

**WEAVING THE SAFETY NET (WSN) PROJECT  
KENYA**

**FOLLOW-ON AWARD FINAL REPORT**

**JULY 1, 2010 – MARCH 31, 2011.**



**Date of submission: June 24, 2011**

**Submitted to the Bureau for Global Health, Office of HIV/AIDS, United States Agency for International Development (USAID) - East Africa.**

**Cooperative Agreement No. AID – 623- A – 10 - 00018 to Support Increased Care and Support to Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC).**

**Organizational Contact Information:**

<p><b>ChildFund International Headquarters:</b> Melissa Joseph Grants Compliance Coordinator ChildFund International 2821 Emerywood Parkway PO Box 26484 Richmond, VA 23261-6484, USA Phone: +1 (804) 545- 3620 Fax: +1(804) 756-2774 Email: <a href="mailto:MJoseph@ChildFund.org">MJoseph@ChildFund.org</a></p>	<p><b>ChildFund Kenya National Office:</b> Victor Koyi National Director ChildFund Kenya P.O. Box 14038 – 00800,Nairobi (Westlands). Tel:020-4444890/3, 4444428, 4441538 Fax: 020-4444426 Email: <a href="mailto:VKoyi@kenya.childfund.org">VKoyi@kenya.childfund.org</a></p>	<p><b>ChildFund Kenya Project Office:</b> Daniel Kinoti Project Director Weaving the Safety Net Project ChildFund Kenya P.O. Box 14038 – 00800,Nairobi (Westlands).  Tel: 020-4444890/3 or 0733413232  Email:<a href="mailto:DKinoti@kenya.childfund.org">DKinoti@kenya.childfund.org</a></p>
---	---	---

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page No.

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS .....	2
1: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	3
2. ACHIEVEMENTS .....	4
3. LESSONS LEARNT .....	20
4. EMERGENCY PLAN INDICATORS TABLES .....	22
5. MONITORING AND EVALUATION .....	23
6. BUDGET .....	23
7. MANAGEMENT AND STAFFING .....	23
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART FOR CHILDFUND-KENYA WSN PROJECT.....	24

Cover photo: A youth team captain receives a ball donated by WSN during the youth tournament in Limuru

## **ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

<b>AIDS</b>	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
<b>CACC</b>	Constituency AIDS Coordinating Committee
<b>CBW</b>	Community Based Workers
<b>C/FBO</b>	Community and/or Faith Based Organization
<b>CDF</b>	Constituency Development Fund
<b>CORP</b>	Community Own Resource Person
<b>CSO</b>	Civil Society Organizations
<b>ECD</b>	Early Childhood Development
<b>HBC</b>	Home Based Care
<b>HIV</b>	Human Immune-deficiency Virus
<b>IDA</b>	International Development Agency
<b>IGA</b>	Income Generating Activities
<b>KNASP</b>	Kenya National Aids Strategic Plan
<b>KePMS</b>	Kenya Program Monitoring System
<b>K-REP</b>	Kenya Rural Enterprise Program
<b>M&amp;E</b>	Monitoring and Evaluation.
<b>MOE</b>	Ministry of Education.
<b>MOH</b>	Ministry of Health
<b>MOPHS</b>	Ministry of Public Health & Sanitation.
<b>NACADA</b>	National Agency for the Campaign Against Drug Authority.
<b>NACC</b>	National AIDS Control Council
<b>NASCOP</b>	National AIDS/STD Control Program
<b>NGO</b>	Non Governmental Organization
<b>NHSSP</b>	National Health Sector Survey Progress.
<b>HTC</b>	HIV Testing and Counseling.
<b>OVC</b>	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
<b>PCGP</b>	PEPFAR Community Grants Program
<b>PEPFAR</b>	President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief
<b>PLWHA</b>	People Living with HIV/AIDS
<b>PSS</b>	Psychosocial Support
<b>RDQA</b>	Routine Data Quality Assessment
<b>REPSSI</b>	Regional Psychosocial Support Initiative
<b>SPM</b>	Selection Planning and Management
<b>TOT</b>	Trainer of Trainers
<b>TOWA</b>	Total War Against AIDS
<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations Children's Fund
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development
<b>VC)</b>	Volunteer Children's Officer
<b>VCT</b>	Voluntary Counseling and Testing
<b>VS&amp;L</b>	Village Savings and Loans
<b>WSN</b>	Weaving the Safety Net

## **1: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

ChildFund International (ChildFund), formerly Christian Children's Fund presents the final Follow – On Award narrative report for its *Weaving the Safety Net (WSN)* project, supported by USAID. The report covers the period July 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011 with a total expenditure of \$ 208,137 from USAID and ChildFund match of \$ 129,318. This final follow on award report outlines WSN achievements in support for Increased Care and Support to Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) including: Psychosocial Support (PSS), Basic Health Care, Child Protection, Nutrition Education Support, Educational Support, Shelter, Sports and Recreation Activities, Capacity Building for Implementing Partners and Transition Planning meetings.

ChildFund Weaving the Safety Net Project Follow -On Award goal was to reduce the impact of HIV/AIDS on **36,000** Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Thika and Kiambu districts of Kenya's Central Province. ChildFund interventions integrated direct child support, assistance to families/caregivers, government and community support systems. This approach sought to strengthen sustainable, high quality Care and Support services to OVC through: strengthening the capacity of families to cope with their problems, increasing the capacity of children to meet their own needs, strengthening community-based responses; enhancing supportive environment (local, national) for children affected by HIV/AIDS; adapting, evaluating, disseminating and applying best practices for improved program delivery. WSN interventions supported child, youth and family participation to increase quality of services and coverage to OVC, promoted advocacy, policy development and strengthened networks among service providers.

The two districts had a total of thirteen administrative divisions, out of which eleven implemented WSN interventions. These included: Kikuyu, Limuru, Lari, Kiambaa, Kiambu Municipality and Ndeiya in Kiambu district; Kakuzi, Gatundu South, Gatanga, Ruiru and Thika Municipality in Thika district. The project was implemented through partnerships with local and national organizations (CBO/FBO), each bringing specialized skills and vast experience in its designated role. These partnerships ensured mobilization for greater involvement and ownership by the different players for sustainable development in line with the USAID/PEPFAR partners OVC programming guidance. During the implementation period, ChildFund expanded Village Savings and Loans (VS&L) schemes in all the 11 divisions to ensure that OVC caregivers have sustainable livelihoods.

During the follow-on period, ChildFund focused on the following areas: key child services that maximize impact and long term sustainability including psychosocial support, basic healthcare, child protection, nutrition education, educational support, sports and recreation activities, administrative support for service providers and capacity building support for local implementing partners to help them prepare for/succeed in transition from project support. In addition, project staff ensured quality in program implementation, monitoring and reporting.

