

## TUNZA CHILDREN CENTRE - MAY 2010 REPORT

The month of May has been a trying moment in our counseling and mentorship sessions at the centre. External issues affecting the life of the kids arose of which we had to search for possible measures either to curb or to reduce the effects from affecting the life of the kids.

In counseling psychology, the environment of every being would directly or indirectly affect the growth of an individual. Tunza centre of late has become a bit challenging for the kids to live and enjoy life like some months or years back. As the kids grow new challenges of life prop up and therefore we also had an opportunity to prepare them at this juncture.

Some of the challenges we faced, one major has been financial crisis. To begin with, all the form one students who had joined school last term were forced to temporary withdraw due to lack of school fees. They owe quite a big chunk of money to Joram G Secondary school for this term as well as balance for last term. When they were send home for school fees, they opted to be back like the following day so they left their books and other study materials, but unfortunately even up to today they have not been able to resume their classes. So we have had to encourage them by offering moral support giving them various assignments to do during the week just to curb idolized minds.

Most of the times we are limited in financial resources on top of what we spent for our facilitation, thus we are unable to fully support the kids financially. We are therefore appealing to you to intervene so that we buy study materials as well as books and past papers for their revision at home. In fact we hope if given financial support we would work towards establishing a fully equipped library for the kids both in primary and secondary school.

Moreover, the heat from the financial crisis has also led to some of the helpers at the centre threaten for resignation. They have not received their salaries and wages for more than three months each. There are also teachers from the centre in Kibera who have rested their duties for lack of pay or delayed payments. All these effects have caused a crippled growth the centre and for the kids. Currently, there is a new social worker after the other laid her down tools of work.

We have talked with Mama Tunza at length and asked her to lay off her hands if we were to manage the centre, but we are yet to verify her sincerity. Paddy who has been her sponsor of late accused her of mismanagement of funds and that is why the centre is in financial crisis because the audits conducted by Paddy depicts some irregularities. We had to convene the matter, rebuke as well as advice Mama Tunza because whenever a financial crisis arise she comes to vent to us but this time we had to sternly caution her on her expenditures and management of the centre.

Besides, from our research, it is most likely that the staff or helpers at the centre project their reactions either of disappointments or other personal frustrations to the kids. Consequently, one of the staff three weeks ago was reported to us after beating one of the boys (Mutuku) and the boy took his clothes and ran away un-caught. So when we arrived at the centre the boy was nowhere to be found. But the following day the boy was returned by his relative. The fact is that after Collins talked to the boy he found that the staff (Esbon) was wrong but Mama Tunza could not admit it rather she took sides with the staff and thus was biased on the case. The case is over and the boy has settled at the centre now.

We are currently trying to manage the welfare of the kids in such an environment. But we still have hope that all shall be well as we build hope in the lives of these kids motivating them to work extra hard so as to live a better life in their near future.

Many thanks for your continued support. Sorry for the delay this time. God bless you.

Report compiled by:

Collins & Becky  
(Counsellors)