

GIVING CHILDREN HOPE INITIATIVE (GCHI)

NGO Number, **REG.NO S.5914/9335**

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Annual Report 2011

Prepared by
Giving Children Hope Initiative
(GCHI)

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report elaborates the progress and current status of the Giving Children Hope Initiative implemented activities in 2011. Giving Children Hope Initiative has carried several activities within its four thematic areas of; Child protection and human rights, Health, water, sanitation and poverty eradication, as well as education and good governance.

In the health sector, Giving Children Hope Initiative has undertaken awareness activities on HIV/AIDS among the youths and children in and out of school in a bid to reduce its prevalence within in the communities and the nation at large. Hygiene and sanitation workshops have been conducted. These have been done to enable people's participation and involvement in good practices of hygiene and sanitation for good health conditions. Although these have been done, there are still carriers of these sanitary related diseases like Diarrhea, malaria among others as a result of the bushy and nasty environment surrounding even lack of latrines and toilet facilities. Further still, this area leaves a lot to be desired as AIDS still remains a big threat to lives of many youths, children, not to mention the adults.

Regarding good governance and rights protection the Initiative has worked closely with the schools and communities to sensitize the people of their rights and the rights of children to and in education. This has empowered communities in lobbying and advocating for support through their rights, responsibilities and roles in taking their children to schools.

Whereas some of activities have been done, we cannot fail to say that we have faced challenges in their implementation as highlighted, nonetheless, these have taught us a lesson which will be considered in the implementation of our activities for the years that follow.

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The priorities for next year will target more on Exchange program for the school pupils/students, capacity building on gender roles and duties, entrepreneurial ship skills, children and the teachers ensure swift fund flow, documentation and publication of projects experiences and findings using the projects out comes for policy advocacy at local and national level and also share the activities out put with the other developmental players and monitoring and evaluation of the activities for the best results.

INTRODUCTION

Giving Children Hope Initiative is a Ugandan registered Non Government Organisation (NGO) under the Registration No.S.5914/9335 The organization has been in existence since 2007 and our operational areas are Wakiso, Mukono, and Mityana districts in Uganda. The organisational activities are executed within the thematic areas of;

- Child protection
- Health, water and sanitation,
- Agriculture, poverty eradication and food security.
- Community civic empowerment.

Vision

To have a holistic approach to improve the welfare of orphans and other vulnerable children in Uganda.

Mission

To improve health and accessibility to quality education for orphans and vulnerable children.

GCHI Objectives

Enhance community efforts aimed at improving health and access to improved water and sanitation facilities

- Creation of community awareness in HIV/AIDS, prevention of sanitation related diseases and malaria control.
- Involve communities in sanitation activities like cleaning community wells and roads

- Increase community involvement in disease prevention through immunization, food handling, safe water chain and maintenance of personal hygiene.

Support livelihood development through better food production and improved farming practices at community level

- To develop, promote and encourage the local communities adopt appropriate technologies and develop entrepreneurialship skills for self-sustenance.
- To support the poor and vulnerable groups in both rural and urban settings of Uganda in the adoption of modern farming methods to enhance greater agricultural productivity
- To boost local communities in undertaking income generating activities and investment in small scale enterprises in a bid to eradicate poverty.

Support the strengthening of community civic capacities and competencies for their more effective participation in shaping development processes

- Promote inter- school collaboration
- To mobilize resources to build schools founded on moral and ethical values so as to meet the national standards.
- Increase community Awareness. Participation and advocacy for Human rights and child protection.

What we do

- **Skills building:**

The GCHI trains poor and vulnerable groups in rural and urban communities with entrepreneurialship, Village saving schemes and leadership skill aimed at improving their economic status. This is done through provision of information materials, exchange visits and organized trainings.

- **Community awareness:**

Giving Children Hope Initiative carries out community awareness in Primary Health Care, safe water and sanitation, civic rights, sustainable agriculture, gender relations and child protection to ensure community knowledge in the mentioned issues and enhance community response to the development challenges there-in. This is done through organizing seminars, demonstrations and exchange visits.

Who do we work with?

Community based organizations (CBOs), primary schools, youth and women organizations, to reach out women, orphans and vulnerable children (OVCs), people with disabilities (PWDs), people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWA) and other various categories.