### **1.2: STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES:**

The WSN program had two main objectives:

- i. To mobilize and strengthen community-based responses to provide care and support, with an emphasis on psychosocial care to HIV-affected and other vulnerable children and adolescents.
- ii. To increase the capacity of HIV-affected and other vulnerable children and adolescents to meet their own needs, through active participation in national and district-level programs and policy development and access to formal and non- formal education.

## **2. ACHIEVEMENTS**

### **A. Community Services for Children, Youth and Families**

#### **1.Support for Community-based Child Services**

During the follow-on period, trained Community Mobilizers (CMs) cascaded the integrated training (PSS and Journey of Life, protection and nutrition education) to OVC in households. This support was based on ChildFund’s five years experience in implementing the Track1 OVC program and the individual needs of the children. The CMs were involved in home visits to OVC households and also regularly interacted with children during project activities such as distribution of benefits, deworming and medical camps for minor treatment. The CMs provided the support in consultation with project staff to ensure quality.



**Children display their strength in a confidence building exercise during a PSS session in Gatundu**

They also monitored the well being of children at the household level using program tools such as child status record sheets, integrated training forms and the community mobilizers follow up log sheets. CMs who submitted requests, log sheets and minutes of monthly meetings as required were facilitated with stipends.

#### **Activity 1:1: Training on Psychosocial Support and Journey of Life**

It is an established fact that “children affected by HIV/AIDS suffer anxiety and fear during the years of parents/caregivers illness, then grief and trauma with death of a parent”<sup>1</sup>. Children have skills, resources, capacities, gifts, aspirations, values that must be developed, nurtured and strengthened. PSS helps to build resilience in children, especially those who have lost their parents or who are living with a sick parent. PSS addresses the “soft” (emotional, social, spiritual, mental) issues imperative to development that are often overlooked in favor of physical needs.

During the follow-on period, trained CORP rolled down training in JOL to 34,381 OVC to ensure children’s healthy growth, development and ability to achieve their full potential. The training also helped children develop, nurture and strengthen life skills to cope with individual aspirations, anxiety and fear during the period of caregiver’s illness or grief and trauma in the event of a parent’s death. The children were assisted to understand that they are not passive recipients but have internal and external resources that need to be explored and nurtured. Selection of topics was largely determined by the age and need of the OVC. The project surpassed the planned 9 months follow - on target of 25,000 children due to the project steadfast support to trained CM to deliver child support services at household level through home visits and other avenues through which ChildFund interacted with children such as recreational activities.

---

<sup>1</sup> The FRAMEWORK for Protection, Care and Support of Orphans and Venerable Children living in a World with HIV and AIDS: (July 2004).

### **Activity 1.2: Support OVC with Basic Health Care**

Provision of basic healthcare alleviates challenges of healthcare access by OVC due to limited household resources, inadequate health facilities, long distances and the unavailability of drugs at the



government health facilities. In an effort to address some of the health issues affecting OVC, ChildFund in collaboration with MOH, MOE and local implementing partners provided deworming tablets/syrup & vitamin A supplementation to 18,817 enrolled OVC and treatment of minor ailments (ringworms, malaria, flu/colds, wounds etc) to 4,223 affected children. The planned 9 months target of deworming 17,000 enrolled OVC was surpassed due sustain partnership with the ministry of public Health and Sanitation to deliver the service through public primary schools which enabled the program to reach an additional 14,467 indirect beneficiaries.

**Photo: Deworming exercise in Ruiru division** Deworming is inexpensive, reduces serious worm infections in children and results to immediate improvements in child health and development. Chronic illnesses caused by worm infections reduce literacy, cause under nutrition and anemia which in turn can lead to disability, pain and reduced school attendance. Vitamin A supplementation is an important determinant of a child's health status; it reduces the risk of mortality for children under five and enhances psychomotor development.

### **Activity 1.3: Training OVC and Caregivers in Protection.**

Trained community mobilizers created awareness on Rights of the Child to 34,424 OVC and their caregivers through home visits during the follow-on period. WSN project experience over the past five years showed that training of OVC caregivers was also essential as they are responsible for providing care and protection to the younger children at household level. Home visits also helped CMs to understand the needs of OVC and how to assist them and their caregivers when their rights are violated through property disinheritance, neglect and abuse. The project surpassed 9 months follow-on target of 25,000 OVC due to the sustained collaboration with trained CMs and paralegals trained by the program during the last five years. In addition, paralegals, home based care providers (who were part of the CMs) and People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) trained on Memory Book and Will writing ensured OVC caregivers had written documents crucial to their children's well being. ChildFund also strengthened referral linkages with other service providers such as the police, chiefs, Children's department and Area Advisory Councils (AAC) to sustain child protection activities. During the follow-on period, project staff attended 3 AAC meetings organized by the Children's Department in Kiambu. In addition, WSN linked 3 CMs trained in paralegal skills with the Children's office in Lari and Limuru for appointment as Volunteer Children Officers (VCO). As VCO, the CMs facilitated the formation of Location Area Advisory Councils in Lari and also attended a one day training conducted by the Children's Department in Limuru on the implementation of the Children's Act 2001, functions of Volunteer Children Officers and reporting using the children case load analysis form.

### **Activity 1.4: Training OVC and Caregivers on Nutrition Education**

Community mobilizers trained on Nutrition education rolled-down awareness on nutrition to 34,943 OVC and their caregivers during home visits. This approach has been useful in ensuring that nutrition aspects are integrated into other program activities including PSS, protection and health. It also serves as an avenue for creating awareness and understanding on the importance of using locally available foods and promotion of kitchen gardens. The planned 9 months follow-on target of 27,000 OVC was surpassed, due to sustained project efforts to monitor OVC at household level and also due to strengthened partnership with the MOH nutritionists. Positive changes in children's health such as stability in growth, regular school attendance and enlightenment of the caregivers were observed.

### **Activity 1.5: Education Support**

Scholastic materials support (exercise books, pencils, pens, mathematical sets, uniforms and school fees) was aimed at increasing OVC enrollment, ensuring improved learning as well as retention and completion in schools. The project in collaboration with community mobilizers, CBO/FBO and teachers supported 2,193 OVC with scholastic materials. The 9 months follow-on target of supporting 750 OVC was surpassed due to enhanced collaboration with local partners. OVC from poor backgrounds find it increasingly difficult to afford basic needs and decent shelter. Torn uniforms can also cause embarrassment in schools especially for teenage girls and discourage them from attending school. The project lobbied the government and strengthened partnerships to ensure OVC attended and completed school. Additionally, OVC caregivers were mobilized and linked to micro-credit services through Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSL&A) to build their economic power to continue providing education materials to OVC post WSN. As a result, 1,729 OVC were supported through enhanced capacity for caregivers.

