The Constitution of Kenya in Article 53 recognizes the need for all children to be protected from abuse, neglect, harmful cultural practices, all forms of violence, inhumane treatment, punishment, and hazardous or exploitative labour. It affirms that children have basic rights, including the right to education, nutrition, shelter, health care and parental care. These provisions are aligned with those cited in both the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the Africa Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC), to which Kenya is a signatory.

The Government of Kenya, through the National Council of Children Services (NCCS) and the Department of Children Services (DCS), both of which are part of the governments’ Ministry of Labour and East African Affairs, recognizes that effective child protection has to be multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary and requires

"Over the last 46 years of its operations in Kenya, SOS Children’s Villages Kenya (SOS CV Ke) remains committed to aligning its work to the provisions of the constitution of Kenya, relevant frameworks, policies and guidelines for child protection in Kenya."
the involvement of every actor. In supporting this, the government has developed two key documents – Framework for the National Child Protection System for Kenya (2011) and County Child Protection Systems Guidelines - to promote linkages between different actors and provide coordinated interventions and responses through statutory mechanisms at national and county levels. Besides, the government has drawn a programme strategy - Strengthening Child Protection in Kenya: Programme Strategy 2011-2014.

Over the last 46 years of its operations in Kenya, SOS Children’s Villages Kenya (SOS CV Ke) remains committed to aligning its work to the provisions of the constitution of Kenya, relevant frameworks, policies and guidelines for child protection in Kenya. SOS CV Ke sustains this commitment by continuously strengthening its partnership and collaboration with national and county governments believing that through strong partnership and collaboration between government and actors, all children will enjoy their basic rights including the right to education, nutrition, health care, shelter and parental care.

My highlight for the period June to July 2019 was the week-long joint consultative forum between SOS CV Ke and high level representatives of the national government (Ministry of Labour and East African Affairs, National Council for Children’s Services and Department of Children’s Services) we held in Mombasa. This consultative forum helped enhance mutual understanding on the SOS family care model and the organization’s other existing programmatic interventions targeted at children deprived of parental care. While giving government representatives at the forum an opportunity to visit and feedback on our Mombasa SOS family care programme, this forum provided space for government to share its current programmes and interventions particularly around the on-going care reforms in the children’s sector. It is exciting for all of us here at SOS CV Ke that at the end of this consultative forum, both government and SOS CV Ke identified and agreed on a number of areas of potential synergy, leverage and sustained collaboration that will see the development and signing of a memorandum of understanding to guide how we partner with government in the coming years.

Walter S. Odhiambo
National Director
EXPANDING PARTNERSHIP WITH THE GOVERNMENT IN CHILDCARE IN KENYA

SOS Children’s Villages Kenya works collaboratively with likeminded organizations to advance care for children in Kenya. Our partnerships stretch beyond civil society organizations as we expand our scope to embrace corporates, faith and non-faith organizations who share in the vision of quality care to children. We deliberately work with the relevant government departments to propel the care agenda that is anchored on appropriate policy and legislation; upholding children’s rights and promoting more responsive care of children who have lost or are at risk of losing parental care. In the spirit of promoting comprehensive, wrap-around long-term care to children and families, SOS Children’s Villages held a consultative meeting with representatives from the Department of Children’s Services (DCS) and National Council of Children Services (NCCS) at the Reef hotel in Mombasa. The objective of the forum was to provide an opportunity for SOS CV Kenya to share more information on its programmes with the Government. To get a better understanding of the role of the two agencies (DCS and NCCS) in child welfare programmes in general and the ongoing reforms in the sector in particular with a view to identifying areas of synergy and sustainable partnership. In her remarks, the Chair of the SOS Board of Trustees applauded the heterogeneity of the forum as a sure indicator of the government’s commitment to providing children a good start in life. In her words, “SOS is open to learning especially in the context of the ongoing care reforms so that we can increase in efficiency and effectiveness of our programs.” Mr. Osman Warfa who chairs the finance committee at NCCS also emphasized on the need for a coordinated response with all
stakeholders. By way of expounding on the role of the NCCS in providing general supervision and control over the planning, financing and coordination of child rights and welfare activities. He emphasized on the need to continue working with DCS as the implementer in matters of childcare and child protection so that the council is better equipped to advise the government on the same. Several staff from the Department of Children’s Services went for cross-country learning visits to document some promising practices in the African and Western countries. DCS staff who took part in the visits shared lessons from the benchmarking trips to Rwanda and USA. Based on the learning, it was realized that there is need to appropriately package information on childcare reforms to reduce resistance from stakeholders and caregivers. The family is the best place for children, to grow up in, and every country should put up mechanisms to strengthen the social fabric so that children do not have to be brought up in institutions upon
the loss of their biological parents. The Director of Children’s Services, Mr. Noah Sanganyi emphasized on the importance of upholding the principle of best interest of the child as contained in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) as well as the “do no harm” principle in implementing all interventions. Further learning from USA showed that there is a congregate of care options for children in need of care, and special programs designed to address the challenges of youth under care and those that have left care. The Director called on SOS CV and the Department to come up with a formal, agreed upon framework to strengthen the partnership. “The experience that SOS CV has in providing long term care for children in institutions is commendable and it is instrumental in providing evidence based data that is useful in improving care across the country.” Currently, DCS is implementing a pilot project on Alternative Care in three counties namely Kisumu, Kiambu and Nyamira. The counties were selected based on their diversity and different contexts in terms of number of Orphans and Vulnerable Children and other children in need of care and protection; number of Children Charitable Institutions (CCIs). This has helped the department to come up with a National case management pack; develop a manual for the implementation of the National Guidelines on Alternative Care and a child friendly handbook; established gate keeping mechanisms and conduct capacity building workshops for stakeholders. Generally, there is low level of awareness on the various alternative care options and much worse, a bigger challenge in finding an appropriate care option for children living with disability. The Department through the head of Alternative Care section Ms. Caren Ogoti, called for stronger partnerships among stakeholders and advised players to capitalize on community based resources to enhance sustainability after reintegration.

