

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records

Subgroup/Office of Origin: National AIDS Policy Office

Series/Staff Member:

Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 21067

FolderID:

Folder Title:

Fountain of Hope

Stack:

S

Row:

66

Section:

7

Shelf:

11

Position:

3

INTRODUCTION

The Fountain of Hope center is a response to the surge in the number of orphans and vulnerable children, and out of school youth and the numerous problems affecting children living on the streets and under other vulnerable conditions. The organisation is registered under the Registra of Societies S.O.1 of the Government of Zambia, and is situated at Kamwala Community Centre, Chilumbulu Road, Lusaka.

At present the Fountain of Hope runs a center for 300 orphans and vulnerable children, conducting daily lessons through a community schools programme, and running a feeding programme that targets providing a meal to upwards of 100 children per day. The Fountain of Hope is run by a group of volunteers and through the assistance of The Ministry of Community and Social Services, Ministry of Sport Youth and Child, Ministry of Local Government and Housing, as well as private and voluntary organisations. Non-governmental organisations, which all provide either technical or financial aid.

GOAL AND OBJECTIVE

The goal of Fountain of Hope is to improve the living conditions and life-opportunities for young people in vulnerable situations. The program contributes to creation of vocational training and employment promotion, acquisition of life-skills and also promotes childrens rights.

TARGET GROUPS

Street children, out of school children, orphans and vulnerable children.

MAIN PROBLEM AND CAUSES

The number of street children and orphans in Zambia is increasing. National surveys predict there will be about 600,000 orphans by the year 2000 in Zambia, mostly in the urban areas. Current reports estimate 90,000 street children along the line of rail. Due to a number of deteriorating economic, social and health factors, an increase in child headed households and children living in poverty will also increase.

COMPONENTS OF THE FOUNTAIN OF HOPE PROGRAMME

1. Street Outreach

Fountain of Hope is in touch with 1,700 street children. The center is open to street children and out of school youth six days a week and offers them an opportunity to wash, bath, eat, learn and play.

Activities:

Home visits, advocacy, street visits, case link-ups(with other relevant organisations), counselling, home relocation.

2. Feeding and Welfare Programme

The Center runs a daily feeding program for children coming from the street, in addition to the 200 plus who are on the education programme, striving to provide a meal to as many children as possible.

Health.

Outreach officers look out for children who may need medical attention and help them access medical treatment through street and home visits. The Centre has at present an agreement with the local Kamwala clinic through Ministry of Health, to treat the children when ever they are sick free of charge.

Legal.

Staff at the Center try to obtain legal assistance, protection, justice or recourse for children who are being victimised or abused.

Psycho-social support.

Motivation and mentoring is paramount in trying to help children come to terms and overcome their problems. Staff help the children resolve their own personal and interpersonal problems and mentor them, providing outlets for their fear, frustration, and anger. There is also an attempt to identify any special aptitudes and capacities amongst the children and encourage and build upon these where possible.

3. Education and skills training

The Center runs a Community School for the children in conjunction with Zambia Community Schools Secretariat and also a Homecraft Training programme in conjunction with the Lusaka City Council.

Activities:

Classes from grade one to eight (approx 36 kids each class).

Tailoring, and Homecraft

Life skills training

Basic Literacy and numeracy for kids on the street.

4. Mothers' and Guardians' Programme

Micro-business training

Cooking and Nutritional training

Literacy and numeracy

Activities

Micro-business training for mothers and guardians (currently 80 have undertaken the training) who are looking after vulnerable children and orphans in the communities.

Mothers from the community have a nutritional training and cooking sessions once a week but take part in preparing the food in the feeding programme.

5. Counselling and mentoring

Drug and Substance abuse counselling

HIV/AIDS and reproductive health Counselling

Activities;

Substance abuse counselling sessions are carried out once a week for 30 children at a time.

HIV/AIDS and reproductive health counselling is on going on the street and at the centre.

5. Human Rights Education Programme

Teaching the children about children's rights and the law, reproductive health and rights .

6. Recreation

The centre has a Children's Drama group, a Football and Netball team and were in the past going for swimming lessons at the International School. The older children also had sessions at one of the local Gyms.

MANAGEMENT OF THE PROGRAMME

The organisation has run for 2 years without any major funding. All staff at the centre are volunteers, apart from the skills trainers who are paid by the Lusaka City Council. The organisation is run through an Advisory Board, 3 Program Directors, 3 program Co-ordinators, 4 Street Educators, 8 teachers, parents and a number of volunteers. A lot of the program objectives have been realised through networking, technical and manpower support from other organisations involved with children.

EXPECTED RESULTS OF THE PROGRAMME

Strong **advocacy** for children's rights

Provide **access to education** for vulnerable children, orphans and out of school children.

Enhance **community participation** in improving childrens' welfare. \

Re-integrate children back into the society and the family.

Provide a **refferal service** to relevant organisations and individuals for children in need.

Network with other organisations in the field and promote a comprehensive provision of support for children.

Build internal organisational capacity amongst staff in order to provide a professinal and relevant service.

SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS

Department of Child Affairs

Department Social Welfare

Zambia Community Schools Secretariat(ZCSS)

CHIN(Children in Distress)

UNICEF(thru CHIN)

World Food Programme

Zambia Police VSU(Victim Support Unit)

Ministry of Health(Kamwala Clinic)

Ministry of Local Government and Housing

Drug Enforcement Commission