### **Activity 1.6: Shelter**

The program in collaboration with CBO/FBO partners leveraged resources from other partners to ensure continued provision of shelter to the OVC, based on individual needs. A total of 1,402 OVC were supported, compared to 500 OVC targeted during the follow-on period.

## **2. Sports and Recreational Activities:**

WSN supported 4 sports, recreational and awareness events (2 in Thika and 2 in Kiambu). Two-one-day sports and recreational activities were held in Ruiru Division, Thika District in collaboration with FOCUS youth group, APHIA II Central and the Ministry of Youth and Sports Development to mark the youth week in the first quarter. Additionally, two events were held in Limuru and Lari



**Left: A senior Youth Team with uniforms donated by WSN Project poses for a team photo. Right. Youth in a volleyball match**

Divisions, Kiambu District in collaboration with the Ministry of Sports & Youth Development, Equity Foundation, Maseno University, Cheer Up CBO and National Agency for the Campaign Against Drugs Authority (NACADA) during the second quarter. NACADA coordinates a multi-sectoral effort aimed at preventing, controlling and mitigating the menace of drugs and substance abuse within the Kenyan society. The project surpassed the planned 9 months follow-on targets.

Moreover, in a football tournament organized from September 19, to December 12, 2010, a total of 59 matches were played. The participants included senior youth (over 18), boys' junior teams (below 18) and girls' teams. Throughout the tournament period, youth were engaged in campaigns against drugs and substance abuse with support from NACADA. Youth who have been able to overcome alcoholism

shared their experiences. Ministry of Youth and Sports Development officials talked to the youth on how they can develop viable Income Generation Activities and encouraged them to form youth groups so that they benefit from the Youth Fund.

In partnership with Cheer-up CBO and Maseno University, WSN participated in a week-long community outreach event on the theme of ‘Academic and Character Development’ whereby Youth from the local community held interactive sessions to motivate peers to pursue their dreams regardless of the hurdles they may face in life, ways of coping with life’s challenges, sharing experiences, making decisions and actualizing aspirations. The participating youth also held friendly matches and a talent show as a way of encouraging each other to appreciate special capabilities which work well to enhance self esteem. ChildFund donated balls, branded uniforms, trophies and supported referees from the Kenya Football Federation to officiate the matches.



Left: A procession during the World Aids Day in Limuru & Kikuyu. Right: Washiriki Support group selling their craft during World Aids Day

The project also participated in the 2010 world Aids day observed December 1 each year. The day is dedicated to raising awareness of the AIDS pandemic caused by the spread of HIV infection. The theme of the event was ‘Universal Access and Human Rights’. The celebrations were held in Limuru, Kikuyu and Kiambaa Divisions in collaboration with Constituency Aids Coordinating committee, Children’s Department, Ministry of Youth & Sports, Provincial Administration and other stakeholders.

### 3. Capacity Building for Local Implementing Partners:

#### Activity 3.1: Train CBO/FBO Leaders on Resource Mobilization & Governance

Capacity building for CBO/FBO continued yielding encouraging results. During the follow-on period, a total of 9 CBO/FBO previously trained on resource mobilization submitted proposals to the National Aids Control Council under the TOWA<sup>2</sup> Round 4 call for proposals while 16 other CBO/FBO who

<sup>2</sup> The Government of Kenya received a Credit from the International Development Agency (IDA) with the objective of supporting implementation of the Kenya National AIDS Strategic Plan (KNASP III) 2009/10 20012/13. The Credit is meant to provide additional resources alongside the existing and ongoing support for HIV and AIDS programmes by other partners in the multi-sectoral response to HIV and AIDS. The National AIDS Control Council (NACC) which is charged with the implementation of the Credit, after consultation with stakeholders set aside funds for Civil Society Organizations (CSO), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Community-Based

had previously applied for TOWA round 3 received the second disbursement of funds. The total amount awarded to the 16 CBO/FBO for round 3 was US\$ 70,000.

Additionally, 3 CBO/FBO which submitted proposals to the PEPFAR Community Grants program (PCGP) with ChildFund as the mentor organization were funded by the US Embassy Community Grants Program. The PEPFAR Community Grants Program promotes grassroots HIV care, support, and prevention activities. These activities are intended to fill a demonstrated need in a community and to reach a number of beneficiaries consistent with the level of funding requested. PCGP supports sustainable projects that are able to rapidly carry out programs that benefit as many individuals as possible. To solidify this base and ensure increased care and support to OVC, ChildFund conducted a three day follow up training for 75 local implementing partners on resource mobilization and governance to address the gaps identified during the period ChildFund worked with these partners as planned. A total of 168 key CBO/FBO representatives were trained, surpassing the target of 150. The training included topics such as: Networking, budgeting, possible sources of resources for community groups, challenges of resource mobilization, finance management, reporting and documentation, team building, conflict management, understanding different personalities, communication and leadership styles.

### Activity 3.2: Support Local Implementing Partners with IGA Inputs

Supporting IGA for CBO/FBO groups was aimed at strengthening their economic base to ensure sustainability after the end of WSN support. Many groups have activities underway that are successfully providing resources for OVC services such as food, fees, books and uniforms. During the follow-on reporting period, a total of 50 CBO/FBO were supported with IGA inputs for various income generation activities achieving the planned 9 months follow-on target. The groups supported include:

#### Thika District

	<i>CBO / FBO</i>	<i>Division</i>	<i>Type of IGA</i>
1	Kagera Kiguthi	Gatundu	Rabbit rearing
2	Nembu Born Again	Gatundu	Poultry farming
3	Buffalo Self Help Group	Gatundu	Rabbit rearing
4	Pioneers Aids Educators	Gatundu	Poultry farming
5	Hope Community Center	Ruiru	Colored Beads
6	Focus	Ruiru	Beads and mats
7	Mukoma CBO	Thika Municipality	Poultry Farming
8	Gatuanyaga CBO	Thika Municipality	Poultry Farming
9	Tumaini S. Help Group)	Thika Municipality	Weaving
10	Ndumago CBO	Thika Municipality	Poultry
11	Gatanga Kiiga	Gatanga	Mushroom farming
12	Ithanga Community Health Care	Kakuzi	Cereals
13	Njamba Njithi	Kakuzi	Kerosene
14	Ngelelya Survivors Support	Kakuzi	Kerosene
15	WICIP	Ruiru	Tailoring
16	Mukiga CBO	Gatanga	Kerosene
17	Kangangu Support Group	Kakuzi	Bee Keeping
18	Mitubiri Support group	Kakuzi	Bee Keeping
19	Mwanzo CBO	Kakuzi	Kerosene

