

ACHEGO CHILD CARE PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT 2008

Since the start of the home many children who would have perished are now working and they are able to support themselves. The community has seen the success of the children who were supported through this project. The home has graduated young adults who now serve as pastors, managers, accountants, drivers, computer technicians and motor mechanics. All are working in different places.

The Acheho child care program care goes beyond caring for orphaned children in a home. The numbers of orphaned children has increased dramatically due to the spread of AIDS. Now orphaned children can remain in the care of their extended families, often with their grandmother, and receive help through the **Family First Focus Program (FFF)**.

The FFF was welcomed and appreciated by the community, since it's not benefiting the child alone but also the family members especially through the community /guardian empowerment. This empowerment is going to assist a lot in the community by elevating the living standard of the guardians and help to eradicate the poverty constraints. Currently there are groups already formed to embark on different activities such as sugar-cane farming, poultry, tent business and horticulture.

Highlights for 2008:

- Community agricultural training designed to improve family income especially for the guardians of children in the FFF program.
- Participation of the children in tree planting on the residential compound.
- Excursion of the children to Kisumu in August 2008
- Planning for electrical installation.

Challenges:

- The cost of farming is now very high due to the Kenyan inflation rates. The guardians of orphaned children are often not able to purchase the seeds, fertilizers or pay for the plowing of their fields. The guardians are not able to produce enough food for the family. They would like us to assist them with farming costs in future.
- The dry season lasts for a longer period than the wet season. Guardians could have better harvest if they had access to irrigation.
- The number of orphans continues to increase as HIV/AIDS claims the lives of their parents.

Prayer requests:

We are requesting for your prayer towards the following needs:

- Equipment to improve the efficiency of our work.
- Electricity will soon reach our home, and the water supply will be improved.