The consultative forum was crowned with a visit to SOS Children’s Village in Mombasa; the stakeholders most of whom were interacting with the SOS family like model for the first time, interacted with staff and SOS parents to learn more about the approach. They applauded the model, noting that it is designed to create an alternative family for children who have lost and those at risk of losing parental care. They advised SOS CV Kenya to strengthen gate keeping, social and physical integration, leaving care processes, youth care and adoption of the wide range of care options provided for under the National Guidelines for the Alternative Family Care of children in Kenya (2014). It was agreed that SOS would develop a MoU based on identified areas of partnership to strengthen and institutionalize a sustainable partnership with the government.
SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES IN KENYA

National Office - Nairobi

- Nairobi (1973)
- Mombasa (1978)
- Eldoret (1988)
- Meru (2005)
- Kisumu (2010)

A loving home for every child
DAVIS & SHIRTLIFF DONATES SOLAR WATER HEATING SYSTEM TO SOS FAMILY HOUSES

As technology improves and the world embraces renewable sources of energy and environmental conservation, energy efficient systems are becoming more common. In this regard, solar water heaters are becoming a more preferred choice for environment conscious groups wishing to reduce their carbon print and save money on utility bills. Davis & Shirtliff donated two “Ultrasun UFS Flatplate Solar hot water systems” to two family houses in SOS Children Villages in Mombasa and Nairobi. The units are economical and effective, providing excellent performance and value. Each of the units come with a heavy duty storage tank comprising SUS304 stainless steel inner cylinder encased in a plastic painted insulated galvanized steel casing complete with 2kW electric heater, thermostat and a sacrificial anode to protect against corrosion. Other features include:

- Ultra high efficiency solar collectors incorporating capillary copper pipes
- Ultrasonically welded
- On a black chrome backplane covered by high transmittance glass.
- Insulated copper pipe complete with necessary compression fittings,
- Pressure release valve and a drain cock
- Galvanised mounting frame
The SOS care leavers, who comprise the SOS Alumni community, are an important and integral part of the organization. If harnessed into a strategic formal and functional network, the alumni has the potential of providing support to its members and SOS in among other things, fundraising, technical support and advocacy. Globally, SOS CV operates in 136 countries and territories, 45 of these being in Africa; the organization is the largest non-governmental organization focused on providing care to children and young people who have lost or are at risk of losing parental care. Since its inception in 1973, SOS CV Kenya boasts of having brought up thousands of youth and adults who upon leaving care, are productively engaged in different sectors of the country’s economic, political and social spheres and contributing to the society. Therefore, there is need to further leverage on the SOS alumni’s potential and to build its capacity for the benefit of its membership, current children and youth under SOS Family Care and other stakeholders.