### Kiambu District

	<i>CBO/ FBO</i>	<i>Division</i>	<i>Type of IGA</i>
1	ST.Tito Orthodox Church	Kikuyu	Poultry Farming
2	Ndeiya North CBO	Ndeiya	Kitchen Garden
3	Sarit Support Group	Kikuyu	Poultry Farming
4	Wendi Mwega Women G	Kikuyu	Poultry Farming
5	Washiriki Thogoto S Group	Kikuyu	Knitting Project
6	Thogoto Support Group	Kikuyu	Poultry Farming
7	Kingero HIV/AIDS	Kikuyu	Bakery
8	Ndeiya Christian Counselors	Ndeiya	Poultry Farming
9	PCEA Renguti Woman's Guild	Kikuyu	Bakery
10	Nyathuna Sub Loc. Churches	Kikuyu	Bakery / Beads Making
11	ACK Nyathuna	Kikuyu	Bead making
12	ACK Gathiga HIV /AIDS	Kikuyu	Pig Rearing
13	Muguga CBO	Kikuyu	Bee Keeping
14	Kingero Grand Mothers	Kikuyu	Yoghurt Making
15	HACK Centre	Kikuyu	Bakery
16	Coremi CBO	Kiambu Municipality	Poultry Farming
17	PCEA Uplands	Lari	Tie & Dye
18	GAPEWA	Limuru	Agricultural
19	Cheer Up	Lari	Water Harvesting & Vegetables
20	Kihara Widows	Kiambaa	Poultry
21	All Nations Churches	Kiambu Municipality	Tents for hire
22	Ndenderu HIV/AIDS	Kiambaa	Yoghurt Making
23	Karura Self H	Kiambaa	Chicken
24	FOFCOM	Kiambu Municipality	Rabbit rearing
25	Witeithie Nguteithie	Lari	Vegetables
26	Gathanga Jitegemme	Kiambaa	Rabbit rearing
27	Ngoriai Self Help Group	Lari	Rabbit Rearing
28	AIC Kirenga	Lari	Agriculture
29	Mwenda Thayu	Lari	Fish farming
30	AIC Guthairira	Ndeiya	Fish farming
31	COREMI CBO	Kiambu Municipality	Poultry

## Success stories on IGAs

### 1. Vegetable IGA for Cheer Up CBO in Kiambu

WSN Project supported Cheer Up FBO in the first quarter with a water tank, gutters and tomato seedlings for green house farming. The FBO established a green house and planted 700 cabbages. During the reporting period, the group successfully harvested and realized a sale of Kshs. 10,000 (US\$ 125). The FBO used the income generated as follows:



*Newly planted tomato seedlings at Cheer up green house*

- Kshs. 4500 (US\$ 56.25) was used to buy one bag of beans for their OVC feeding program.
- Kshs. 3000 ( US\$ 37.5) used to purchase 5 dozens of exercise books, 1 packet of biro pens and 3 dozens of

Pencils that were distributed to needy OVCs in first term 2011.

- Kshs. 2500 (US\$ 31.25) was ploughed back to sustain the project by tilling one acre of land.



*Cabbage green house at Cheer-Up.*

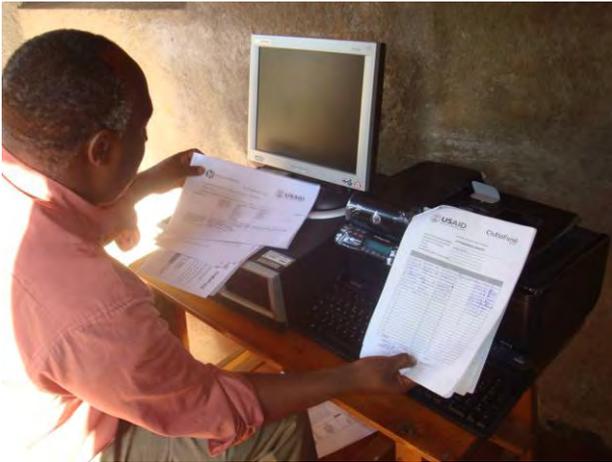
- They have planted carrots, beans and maize which will be used in their feeding program.
- From the previous proceeds of the IGA, the group bought one lorry of manure and also prepared a greenhouse to plant tomatoes.



*Left: One of the tanks donated by WSN to cheer-up. Right*

In addition, during the month of December 2010, the FBO mobilized resources through a fund raising event to construct another green house to expand their IGA. During the event, the group managed to raise more than kshs. 50,000 (US\$ 625).

## 2. AIC Kirenga, Kiambu



Mr. Chege from AIC Kirenga and the computer bought through IGA

The Project supported AIC Kirenga FBO with various IGA inputs for a vegetable project. When the FBO harvested the cabbages, they utilized some to feed the enrolled children and sold the surplus in the neighboring community to generate income to meet other needs within the group. The FBO generated a total of Kshs. 70,000 (US\$ 875) from the IGAs. The group used the funds as follows:

- Purchased a computer for managing OVC data at Kshs. 30,000 (US\$ 375) and a three-in one printer (with scanner/fax and photocopier) to facilitate monitoring and evaluation of their OVC.

- Kshs. 1,500 (US\$ 18.75) bought 100 exercise books, Kshs. 2,500 (US\$ 31.25) geometrical sets which were distributed to OVC on need basis.
- Kshs. 2,400 (US\$ 30) was given to cooks as a stipend.
- Kshs. 33,600 (US\$ 420) was ploughed back to sustain the IGA.

## 3. Kagera Kiguthi, Thika District.

WSN Project supported Kagera Kiguthi CBO with rabbits for their IGA in the first quarter of the follow on award period. During the second quarter, the CBO distributed rabbits to 15 OVC households and maintained four served rabbits (does) for the purpose of breeding and continuity of the project. During the third quarter, the does gave birth to 18 rabbits which are ready for distribution to OVC households with the ultimate goal of ensuring each household has a rabbit project. The group is also mentoring the caregivers to construct rabbit sheds in readiness for the next distribution.