Activities done in the 2011

Review of Giving Children Hope Initiative Programs

This activity entailed close examination of the organizational programs and the respective activities as planned for the year 2011. The activity was intended to assist Giving Children Hope Initiative evaluate her relevance and effectiveness to the operational communities in line with the organizational goals and objectives. This would be significant in further reshaping the future activities of Giving Children Hope Initiative as they were the basis for all that has been accomplished in the year 2011.

Community Mobilization Activities for VS&LA

Giving Children Hope Initiative (GCHI) organized a series of community mobilization activities for purposes of orienting the communities into the VS&LA methodology and also to consolidate those that existed as these were the key pilot cases for the

Initiative's references. These activities were conducted in Malangala Sub County in Mityana with the support from the sub county leadership.



GCHI Members during a handover of different packages to children group in Malangala Parish

Conducted training workshop on modernized agriculture production, collective marketing, lobbying and advocacy to the women farmers in Mityana.

Giving Children Hope Initiative conducted a training session in Mityana district, Malangala constituency on the need for a collective marketing and food security. This was geared at making the farmers realize that the food crops nowadays can bring in more income to households. Furthermore collective marketing was to enable farmers to determine the marketing price suitable for their produce as a group.

Initiation of the tree planting project

Giving Children Hope Initiative initiated the tree planting project in Kabagolo and Nabatu villages in Mityana district and kicked off with community sensitization about

the project that will lay ground for its final implementation. This has been carried out to ensure popularity and appreciation of the project among communities, so as to boost their participation in environmental conservation.



Giving Children Hope Initiative staff expounding on tree planting processes to the community members of Nabato in Mityana.

Recruitment of volunteers

Giving Children Hope Initiative recognizes the importance played by volunteers in development work. Since this was one of the planned activities to enhance the performance of the Initiative, it was preferred that this can be undertaken as a continuous activity largely depending on the nature of projects being implemented. Three volunteers were recruited during the year 2011 currently working with the Initiative. It is in the interest of the Initiative to recruit more volunteers as and when GCHI gets more funding in the coming year.

Introducing the Initiative (GCHI) in Malangala Sub County to community leaders and community members

Giving Children Hope Initiative expanded her operational areas by transferring the services directly to the beneficiaries in Malangala Sub County through establishing ground net work with the local people and promoting participatory development approaches among communities.

Staff meetings at Giving Children Hope Initiative main offices- Lungujja Kosovo Lubaga Road

For the progress of the Initiative and evaluation of the Initiative activities, planning, and challenges met, a number of meetings have been held at GCHI's head offices in **Lungujja Kosovo Lubaga Road** Kampala.

GCHI general meeting at the main offices in Lungujja Kosovo Lubaga Road

From the meeting held, discussions were based on the progress, planning, challenges and the forward in promoting communities and their capabilities.

Key challenges met in the year

During the course of the year ending (2011), the implementation of the activities has been undertaken but with a lot of challenges. Some of the major challenges that the Initiative has grappled which include the following;

- Majority of the people in communities where Giving Children Hope Initiative operates are low income earners. This leads to prevalence of poverty within the communities thus hindering people's participation in some of Giving Children Hope Initiative programs that may require a certain degree of personal facilitation.

- The mobilization of resources required for the successful implementation of the planned activities has continued to be one of the major problems, during the year ending 2011. Giving Children Hope Initiative continued to mobilize resources from within the members of the board of directors and other well wishers, however, this had limited impact in solving the financial constraints leaving some of the projects incomplete and will be rolled over to the next year, 2012
- The Initiative had very few collaborative partners as compared to the breadth of their activities to the year, thus having limited implementation strategies in achieving its core objectives

