

Pic 1: Senior Assistant Chief Shanzu, Madam Sarah with vocational skills training student and her mother during our annual Graduation ceremony on 7th December 2023 at the Wema Centre.

FORMAL EDUCATION & VOCATIONAL SKILLS TRAINING

Wema Centre successfully supported 14 children in remedial classes, 73 children in primary school, 15 pupils in secondary and 22 youth to access certificate and degree courses in 2023.

Wednesday, 7th December, 2023 marked our annual graduation ceremony for our vocational skills training students. We saw **58 youth** celebrate with their family and friends as they received course certificates in Tailoring and Dressmaking and Food Production and Housekeeping.

Joining us to celebrate this momentous occasion was the Senior Assistant Chief from Shanzu, Madam Sarah and the Assistant Chief from Mwembelegeza, Mr. Mohamed Bakari.



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Social Work and Street Outreach

Wema continued to conduct street outreach activities in Mwakirunge and Makadara Grounds. Through these activities, we were able to rescue (emergency), provide resources, emergency services, remedial support and encouragement to children who are connected to the streets for sustenance.

Most notably, In October, one of our long term partners (FATE) participated in an outreach activity where, in addition to our routine street outreach services, families were provided with cash support and household items.



Additionally, we managed to rescue 6 children (5 girls and 1 boy), reunify 21 children (13 girls and 8 boys) and conduct 6 home visits during the quarter. Below is a summary of reunifications carried out in the quarter.

REUNIFICATION & FAMILY TRACING SUMMARY



The minor pictured above met her family for the first time, following successful family tracing activities by the team. The visit was conducted in Lunga Lunga, Kwale County. Our social workers reunified two minors in Fumbini, Kilifi County to the care of their mother on 3rd November 2023. The siblings were rescued by the Centre in 2019.





Pictured above is a wema social worker together with the Sub-chief, and the minor being reunified to her father at the sub chief's office at kajire location, Taita Taveta..



Lost and found

The minor pictured was a lost child, she was brought to the Centre in September by the police who were unable to identify her home. Through encouragement from our social workers she was able to remember land marks that facilitated the successful tracing of her family. She was reunified through the Kisauni Childrens office on 5th October 2023.



Psychosocial Support

While October 27th marked the end of the 2023 academic school year across the country, it heralded the beginning of our holiday program. The program engages our rescued street connected children in constructive activities that develop leadership, talent, social and physical skills.

Performance Art

The children had training sessions with a music instructor which resulted in the Wema Choir performing in four separate events during the holidays. Key among them, the Aga Khan Academy Christmas Carols on 24th November 2023 and Wema's Annual Gala Dinner on 2nd December 2023.

Training sessions were also conducted in traditional dance and the Wema Drama team was trained on a new play which they performed during the Gala Dinner.



Sports

The boys and girls football team practiced every evening during the holidays, they participated in nine football matches (both home and away games). We had matches against SOS Children's villages, Kashani under 15 girls team and Bamburi under 13 and under 15 boys team.

The Wema Stars boys and girls team won and drew in majority of the matches.

Wema Band

The Wema marching Band continues to practice and during the vocational skills graduation, they led the procession into the hall and entertained the guests with two songs (O' when the saints and Adamu na Eva).





The Wema Farm

The Wema Farm, which consists of Traditional farming (open field), hydroponic farming and cone gardening, produced good yields for the Centre's nutritional use during the Quarter. As tabulated below.

OPEN FIELD

The crops in the open field include: Tomatoes (in the flowering stage), arrow roots, cabbages and black night shade.

Sweet Potatoes

There have been three harvests.

1st: 13.3kgs 2nd: 15kgs 3rd: 6kgs <u>Cucumbers</u>

The team harvested 14kgs of cucumbers. This is the first harvest.

Bananas

A total of 297 pieces were harvested in October and 563 pieces in November.

Hydroponic farming

<u>Tomatoes and Capsicum</u>

There have been four harvests.

1st: 17kgs and 5kgs respectively 2nd: 14kgs and 5kgs respectively 3rd: 25kgs and 5kgs respectively 4th: 17.3kgs and 10kgs respectively







Christmas Party-25th December 2023



Every year during Christmas, the Wema Children are treated to a Christmas party. The party will always be a core memory for the children who play, sing, dance and enjoy delicious food in an environment filled with love and thanksgiving.

This year, we had the pleasure of sharing this wonderful event with Mighty Redeemer Children's Home. Our director also managed to reach Santa Claus who came to celebrate the festivities with us, carrying goodies of course!





Staff Party



The Wema Board of Directors and staff members gathered on 19th December 2023 at Bahari Beach Hotel to celebrate the team's accomplishments during the year.

The team bonded over fun games, good music and a hearty lunch.

During the event, six employees were recognized and awarded for their exceptional efforts in 2023.

They include:



Bernard Gitari, Head of Psychosocial Support Department

Bernard came out as the winner in the Best staff of the year award ceremony. In addition to his role as social worker and trainer, ensures the children have a clean shaven head. He is the last one to leave the Centre after ensuring the children have been supported to complete their homework and other school assignments (coming in on Sunday when needed).

Ben has also conducted numerous successful family tracing and safe reunifications for our children outside the county.

George Konde, Social Worker

George came in second during the award Ceremony for the Best Staff of the year.

Aside from playing the role of social worker, George volunteered as the children's coach during the year, planned for football matches and training opportunities for the girls and boys football team. George also lead the morning devotion for the resident children, nurturing their relationship with God and mentored over ten attaches under the social work department while coordinate support for farm activities such as clearing and ploughing.





Nicholas Kitsao, Farm Attendant

Nicholas has shown a keen interest in the farm, working hard to ensure it supports the Centre's nutrition program. In 2023, he collaborated with the head of maintenance to repair broken furniture and fittings in the Centre and construct small-but important structures, enabling a safe and functional environment for the children.

Nicholas has also supported fumigation activities at the Centre, specifically the children's dormitories.



David Wanyama, Cook

David Wanyama, who is affectionately known as 'Papa', was recognized for being the longest standing employee at the Centre, having worked at the Centre since 1st September 1997. Although he initially started out as a Cleaner/grounds man his passion is in the Kitchen. In 2023, he fulfilled his role in the most joyous manner, ensuring lunch and supper are prepared on time and are both tasty and nutritious.

Eunice Njoroge, Programme Coordinator

Eunice was recognized for working diligently with the Board to ensure successful program outcomes for the Centre through out the year.





Eddy Omondi, Program Accountant

Eddy was awarded for his dedication to providing detailed analysis and feedback on accounts, and overall managing meticulous books of accounts.

How you can support

Income Generating Activities

Support our income generating activities by placing an order for school uniform, corporate uniforms, bags, screen printing and much more or sponsor a trainer for KES 30,000.00 per month.

Contact Eddy at 0726 389346 or eddy@wemacentretrust.org





Rescue Kitty

The Wema Centre rescues children from the streets and dumpsites and ensures their dignity is maintained. We admit children in need of rescue to our safe shelters with only the clothes on their backs but we have to provide them with clothes, food and dignity/hygiene kit until long term solutions are found for their future.

You can help by donating a rescue kitty @ Kshs. 2,500.00 MPESA PAYBILL: 7195343

A/C: RESCUE

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