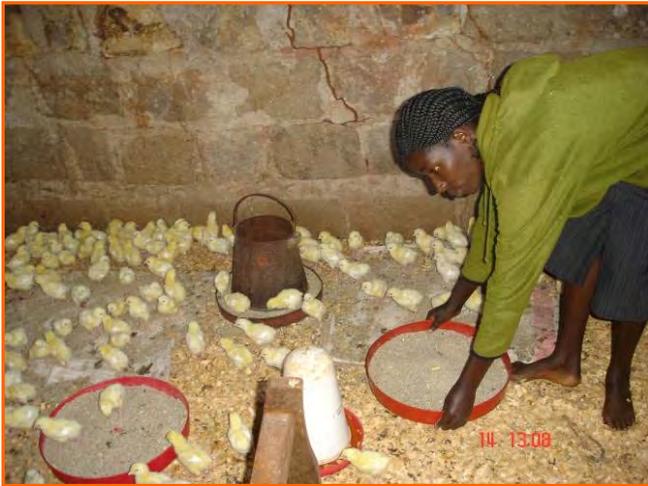


Beneficiaries collecting rabbits from Kagera CBO

## 4. Nembu Born Again Sisters, Thika District

The Project supported Nembu Born Again Sisters (FBO) with 200 chicken and chicken feeds during the first quarter of the follow on award. The FBO sold the chicken after maturity and realized Kshs. 53,200 (US\$ 665). They used Kshs. 9,000 (US\$ 112.5) to buy six rabbits for households with 13 OVC. In addition, the group supported 5 OVC during their initiation period with chicken to supplement their diet. (This is a period when young boys go through the rite of passage from childhood to adulthood. They are taken care of by their family and the community). Additionally, 10 OVC were supported with clothing at a cost of Kshs. 2,000 (US\$ 25) while the FBO ploughed back Kshs. 14,000 (US\$ 175) to buy 200 chicks

and chicken feeds. The balance was saved for the purpose of expanding the IGA and to build the capacity of the OVC households to start their own IGAs. During the third quarter, the FBO bought 5 rabbits for breeding and distribution to OVC households to sustain the project.



**Left: Day old chicks at Nembu FBO Right: Chicken at their maturity and ready for market.**

### 5. Focus Group – Thika District

#### Embroidery and bead making project at Focus Youth Centre



WSN supported Focus group with IGA materials for making embroidery and craft. The group has an IGA for young mothers. They have built the capacity of young mothers to make craft which they sell to support OVCs. WSN supported the group with assorted beads, embroidery needles and embroidery thread. The young mothers make items for sale with each mat going for kshs.1500 (\$18.75) and bracelets for 200 (\$2.5). The items are sold in the local market and the proceeds used to support Focus community ECD center feeding program which takes care of 62 OVC. The mothers are also trained in psychosocial support skills which they use to support the children.

### **Activity 3.3: Support to Early Childhood Development (ECD) Centers**

In order to provide age appropriate indoor and outdoor play materials to nurture the development of psychomotor skills of young children, ECD centers were visited during the first quarter of the follow-on award to assess the availability/ condition of various indoor and outdoor play materials. Consequently, the project procured indoor and outdoor play items prioritized and distributed them to 52 ECD centres during the third quarter.

**B. Implementing Partner Capacity Building and Technical Support**

**1. Child and Youth Involvement**

WSN project conducted routine monitoring exercises in Kikuyu and Gatanga Divisions to assess



**Left: Members of the Monitoring group assessing Vegetable IGA at Gatanga Kiiga, Gatanga Division**



**Right: A group assessing Yoghurt making at Kingero SDA in Kikuyu Division.**

progress, share experiences, identify challenges encountered and discuss the way forward for effective program implementation. The quarterly monitoring was conducted by the youth accompanied by CACC officials and CBO/FBO partner representatives who provided mentorship during these exercises. Monitoring of the OVC project activities was intended to inspire the youth to actively participate in OVC programs, create a sense of ownership and become leaders in their own development. At the end of the monitoring visits, feedback meetings were held with the different groups involved to discuss emerging issues and come up with appropriate actions.



**The monitoring group in an experience sharing session during youth monitoring visit**

## Sample interview matrix used during the youth monitoring visits

*One person may be appointed to take down notes to be used in compiling the monitoring report.*

### 1. General Information

- a) How many OVCs do you support?
- b) How many officials are in the CBO?
- c) What is the coverage of your support?
- d) What capacities / trainings do the CBO officials have?
- e) What other activities is the group involved in besides OVC work?
- f) Any plans for expansion.

### 2. Program service areas and activities

- a) What are the service areas the group has been undertaking?
- b) What are the specific activities under each service area?
- c) Is there any funding the group has received to support their activities?

### 3. Data sources, collection and reporting.

- a) What are your data source i.e. how do you get the information, who gets the information
- b) How do you collect and manage the data?
- c) How do you ensure data confidentiality?
- d) How do you send out reports?

### 4. Review M&E strategies and outcome

- a) How do you avoid stigmatizing / labeling of OVCs in the schools, community?
- b) Have the services delivered addressed underlying causes? Are they timely?
- c) How do you ensure benefits reach the beneficiaries?
- d) How do you conduct follow up?
- e) What is the progress so far?
- f) What are the lessons learnt?

### 5. Conclusion [targeted for all both host and visitors]

- a) What impact has partnership with ChildFund created in the community?
- b) Are there challenges in your partnership with ChildFund, or the beneficiaries you support?
- c) What are the key lessons learnt?

## 2. Village Savings & Loans (VS&L)

### Activity 2.1: TOT Training on VS& L Methodology

Twenty three TOT trained by WSN Project in the first quarter of the follow on award cascaded ChildFund low cost Voluntary Savings and Loaning and Selection Planning and Management model to caregivers to secure livelihoods and make income flows into the household more predictable. The savings-led financial services methodology provided a structure, through which the very poor can collectively save, manage and invest their resources in a manner that enables them to meet their own credit needs, allowing their inclusion in an economy to which they otherwise would be excluded. The project surpassed the 22 TOT targeted for training.

### Activity 2.2: Train Caregivers on VS& L methodology

TOT trained in activity 2.1 above mobilized and facilitated training to OVC caregivers in collaboration with project staff and local partners. A total of 1,803 caregivers were trained compared to 220 targeted. The follow-on target was surpassed due to good mobilization efforts by WSN in collaboration with trained TOT and local implementing partners and due to increased demand by OVC caregivers. The caregivers' sessions were carried out in 5 sessions with each session taking four hours.

The training sessions were carried out at different times /days depending on the arrangements and availability of the caregivers. The sessions included:



Caregivers being trained on VS&L

1. Individual Self Selection
2. Group formation and Leadership.
3. Group Fund Development.
4. Constitution and Governance.
5. Record Keeping.

The members of these groups have been saving regularly and giving out savings as loans to members to initiate income generating activities.

