Kenya in 2 locations in Nairobi and Kisumu. It compliments SOS Children’s Villages Kenya Youth empowerment programme. The program is anchored on SDG’s goal 8 that seeks to contribute to creation and growth of decent work and economic development through encouragement of entrepreneurship and enhancement of employability skills in a bid to reduce poverty and achieving full productive employment and work opportunities for young people by 2030.

Now in its third year, the program that was implemented in 2017 aspires to break the poverty cycle by empowering youth to unfold their talents and stimulate them to create their own future jobs or to provide them with the right skills to become more employable and match them with the job market. The Next Economy targets youth who are 18-35 years and are committed to start their own businesses or are ready for their talent to be unfolded to enable them successfully enter the job market.

In June The Next Economy held a breakfast meeting targeting potential employers within Kisumu city. The objective of the breakfast was to publicize the concept of TNE, lobby for internship and job opportunities for youth participating in the second cohort of the programme and to propose long term partnerships with employers. The meeting was attended by 28 employers, 4 SOS staff and 3 Millennial Legacy staff. Among the 4 SOS staff were National Youth
Coordinator and Program Director (Kisumu). The meeting commenced with background introduction of SOS Children’s village and its component program The Next Economy. A representative from Lake-hub a partner on the TNE programme was given the opportunity to speak about the components of entrepreneurship training, crowd funding and how it impacts on youth development. Millennial Legacy who are the employability skills training agency also had the opportunity in enlightening the employers on the essence of employability skills for youth. The National Youth Coordinator closed the meeting by calling on employers to work in partnership with SOS Children’s Villages Kisumu in building youth capacity and providing quality internship and employment opportunities to help curb the big burden of youth unemployment in Kisumu County.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NGARE NDARE HIKE

Theme: “Fun for Charity”

10th August, 2019

SOS Overview

The SOS Children’s Villages Kenya is a member of SOS – Kinderdorf International, the largest private child welfare organization in the world. In Kenya, the first SOS Children’s Village was opened in 1973 in Nairobi and expanded to other regions; Mombasa (1979), Eldoret (1990), Meru (2005) and the latest Village in Kisumu (2012). SOS Children’s Villages Kenya requests your support to raise funds through this hike and supplement our budget in taking care of the children under our care.

We kindly request

- Transport for 200 hikers at 100,000/= 
- Park entry fee for 200 hikers at 200,000/= 
- Meals for 200 hikers at 100,000/= 
- Branded T-shirts for 200 hikers at 150,000/= 
- (Free) (5) staff participation for all corporate sponsors 
- Individual Sponsorship at 3,000/= 
- (T-Shirt, Water & Snack)

Join us for an fun filled hike and put a smile on a child’s face.

Newsletter - April-June 2019