

**BE KIDS AUSTRALIA INC.  
KENYAN PROGRAM**

**PROJECTS REPORT  
APRIL 2013**



*Some of the Kengele Alumni*

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**Introduction:**

April is a school holiday month in Kenya. Most of the children and youth under our programs were around while others went to visit their relatives in up-country especially after the government made it clear that there won't be remedial classes during the holidays.

We have managed to catch up with some of the Alumni of the Kengele project and engaging with them to hold their younger brothers and sisters become better.

The month has had its fair of opportunities and challenges. It is during this month that two of the young adults: Issa and Harun were arrested and released on cash bail. Also during the month we had a meeting with the young adults discussing responsibility and need for assisting and mentoring those behind them.

We also managed to get books from the Kenya National Library services for our study centres. Two young adults left for Pokot and another two left for Meru in our outreach program.



*Fardosa and a kid from the community*

**Projects progress:  
Kengele Alumni:**

The process continues of profiling the progress of all the youth who have participated in the Kengele project since 2007 continues and in this month we met quite a few.

Some are still in Korogocho while others have since moved out to other areas. We had a number of them listening on Teens Baze as hosted by their peers in Koch FM and we had some of them joining in as guests to speak to their peers. Here on this YouTube link is some of the Alumni in one of the Saturdays discussing education.

<http://youtu.be/pG8weoyP7tM>

Both Mercy and Fardosa got scholarships after their good performances at the primary level. This exercise of profiling and reaching out to the Kengele Alumni is aimed at enhancing the mentorship program and encouraging peer-to-peer mentorship at the community level.

By end of the coming month we shall be having a substantial list of the Alumni and start planing for activities in August to engage these youth who are richly equipped with life skills and leadership skills so as to seal the gap that has seen increase in vulnerability among children and youth in the recent past.



**Karani and Mercy both former Kengele in their neighbourhood**

**Outreach project:  
Marimba program:**

Idris and Amina both of whom are young adults in our program left for the Marimba project on 23<sup>rd</sup> April. The two will be at the children's home for a month guiding the children on a program geared at helping the children gain such skills as communication, expression, improve in academics, and general life skills. So far the two have settled and have had good interactions with the children.

There have been problems with Internet connection on that end but we expect to get their progress report in the coming month.

Here is a video link of the two as they prepared to leave for the assignment:

<http://youtu.be/XZBE1VIJMfU>

Talking to them on phone in several occasions, they sound well and comfortable enjoying the countryside.

### **Pokot Project:**

Richard and Elizabeth left for Pokot on the 12<sup>th</sup> and they will be picking up from where Amina and Idris had left. Keen on their mission linking up with Kalya Fm. This is aimed at exposing the Kengele Chepareria children in having their voice heard by their peers in the region.

They have visited the station three times and they have already submitted the recorded version of the radio program recorded in February. There are high indications that the radio station will have the Kengele Chepareria children be part of the radio program every Saturday guided by a radio presenter in charge of the children's program in that station.

We also are seeking ways of linking up with the World Vision organization working in the area. The organization's headquarters is yet to reply to an email following up a meeting we held with their child protection country manager.

In the coming month I shall plan to do another communication and follow up with a meeting to their offices here in Nairobi.

### **The Art project:**



Here is the link to a brief you tube video done in one of the weekend where children had come in large numbers since the schools were closed.

<http://youtu.be/KvxWEmKZUPo>

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I have advised The art facilitator that from the coming month we start preparing thematic art with different teams of children. This will help in productions, aiming for an art exhibition in August in the community.

In this month the art team largely concentrated with practicals using watercolours. The tutor has been training them to imagine and draw images from their imaginations from their daily interactions both at the community level, family and school. The exercise has been increasing their creativity and skill.

### **Study centres:**

We have managed to get more than two hundred books donated by the Kenya National Library services. This comes after a long follow up with the institution.

However they did not manage to donate to us more of syllabus text books but these are rich texts and good reads for different ages groups of children.



*Some of the books*



*Hrun and Issa at the study centre arranging books*

In the coming month we shall put more effort to follow up with the Kenya Institute of education to get school syllabus textbooks.

During the holidays more children have continued to make use of the centres especially because the government recently abolished the extra tuition in schools during the holidays.

#### **The Giving back projects:**

I had a meeting with Nahashon, Abdi and Aziz that also was attended by Amina together with Fardosa and Charles. The agenda was mainly about them being much more mature and responsible especially in their giving back projects and education. I emphasised on the need for them to enhance simple values such as humility, respect, and timekeeping.

I have observed progress in them and they are becoming more responsible, willing to learn and caring about those behind them.

Both Abdi and Nahashon are compiling their progress report in terms of their projects and education. It should be attached soon. This month Nahashon will be doing his first semester exams and we shall be able to evaluate his academic progress immediately after the results in the coming month.

#### **Conclusion:**

Issa and Thuo were arrested and released on cash bail in the same month. The two were arrested with six others and were all charged with *preparation to commit a felony*. They were each released with a cash bail of 20,000 and their case will be heard in August 26<sup>th</sup>. They are both innocent and were maliciously arrested when the police reacted after a clip done by Victor and Idris both from K Youth Media showing young people engaging in crime out of desperation was aired on the National TV.

I am in contact with the International Justice Mission organization here, to provide them with pro bono lawyer during this process. The two are going back to school in the beginning of May as the schools reopen for the second term. END.