Additionally, monitoring was carried out for 50 VS&L groups previously trained by ChildFund. A total of 22 groups shared out (liquidated) US\$ 3, 2817.9 after successfully saving for a complete

cycle (one year). ChildFund field officers provided the technical back up and supervision. The following are summary tables and figures illustrating the progress of the VS&L training, Saving and Loaning activities:

### Summary tables & figures: VS& L Caregivers' Training.

**Table 1: Caregivers trained in Kiambu District**

DIVISION	COMPLETED TRAINING
KIAMBAA	147
KIAMBU MUNIC.	105
KIKUYU	126
LARI	203
LIMURU	0
NDEIYA	134
<b>SUB-TOTAL Kiambu</b>	<b>715</b>

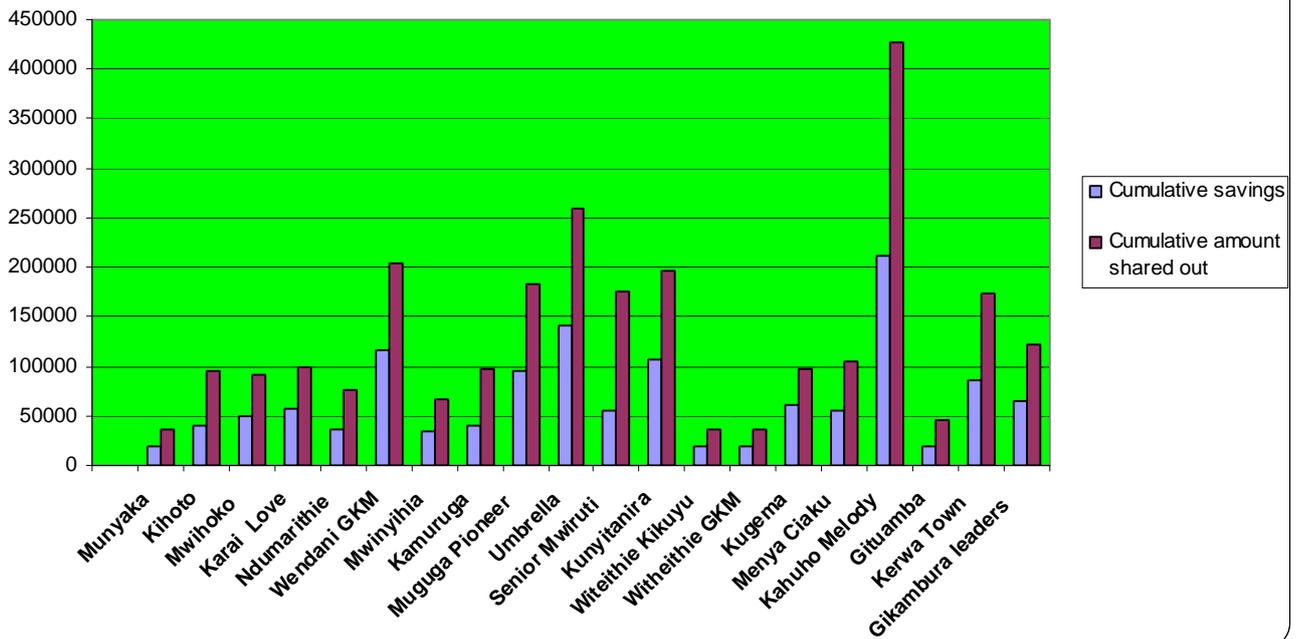
**Table 2: Caregivers trained in Thika District**

DIVISION	COMPLETED TRAINING
GATUNDU SOUTH	196
KAKUZI	134
GATANGA	331
RUIRU	219
THIKA MUNIC.	208
<b>SUB-TOTAL Thika</b>	<b>1088</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL (Kiambu &amp; Thika)</b>	<b>1803</b>

**Table 3: Sample Figures for VS&L Cumulative savings Vs Cumulative share from July 1, to March 31, 2011.**

Group	Membership			Cumulative savings	Cumulative amount shared out	% share increment
	M	F	Total			
Munyaka	-	13	13	18,500	36,650	98%
Kihoto	-	21	21	40,521	94,865	104%
Mwihoko	-	29	29	49,500	92,230	86%
Karai Love	-	24	24	57,300	98,556	72%
Ndumarithie	7	6	13	36,100	76,855	112%
Wendani GKM	-	29	29	117,200	204,770	74%
Mwinyihia	-	20	20	34,800	67,635	94%
Kamuruga	2	16	18	40,427	96,665	72%
Muguga Pioneer	7	8	15	94,900	182,685	92.50%
Umbrella	1	26	27	141,600	259,605	83.30%
Senior Mwiruti	-	30	30	55,500	174,711	214.70%
Kunyitanira	-	30	30	106,800	196,020	83.50%
Witeithie Kikuyu	-	22	22	19,400	37,060	86%
Witheithie GKM	-	30	30	19,400	37,060	86%
Kugema	-	24	24	61,800	96,365	55.90%
Menya Ciaku	3	27	30	56,000	105,330	88%
Kahuho Melody	5	21	26	212,100	427,770	201.60%
Gituamba	-	24	24	20,000	45,600	228%
Kerwa Town	-	28	28	85,000	173,000	203%
Gikambura Leaders	-	26	26	65,000	122,000	187%
<b>Grand Total Kshs.</b>				<b>1,331,848</b>	<b>2,625,432</b>	
<b>Grand Total USD.</b>				<b>16648.1</b>	<b>3,2817.9</b>	

**A chart showing VS&L groups savings and amounts shared at the end of a saving cycle**



NB: The VS&L amounts shared out by various groups increased from Kshs. 1,331,848 768 (US\$ 1, 6648.1) in the first quarter to Kshs. 2,625,432 (US\$ 3, 2817.9) during the follow on award period.

### **Nancy and her VS&L supported piggery project.**

Nancy Wanjiku is 38 years old and a mother of 3 boys. She is a member of Wendani focus VS&L group in Gikambura – Karai location, Kiambu District. She owns a very tiny piece of land that can only take her family house. After saving and borrowing for some time, she built a small piggery. After her group shared out the money she bought three small piglets all at a cost of US \$ 93.75. She has continued borrowing during this current cycle to feed her pigs and meet other family basic needs.

The four month old pigs are currently valued at US \$ 75 each (\$ 225 in total). She plans to feed them until they are big enough for the market (i.e. 7-8 months) and sell them at US \$ 112.5 each to give a return of US \$ 337.5. After that, she intends to buy two served mature does (female pigs) to initiate pig breeding as her main source of income because pig rearing is a popular activity in this area. She admits that she will continue saving to ensure her family needs are met and that the pigs are properly reared to make maximum profits.



Photo: Nancy's family with their three pigs.

### **3. Training of Community Based Workers(Community Health Strategy)**

According to the MOH KEPH output targets (which mostly are related to public health interventions), communities (Village/households/families/individuals) are the foundation of the pyramid interface between community & formal health system. Creating a critical mass of resourceful persons within the community provides an opportunity for the community to be its own drivers of change as well as being empowered to demand for high quality and client friendly services, and like a stone thrown into a pond, the ripple effects of level one community strategy initiatives keep going, even though the stone can no longer be seen. The level one community strategy creates a synergy for community action, demand and utilization of services following awareness, knowledge and skills imparted to households through level one health structures. For Level 1 CORPs to accomplish and respond to the demands of their assigned tasks, they require specific knowledge and skills through training and regular updates.

