



SHAMMAH CHILDREN'S CENTRE

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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Introduction

Shammah children's Centre is a community based organization which was founded in the year 2007 and started with two vulnerable children along the railway reserve as a day care. Since then it has grown year by year from day care to a fully operating Centre offering

Kenyan system of education of ECDE and primary education and with a fully equipped operating vocational training Centre which is offering computer lessons and tailoring.

Results

In the year 2021, we had 15 candidates 10 girls 5 boys who registered for Kenya national examination council which was done in March 2022 and was supposed to be done by the end of year 2021 education calendar. However it was delayed by the corona virus effects. In April 2022 the results were released and out of 15 candidates 12 performed well and they have all joined form one in their respective schools which they were selected. And the remaining 3 were two older boys age 17 years opted to do vocational training and one adolescent mother; they have already joined our vocational training and are doing tailoring and also doing combination of computer training. Our best candidate got full scholarship for her entire secondary school where by her fee is fully catered for by the county government.

The performance of the fifteen candidates was as follows 398, 394, 388, 374, 376,366,352,348, 338, 333,309,304,299,256, and 220 out of possible 500 marks having a mean score of 337 out of 500 marks which was the best performance according to the past years.

Students

The school calendar still had not stabilized to normal Kenyan education calendar. Our opening in January 2021 was our third term for the year 2020. This brought more complications even to the parents and guardians who used to pay little amount of money to support the school they could not afford anymore. This was because there was no time for parents to look for money due to the squeezed education timeline where by a term would end at the middle of the month and parents found it hard to pay for a half month. Many parents due to that decided that they would not pay fee for the affected months which were March, April, July and October for that reason. With all the challenges Shammah staff has worked tirelessly to see progress from one level to another. in the end of 2021 we had a total of 340 pupils 194 girls and 146 boys and 15 volunteers. Our greatest victory was that we were able to become one of the exams Centre whereby our grade 6 pupils will do their national examination in our own school.

Shammah community together with the local authorities who include chiefs and heads of 10 households have partnered so as to help our learners perform better and transit smoothly from childhood to adolescence stage which has been challenged by peer pressure. When corona stroked there were very many cases of hunger and unreported deaths which lead to the grouping of 10 households and each group of 10 household selected their own leaders to lead them and report upcoming cases to the government. Corona left many children unattended thus entered into drug abuse and substance abuse. We engaged the local authority to keep an eye on the children as they talk to them by offering guidance and counseling both in school and out of school.

Staff

Shammah has grown year by year from the founder operating alone to a whole Centre of 15 volunteers [6 men and 9 women] who serve the learners from ECDE level to vocational level. Among the staff only two are paid and all others are volunteers because they do not earn a salary they only get a token to sustain them. This is because the children we serve are all needy and vulnerable and they are not able to pay the set school fees. The little amount learners pay as school fees and the sales we get from school projects is what we get as token after the expenditures of the school. We are privileged that two of our teachers will be earning their salary from the government once we resume our normal educational calendar as from January 2023.

Vocational training

Shammah has a fully functioning tailoring and computer Centre.

There are in total of 46 computers which are being used by both the vocational and the entire school due to the new Kenyan educational curriculum which has been incorporated in technology in all subjects from the early learning years. We enrolled 20 learners 10 who had dropped out of school due to lack of school fees, 5 teenage mothers and 5 youths who are male. The 20 learners completed their training successfully and 16 of them have already secured job opportunities for themselves and they are earning. The remaining two adolescent mothers are still continuing with the training because they could not attend classes because they were still taking care of their babies. Two out of the 16 were assisting in the computer training for young learners in our school because children from grade one are learning technology and our technology teacher was not able to tackle all the learners.

Tailoring:

There were 22 learners who trained and all successfully completed the training. 12 out of 22 started their own business of tailoring and 10 have been employed. They are all earning their own money.

Agro- business

Animal keeping

Shammah has been practicing animal keeping as part of income generating activity for the school as well as a training Centre for both parents and learners of Shammah and the community as a whole. There is poultry practicing and rabbit keeping and most of the learners are practicing animal keeping back at their homes after acquiring the skills from the school. Most learners who learned about poultry and rabbit keeping are already earning from it.

Vegetables:

There has been farming practice also whereby learners have been learning how to do farming in gunny sacks, old containers like basins and many learners already practice at home and they are able to eat healthy vegetables in their homes.

Planting of trees:

Shammah was one of the beneficiaries of getting trees for planting from the ministry of agriculture seedlings from the ministry of agriculture so as to promote afforestation.

Solar

Shammah as one of advocates of taking care of environment has been active in making our environment better and promoting use of fireless cookers and fire briquettes which lead to low cutting of trees . There has been training of learners, parents and the community on how to use solar products and also making them. The trainings and selling of the products at lower amount has been great impact for income for Shammah and environment whereby people have learned the dangers of cutting down the trees which has led to global warming. Shammah also got an opportunity to show case their work whereby it was recorded on how to make briquettes and how to use fireless cookers which gave the Centre an opportunity to attend an agricultural event in biotechnology Centre Kabete. There was lodging of 4k club which means young farmers association club. All schools were required to start farming whereby after a survey was done it was found that schools that were doing farming, were better in sustaining their feeding programme. Shammah was part of pioneering because of its farming skills. Children learned different types of trees and diseases affecting different types of trees. They also learned how to produce plants through tissue culture (Tissue culture is seen as an important technology for developing countries for the production of disease-free, high quality planting material and the rapid production of many uniform plants) which was very interesting.

Children in biotechnology Centre



Children in biotechnology lab



Pupils with vegetables seedling



seedlings from the Ministry of agriculture



Candidates holding fire briquettes



Financial report 2021

Income			expenditure			
month	Fees/ Other incomes	total	feeding	Token for teachers	total	balance
Jan	168,000	168,000	60,000	60,000	120,000	48,000
Feb	152,000	152,000	60,000	60,000	120,000	32,000
Mar	nil	nil	20,000	30,000	50,000	-50,000
April	nil	nil	nil	30,000	30,000	- 30,000
May	152,000	152,000	60,000	60,000	120,000	32,000
Jun	164,000	164,000	60,000	60,000	120,000	44,000
Jul		nil	nil	30,000	30,000	-30,000
Aug	180,000	180,000	80,000	70,000	150,000	30,000
Sep	164,000	164,000	65,000	70,000	135,000	29,000
Oct	nil	nil	nil	30,000	30,000	- 30,000
Nov	170,000	170,000	65,000	65,000	130,000	40,000
Dec	81,000	81,000	60,000	60,000	120,000	-39,000
total	1,231,000	1,231,000	530,000	625,000	1,155,000	77,000

Our Biggest concern for 2022

The garden has been the back bone of the Centre's feeding programme which has supported feeding programme for the past 8 years. However our greatest challenge for the year 2022 will be that we will not be able to support the feeding programme from the garden because the farming was being practiced in people's lands and they have taken it back thus threatening the feeding program. We are looking for funding to buy our own land for agri-culture. Any help is very much appreciated.