



ELGON YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTRE'S 2014-2018 STRATEGIC PLAN.

“Vision for the Future”



Introduction:

Elgon Youth Development Centre, is a Youth Community based organization located in Mbale District, Eastern Uganda, the project started in 2009 as a result of the appalling poverty situation in the community among disadvantaged youths that had led to a rise in crime rates, street children, early pregnancies and early marriages leave alone dropping out of school by many children. Lack of employment, death or separation of parents, lack of school fees and other scholastic materials, drug and forms of child abuse have been responsible for the increased number of unemployed and street children.

Unemployment is a critical issue which all world economies are grappling with. The major world financial institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund are now advising economies to focus on jobs as a catalyst to spur economic growth. According to economists, sustained creation of jobs leads to economic growth; the employed populations can also afford good livelihoods, contribute taxes, and invest in creation of other jobs

According to statistics from the ministry of Gender, studies prove that the high unemployment rate among the youth poses a serious threat to the well-being of society. 12% of all youth in Uganda aged between 12-30 are chronically poor with higher poverty rates among 12-17 years olds as compared to the 18-30 years old.

It is of the above reasons that we embrace EYDC's mission of **Reviving the hopes of disadvantaged children by creating opportunities for them to be skilled, self sufficient and productive.** Over the past months, we have held an extensive discussion to identify and debt on how EYDC could build on its initial success to set a vision and a plan for the next five years.

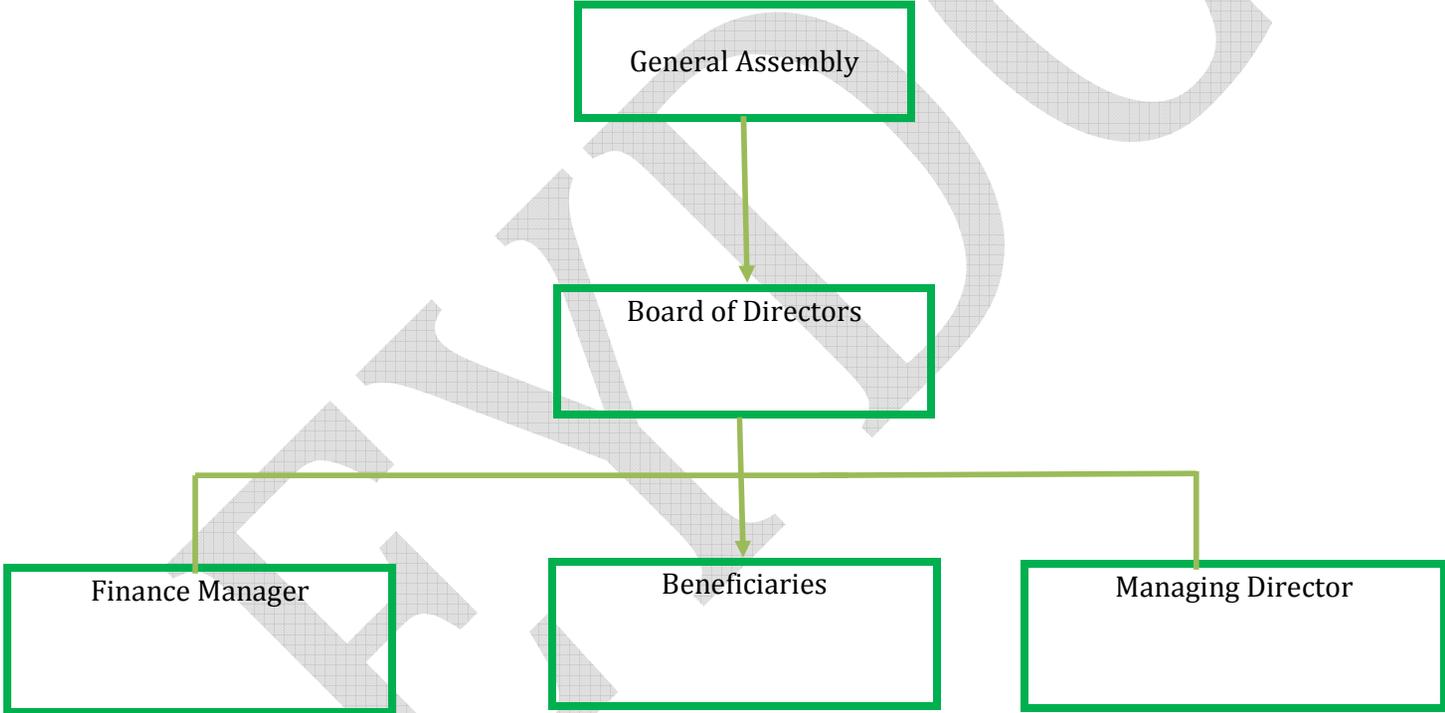
Objectives

- To reduce the number of street children by 60% by 2018
- Increase young people's incomes by 70% by 2018.
- To raise change agents who will promote positive behaviour change in the community.

The outcome is clear. The Organization’s original overall goal is ‘to secure its owned permanent home for the beneficiaries’ that would benefit future generations too. We are committed to help save our community in supporting vulnerable children live better lives.

We have the ability to work in dramatically new ways. How will we align this work to meet the expectations of our community and address our specific challenges?

This strategic plan sets a path forward to realize this future. Our work is carried out by an experienced and dedicated team of staff, who perform a diverse range of functions in the management.



Since its creation in 2009, EYDC’s main priorities have been the establishment of structures and policies to ensure the long term sustainability of the organization.

The next 5 years



Aim

EYDC's work will continue to be based on its original aim.

Reviving the hopes of disadvantaged children by creating opportunities for them to be skilled, self sufficient and productive.