WSN Project in partnership with the Ministry of Health facilitated training for a total of 210 CHW comprising four Community Units<sup>3</sup> in quarter 2 and 3 to equip them with knowledge and skills in home and community care. The trainings were conducted at PCEA Nduma in Kikuyu and Mianzi Hotel in Kiambu; while trainings for Thika were conducted at PCEA Mwhoko in Githurai and Mitubiri Family Development Project in Kakuzi. The training covered the following modules recommended by Ministry of Health:

---

<sup>3</sup> A community Unit comprises of about 50 CHW and covers 50 households. A community unit is supervised by a Community Health Extension Worker (CHEW) who is a Ministry of Health employee.

- Introduction to Keya Essential Package for Health.
- Participatory methods.
- Leadership.
- Adult learning.
- Effective communication.
- Community Health facility Linkages & government structures.
- Community Organizations, household registration & mapping.
- Key Household practices by cohort.
- Health and development.
- Initiating community strategy.
- Household hygiene/ sanitation.
- Mother and Child Health (MCH) /Family Planning (FP).
- Communicable diseases – Malaria, TB, Measles, HIV/AIDS, STIs, Intestinal worms, skin infections and eye infections.
- Community nutrition.
- Community based rehabilitation.

The CHW were also trained on community health governing structures to expedite linkages with the MOH second level, the dispensaries and the stakeholders that comprise the community governing structures. The participants were also awarded certificates of participation specifying the modules they had completed. The project surpassed the follow-on target of 100 CHWs.

Additionally, the project linked active CHW to MOH health units to ensure complete integration to established government structures for sustainability.

#### Sample CHW action plan

ACTIVITY	BY WHO	WHERE	BY WHEN	INDICATOR
Mapping within villages	CHW	Village	28 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	The dev. Maps
Collecting vital statistic/data	CHW	H/H	31 <sup>st</sup> March	Village register
Monthly CHW meeting	CHW	Mwihoko	1 <sup>st</sup> Wed. of	Minutes of the
Register the Mwihoko group	Executive	CDA	31 <sup>st</sup> March	Registration
Community action day	Executive	Mwihoko	Mid March	Documentation
Phase 2 and 3 training	MOPHS/	PCEA	From 7 <sup>th</sup> –	Trained CHWs
Next meeting	CHWS &	Mwihoko	6 <sup>th</sup> April,	Attendance list

#### C. District Transition Planning

**Activity: Conduct meetings at district levels with implementing partners, community leaders, government and other stakeholders to discuss transition processes.**



To create a collaborative approach and shared responsibility for child services following the phase out of the WSN support, 4 district meetings were conducted to engage children, families, local implementing partners, government offices and other active organizations in planning for service delivery and sustainability after March 2011. The meetings were held at Village Inn on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2011, Winda Highway Motel on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2011 for Kiambu; Coconut Grill in Thika Town on 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2011

and Bible Translation and Literacy Conference Centre in Ruiru on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2011 Thika district. The meeting was attended by children representatives, vocational training beneficiaries, CBO/FBO representatives, CACC, GOK departmental representatives in the Ministries of Health, Gender, Children and Social Services, Public Health and Sanitation, Education, Local Government, Youth Affairs, Planning and National Development as well as Office of the President (Provincial Administration).

These meetings were aimed at finalizing plans for partnership and new resource development. During the meeting, ChildFund shared achievements and results since inception and appreciated the tremendous support the partners had accorded WSN program. The WSN Project Director also informed the participants on the way forward after WSN close out noting that the project had built the capacity of local partners over the six years through various trainings such as capacity building



**Ruiru District Commissioner addressing participants during WSN close out meeting at Bible Translation & Literacy Centre in Ruiru.**

on resource mobilization, village savings and loans, leadership and group dynamics, psychosocial support, community mobilization, monitoring and evaluation among others. It was emphasized that the skills will be handy in supporting partners to continue supporting OVC in future. The participants were also informed on the launch of the USAID supported APHIAplus Project which will continue care and support to OVC in Central Province under the leadership of JPHIEGO. The program has provided contact details for the LIP to JHPIEGO.

Additionally, during the follow on period, the project staff ensured accurate and consistent dissemination of information to the partners and target groups to avoid confusion or create misunderstanding and conflicts during project transitioning. Monitoring and data collection for activities involved community volunteers and due process to ensure data accuracy, timeliness and quality. The project endeavored to fortify communities' foundations to successfully withstand the real and anticipated impact of HIV/AIDS.

### **3. LESSONS LEARNT**

✓ From the VS&L groups that liquidated (shared out their money), it was observed that savings increased in the next cycle- a clear indication that caregivers are realizing their individual potential and hence have confidence with the VS&L methodology. TOT trained by WSN project will continue expanding the VS&L methodology to new groups to ensure more caregivers join the groups for continued self reliance post WSN.

✓ The mean increment value for every amount saved for VSL recorded in several groups was more than 80%. This means that apart from providing access to micro credit services to rural poor, VS&L returns are very high when compared with returns from established micro finance institutions and hence proof that VS&L is a reliable investment. TOT trained by WSN will continue to ensure caregivers are trained on SPM so that they invest their income in viable IGA to support children services and meet household needs.

- ✓ Sports and recreation activities had a powerful convening power among the youth and were suitable avenues for passing messages to the youth on various topics such as drug abuse, HIV prevention and peace building. Owing to low participation of girls in these activities, the program created awareness, sensitized and lobbied partners and the government to include girls in planned activities to achieve required levels of gender participation.
- ✓ There was a high level of participation of women in VS&L activities (92% women as compared to 8% men). Women tend to bare much burden of supporting OVC compared to men as men shy away due to cultural barriers. WSN project continued mobilizing and targeting more women for inclusion in VS&L groups through out the follow on period to increase their confidence, improve household incomes and protect the economic integrity of OVC households. The Project and partners also intensified awareness creation and sensitization targeting the men to minimize cultural barriers and increase their participation in economic strengthening activities.
- ✓ OVC needs are huge, diverse amid constrained resources in the community and require resources to sustain them. While Caregivers and local implementing partners appreciated the short term benefits they received from WSN Project, which were mainly distributed on priority/ need basis, the benefits were not usually sufficient to meet the high expectations of the community. Therefore, WSN promoted livelihood initiatives in OVC households to ensure steady income and maintain economic safety nets of affected households and the community at large. WSN supported expansion of IGA initiatives through local implementing partners and scale up VS&L at household level.
- ✓ Fear of loans in local communities: Initially, caregivers were hesitant of borrowing loans for fear of losing property in the event of default especially when borrowing from established micro- finance institutions or banks. Potential members of VS&L groups expressed the fear of losing money since they have been victims in other money lending methodologies. This was however addressed by the TOTs trained by WSN on VS& L methodology who are helping the caregivers and their groups to come up with their own tailor made constitutions to safeguard their savings and minimize cases of loan default. The TOTs emphasized on self screening to filter out members who may not fit the desired qualities of the individual group members. This also ensures that groups remain solid with minimal internal disagreements.
- ✓ No meaningful development can be achieved in a situation of poor governance. Building relationships among local implementing partners and the stakeholders is important to ensure accountability of leaders through mechanisms that reduce/eliminate difficulties and problems hindering effective service delivery. It also enhances transparency, responsibility, accountability, participation and responsiveness to the needs of the members and the community. In this case, the key lesson is that the governance must also be put in context with the needs of the OVC and the continued threat posed by HIV/AIDS among local communities.
- ✓ Un-borrowed money in some VS&L groups: A sample analysis of share increment for 17 VS&L groups which liquidated after a cycle of saving indicated that about 24% of the groups had less than 80% (55%-74%) increase in their cumulative savings. This means that the groups had significant amount of un-borrowed money because some members were not taking loans. Conversely, it was also observed that the groups that had the highest share increment like Senior Mwiruti (214.7%) had no un-borrowed money. In addition, it was noted that the group had set strict rules and enforced them. WSN recommended training for these groups on Selection, Planning and Management with emphasis on household ability to initiate and manage an IGA. Therefore, monitoring of the VS&L Groups was critical in identifying groups experiencing such difficulties which could only be identified after a group had started saving.