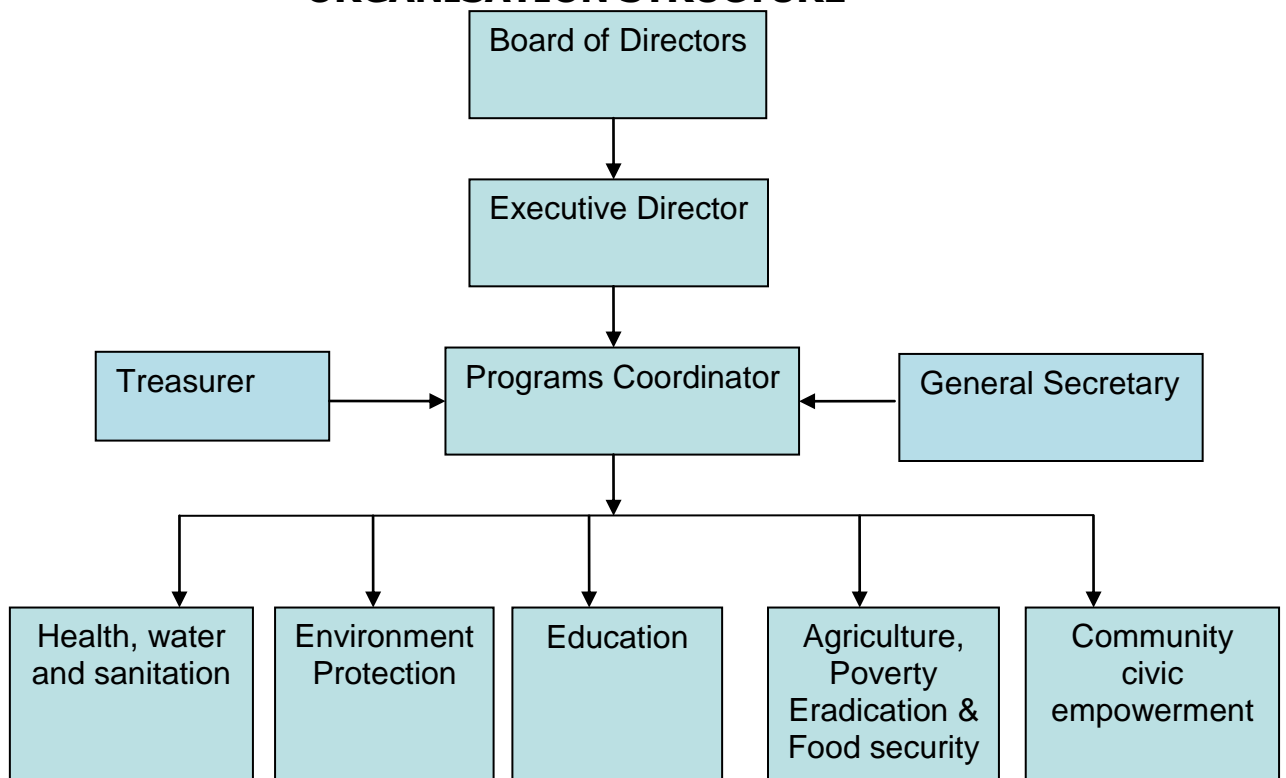
Recommendations

- Strengthening of the organizational networks with other collaborative agencies like umbrella organizations, schools, community based organizations, FBOs, as well as government officials and ministries.
- In order to fix the large gap of limited organizational resources, Giving Children Hope Initiative ought to strengthen its resource mobilization strategies and make identification and sustenance of funding opportunities and agencies a high priority.
- The Initiative ought to embark on its marketing strategies so as to involve in more community based activities and expand its operational activities to the wider level.

Targeted activities for 2012

- Organize 8 seminars both in schools and communities to create awareness in HIV/AIDS, and malaria control for better health standards
- Conduct **8** hygiene and sanitation workshops **4** in schools and **4** to community members
- Mobilizing community members to clean at least **5** wells in the sub county.
- Mobilizing Community members for tree planting in the sub county.
- Training community members on proper feeding and management of the animals produced like piggery production, poultry especially for the local breed 10 workshops in the communities.
- 4 training workshops for empowering boda boda cyclists about agricultural production in the sub county.
- 2 trainings on improved cultivation, collective marketing in the sub county.
- Organize seminars for sensitizing communities on proper nutrition and food security in Malangala sub county.
- **5** training workshops for strengthening boda boda cyclists, market vendors along road side, and women groups from the Sub County in VS&LA.

ORGANISATION STRUCTURE



Gender is a cross cutting issue in all programs