During this season, SOS CV Kenya held an alumni meeting for representatives of Mombasa location during which they were appraised on the current trends and dynamics in child care including the ongoing global reforms in child care; deinstitutionalization; changes in international and national legal frameworks on child care; diminishing funding from international subsidies and the SOS federation’s priorities and plans as contained in the SOS 2030 strategy. The alumni representatives also updated SOS CV Kenya and their peers on their progress in life, current preoccupation and challenges.

The forum provided a great opportunity for the team to update each other and bond, as some had not seen their peers for many years. At the end of the forum, the team came up with a work plan to guide their operations and ensure that they operated in a more structured way. Under a motivation statement ‘Team work makes the dream work’, the group agreed on modalities of mobilizing other members from the location and other SOS CV Kenya locations with the goal of establishing an umbrella alumni comprised of SOS CV care leavers.
BE A PARTNER OF SOS CHILDREN’S VILLAGES

Globally, there is a growing need for more strategic partnerships that address the ever-complex challenges facing children in the society today. As the African proverb goes, “It takes a village to raise a child” the responsibility of provision of enabling and nurturing environment for children is shared and lie in the strength of partnership. At SOS CV, we believe that many children need many friends. We therefore create an opportunity for both local and international partners to collaborate in creating a conducive environment for children without and those that are risk of losing parental care.

PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Adopt a house model

SOS villages has a total of 15-16 family houses, each with a maximum of 10 children under the care of an SOS mother and assistant mother. Under this model, our partners adopt a house by committing a sponsorship fee that goes towards shelter, basic education, health, nutritional and upkeep for the family house. Sponsorship under this category is open to both corporates and individuals. SOS villages are located in Buruburu, Mombasa, Kisumu, Eldoret and Meru.
CHILD SPONSORSHIP

Under child sponsorship package, a sponsor is attached to specific child over the sponsorship period; the sponsor receives regular updates on the progress and development of the sponsored child, mid year letters and end year letter from the child and occasionally seasonal goodwill messages. Child sponsorship is open to both individuals and corporates. The sponsor is also free to visit the child upon prior arrangement. Payments made under this category goes towards education, health and daily basic requirements for the child.

You can sponsor a child today

0725 455 554

Paybill No. 551100

Newsletter - June-July 2019
SPONSORSHIP FORM

Name of Sponsor: ____________________________________________

Organisation: _______________________________________________

Address: ___________________________________________________

Phone Number (s): ___________________________________________

E-mail: _____________________________________________________

I would prefer to Sponsor a: Boy ☐ Girl ☐

☐ 0-3yrs ☐ 4-7yrs ☐ 8-11yrs

I would prefer to sponsor a Child from SOS Children’s Village:

☐ Nairobi ☐ Mombasa ☐ Eldoret ☐ Meru ☐ Kisumu

I am signing up for a Monthly | Quarterly | Bi-Annual | Annually | remmision of:

KES 2,000.00 per month Educational Support per month ☐

KES 4,000.00 per month Child’s General Upkeep per month ☐

KES 7,500.00 per month Full Child Sponsoship per month ☐

Other _______________________________________________________

Received By: ________________________________________________

Date: _______________________________________________________

Signed: ____________________________________________________

For official use only

Sponsored child ________________________________ DOB __________

Village __________________ Hse __________ Date ________ Sign _________
WORKPLACE GIVING/PAYROLL GIVING

This scheme allows staff to donate directly to SOS Children’s Villages from their payroll or via standing orders. Staff can put together their donation and adopt a house, or a child from any of the family houses. This category has no set limit and open to any amount.

In-kind donation

SOS Children’s villages has an all-inclusive sponsorship model that accommodates both cash and In-kind donations. Under In-kind donations, we encourage partners to donate gifts inform of goods that can directly be consumed at the family houses or services that can be monetized for the benefit of the children. Some of the goods include; furniture, clothes, food item, trainings, professional services, lease of property or discounts on property among others.

Memorabilia

Sale of memorabilia is an ongoing initiative where we raise funds through sale of branded merchandise. Currently we have below items on sale.

Branded items available for sale
A loving home for every child

Wristbands @ KES 500/- each

Branded mug @ Kes 1,000/-

Branded key-rings @Kes 500/- each

Branded thermo-mug @ Kes 2,000/-

Combo @ Kes 3,000/-
UPCOMING EVENTS

1. Kilikidios - For the Love of a child
2. Fun and Learn Kids Festival
3. I Am RafikiMoja
4. FOOD HARVEST CV ELDORET
5. Fundraising dinner to support needy child. 1st Nov. 2019 | 7:00pm at Milele Beach Hotel Mombasa