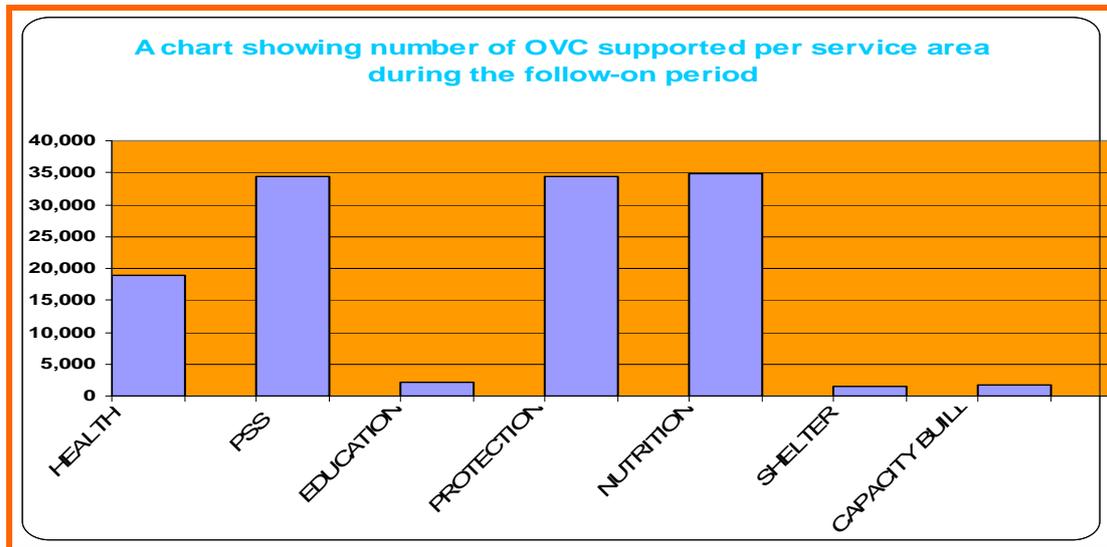
#### 4. Emergency Plan Indicators Tables

**Table A: Tracking Table**

Reporting Period (July 1, - December 31, 2010.)									
PEPFAR Indicator	Indicator	<u>Country A - Planned</u>	<u>Country A - Actual</u>	<u>Country B - Planned</u>	<u>Country B - Actual</u>	<u>Country C - Planned</u>	<u>Country C - Actual</u>	<u>Totals (A+B+...n)-Planned</u>	<u>Totals (A+B+...n)-Achieved</u>
<b>C1.1.D</b>	Number of eligible adults and children provided with a minimum of one care service								
	<b>Male</b>	18,095	19,473					18,095	19,473
	<b>Female</b>	18,095	19,492					18,095	19,492
	<b>&lt; 18 years of age</b>	21,618	30,015					21,618	30,015
	<b>18+ years of age</b>	14,572	8,950					14,572	8,950
<b>C5.1.D</b>	Number of eligible clients who received food and/or other nutrition services								
	<b>Age: &lt; 18</b>	1,674	1,332					1,674	1,332
<b>H2.3.D</b>	Number of health care workers who successfully completed in-service training program	492	2,085					492	2,085

**Table B: Breakdown of Yearly Results by Age Estimates**

	<u>Under 2</u>	<u>2-4</u>	<u>5-11</u>	<u>12-17</u>
<b>Number of orphans and vulnerable children reached in age group</b>	147	903	14,095	14,870



## **5. MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

WSN project activities were monitored using the M&E plan to ensure data collected was accurate, timely and of good quality. The project utilized a range of tools developed over the past five years for data collection (OVC enrolment form, benefit tracking forms for the OVC essential services, minutes, CM log sheets, program reports etc). These tools were regularly revised in consultation with other partners to ensure quality data collection and management. The data collected at the service delivery point for the various service areas was verified at different levels and processed through WSN database system (WESNET) before uploading to KePMS. The WESNET provides the OVC profiles in addition to monitoring services/benefits accessed by each individual child enrolled. In addition, the project staff attended quarterly meetings as planned with CBO/FBO partners. The meetings are intended to review progress towards planned targets, challenges encountered and way forward. The project used these opportunities to re-emphasize the importance of confidentiality, quality and data management.

## **6. BUDGET**

By end of this quarter, a total expenditure of US \$ 208,137 from USAID and \$ 129,318 from ChildFund was used in the program implementation.

## **7. MANAGEMENT AND STAFFING**

ChildFund had the overall responsibility for the management and implementation of this project and reporting to USAID on all project developments through quarterly reporting and additional communication as required. The project was headed by the Safety Net Project Director (*Daniel Kinoti*) who was based in the project office in Kiambu district. The Safety Net Project Director reported to the ChildFund-Kenya National Director and was responsible for overall coordination, management and leadership. He was also responsible for fostering cross learning throughout the project. The Project Director worked with a team of staff namely: Safety Net Project Coordinator (Anselim Gituma) who was responsible for day-to-day coordination, provided technical and management oversight of the project; the Education & Youth Coordinator who facilitated implementation of education and youth activities, the Finance Assistant was responsible for financial management while four Project Officers and two existing ChildFund Community Development Workers from sponsorship sites supported the team. ChildFund International, Regional and ChildFund- Kenya National Office provided technical backstopping to ensure efficiency and effective OVC program delivery.

**ORGANIZATIONAL CHART FOR CHILDFUND-KENYA WSN PROJECT**