Key Objective:

Our continued delivery of this aim will be guided by three key objectives for the next five years:

- To empower Youths with skills and create opportunities for them to be self sufficient and monitor their progress.
- To manage a Centre that is highly recognised for re-uniting street children, through maximising our resources to meet the needs of the beneficiaries and organization.
- To actively seek out opportunities to expand and improve on the well being of vulnerable children and the Centre.

The Centre and Home for at risk children.

Our aim:

The Centre will be a transformation harbour for vulnerable children and Youth in the community, the Home will be managed and owned by Elgon Youth Development Centre to support generations to come since it will live on.

Elgon Youth Development Centre has been operating in Mbale, Eastern Uganda for the last five and half years. The organisation could be considered as being in its infancy however it has undertaken and completed a number of tasks and helped many young people in Mbale live better lives and supported the needy to raise funds and awareness during times of need. Most of the children we support are orphans, many come from one-parent families and may come as "Street Children", abandoned and abused, with so many needs. Poverty, illiteracy, neglect, emotional scars, poor health and unemployment by many Youth are common problems.

In the past years, the organisation has been and is caring out its work under rented premises moving from one to another which has greatly affected its work and children too over the years. This came to the founder's attention and proposed EYDC's Permanent owned House/Home would be purchased to ease on the burden and stress which is always got from landlords. A permanent Home will guaranty the organization's work and future existence to help and support generations to come.

The proposed Home will cost £1,3000, through our music programme of the brass band and cultural dance troupe and other small income generating activities we have managed to raise £673 to help us purchase the house. We believe that with support from kind well-wishers and sponsors, we will combine all kind of support from all sources available; we will successfully achieve our goal. Any Donation made in kind by anyone, we would write their names on the walls of the Centre, rooms, website, t-shirts upon their approval in their recognition and they will always be remembered.



Vision

A self-sustaining and enterprising young generation.

Over the next Five years, we will:

- **Raise funds to purchase a building for the organization where it will smoothly carry out its work.**
- **Carry out maintenance and renovation of the Centre to make it a centre for excellence.**
- **Build a perimeter wall to protect the organization's property and children.**
- **Finally we will work closely with neighbouring landlords to ensure that EYDC's plans are not compromised.**
- **Introduce more vocational skills and boost the current too.**
- **Ensure that all the beneficiaries get quality education.**

The Community.

Our aim:

To help and support disadvantaged young people in our community have a brighter future.

The organization has in the past helped a number of young people from the community who have also helped others in return. We have reunited a number of street children back with their available relatives and this has reduced on the numbers of them by 20%.

Over the next Five years, we will:

- **To help more young people acquire basic education to secure a brighter future for each of them.**
- **Find solutions to issues that push children to leave their homes and end up on streets.**
- **Organise weekly community outreach programme with peer educators.**
- **Support early mothers especially school drop-outs by training them in skills that can help them earn a living to support them socially.**

The Organization will engage with local leaders to provide services that benefit the community.

Music Programme.

Our aim:
To give chance to all young people learn skills in music and give them a platform to promote their talents.

EYDC has in the past helped hundreds of young people acquire skills in Music, Dance and Drama. Through music, six have attained jobs as music instructors in different parts of the country. Our renowned Youth Brass Band and cultural dance troupe, has helped many young people earn a small amount of money which has always helped them in solving their small social needs and kept them away from trouble.

Over the next Five years, we will:

- Secure more instruments for both the brass band and dance troupe.
- Maintain both uniforms and instruments used at different performances.
- Create more publicity for both the brass band and dance troupe to secure performances.
- Try new competitive skills and styles in music to fulfil needs of our audience.
- Partner with different musicians to help support our members.



Promotion.

**Our aim:
EYDC will be known throughout the region and beyond for being the centre of excellence in providing support and innovative information to the community.**

Raising awareness is critical to the success of Elgon Youth Development Centre and its long term sustainability. Clear and constant communication about our work ensures that EYDC is widely known and will be agenda in creating sponsorship opportunities.

We will make continued improvements to promotion through a new web site. We will actively seek new opportunities to publicise our work through the media and social networking, and will encourage other organisations to use the Centre for events, training and activities to raise awareness of Elgon Youth Development Centre.

Over the next 5 years, we will:

- Revise and relaunch our web site and make more use of linked applications.
- Ensure that all businesses within the Centre are able to make use of the EYDC brand.
- Replace all signs and information boards across Mbale to improve their design, quality, content and durability.
- Work with a range of organisations to support promotion of Elgon Youth Development Centre.
- Engage more widely with national and international Youth Centres to improve promotion and awareness of EYDC.

We recognise that the organization must also work closely with other organisations to encourage inward investment and growth into the community through promoting the benefits the Centre provides to quality of life in the region.

However, we will also not lose sight of the fact that our most valuable and appreciated communication is often through our staff, and will therefore ensure that our team remains visible, approachable and knowledgeable.

Values:

EYDC is committed to the provision of safe social and competitive opportunities for all its members.

Fairness

We will demonstrate fairness and equality in all areas of our work.

Respect

We will respect others by giving time, space and consideration to all viewpoints.

Integrity

We will achieve consistent high standards through our professionalism, loyalty and reliability.

Trust

We will maintain a safe, honest and supportive team environment.

Commitment

We will work to a shared vision and consistently deliver.

EYDC executive committee.

Director/ Administrator
Kyewalyanga Fredrick

Music director
Kutosi David

Treasurer
Tanga Derick

Secretary
Naigaga Sarah

Programs coordinator
OchakaChoni Maurice



For more information on how to help us achieve the 2018 strategic plan please contact us on the details below:

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