



Annual Report

FAPADAG Board

came once together in Board members May 2024 to discuss the financial statement of 2023, which was approved on 10-05-2023.

FAPADAG is still searching for new board members, who have experience in writing fund-applications for small projects!

Short overview of activities undertaken in 2023/2024

In 2023 the priority of FAPADAG was to raise funds for extending the vocational training in the Shammah Centre in Kibera, Nairobi in order to be able to generate more income and continue the feeding programme in the centre..

The year 2023 was the worst economical year since COVID whereby most parents in Kibera were not able to take their children to school. Some parents could go to do casual jobs with their children so as to earn an extra coin. The school was also economically affected as a result and had to drop the feeding programme. Food was too expensive and the school could not afford it at all means.

Luckily by the end of the year FAPADAG managed with the help of all its donors to gather enough money to apply together with Shammah Kibera for a new grant from Wilde Ganzen to start in Kibera a bakery and a hairdressing workshop.

Results of the Shammah centre in Kibera in 2023

Pupils

Due to the bad economic situation the school population went down compared to last years; the population dropped from 324 of 2022 to 205 pupils.

9 boys and 10 girls candidates sat for the for the national examination at grade 6. The candidates performed well according to the standards of the **new** curriculum and they proceeded to junior high schools.

Another group of 12 girls and 7 boys of the old curriculum sat for the for(KCPE) Kenya certificate for primary education.. Almost all the candidates performed well in their exams and joined form one in their respective schools. Out of the 19 candidates 9 of them almost lost slots in the schools in which they were selected due to lack of school fees. However the Kibera community joined efforts together with the parents and knocked on doors of all the offices they thought could be of help. They finally got scholarships and all the children joined secondary schools.

Staff

Shammah has grown year by year from the founder being the teacher and the cook to a staff of in total 10 volunteers 7 women and 3 men who work tirelessly to see the learners succeed in their work. The centre has been able to stand on the top in terms of performances among other activities outside classroom activities due to these dedicated volunteers. However there has been a challenge in retaining the best teachers because some of them were lured by our nearby schools which attract them with too much money. Among the staff only two are paid by the school BOM (board) through the collected funds, all others are volunteers who only get a token to sustain them. This is because the Shammah children are all needy and vulnerable and they are not able to pay the set school fees. It reached a time where by due to high economy even the little amount the learners used to pay have stopped paying.

Vocational training

Shammah has a fully functioning tailoring and computer Centre.

Computer

There are a total of 56 computers which are being used by both the vocational training and the entire school. With the new curriculum children are able to learn technology at a very tender age. In the year 2023 74 women and 28 men were trained. They were a mixture of school dropouts due to lack of school fees, teenage mothers and youths. Out of 102 who trained with us 70 secured job opportunities in different places; 10 of them opened their own cyber cafes. By giving life skills it has helped in lowering the poverty and preventing negative activities like drug abuse, early pregnancies among others which have been happening within the slums.

Tailoring:

There are 14 sewing machines which serve in the tailoring training. 38 learners who were 18 men and 20 female were enrolled. All the learners mastered sewing skills and among them 25 secured job opportunities and they are earning a living while 7 of them started their own businesses and they are doing well and also gave job opportunities to 6 learners who were training with them.

Agri- 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. Over the years the learners have been trained how to do rabbit keeping and poultry and almost all households are practicing and earning from the poultry and rabbit keeping. In return they use the money to buy things needed by the family. Shammah has been able to work closely with the ministry of agriculture who visits the centre from time to time so as to ensure that the right thing is done.

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Farming :

Farming being the main source of food in Kenya the learners are trained together with the community to use the little space they have to make a kitchen garden and use of gunny sacks and all sorts of containers. They have been able to practice the skills at home and they are happily enjoying fresh vegetables from their small created kitchen garden and they also sell the products and buy what they need like books and other small things which they are able to afford.

Solar

Shammah as one of advocates of taking care of environment believes that the challenges of global warming can only be rescued when people stop cutting down the trees. They have been active in making their environment better and promoting use of fire less cookers and fire briquettes which leads 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 products cost are very cheap compared to the cost of other cooking fuels.

Challenges .

Over the years Shammah has been keen on achieving its goals and objectives like education and the feeding programme, among others. The year 2023 was one of the worst years economically this affected some of the schools objectives which could not be delivered at all cost. Feeding being one of the schools objective was one of the most affected one because the prices of food stuffs were 3 times higher than the normal prices. Due to skyrocketing of prices they were not able to continue feeding the children. After stopping to feed them some stopped coming to school because they can only stay in school if they are assured of something to eat as a means to survive and an encouraging factor to learn.

Results of the Shammah centre in Kalimani, Kangundo in 2023

Shammah Kalimani offers the new curriculum system. In the year 2023 there were 45 pupils who graduated from pre-primary to primary education, 68 learners trained computer skills, 55 people trained tailoring skills and 40 people trained baking skills. The vocational training and the entire centre brought hope to the people of Kalimani village because they have been able to learn skills which they were able to use and earn a living and at the same time they could attend a school that is able to enrol all the children despite of their poor status, age among other issues. Children came from all corners of Kangundo. because the little amount they were charged is better than what most of the schools around are charging.

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Pupils.

By the end of the year 2023 there were 350 children 190 girls and 160 boys aged 2 years to 14 years.. The year was full of challenges because they were as well economically challenged. The whole country's parents and guardians had too many balances which they were supposed to pay to school but were not able to pay. Due to that some people decided to stay with their children at home until the Shammah teachers had to go for the children and bring them back to school at no charge.

Staff

Shammah started by one person, the founder, and grew to 10 staff of which 2 are only paid and others are volunteers; they do not earn a salary they only get a token to sustain them . Most of the children who are served in this organization are from less privileged families who cannot afford to pay school fees which can be enough to pay teachers. The little money got from friends, farm sales of the founder, and parents is used to run the Centre's operations like the feeding programme

Vocational training

There is a fully operating vocational training centre where several life skills are trained .

Computer training

There are 39 computers which are being used by the entire school pupils because the new curriculum is integrated with technology and children learn computer at an early age in all subjects. Besides the children 68 persons are trained in computer skills among them are 39 women, of whom 6 teenage mothers, and 31 men . They all mastered computer skills and 50 of them have been able to secure job opportunities and are earning a salary and 6 of them have opened their own cyber cafe where they earn and have also created job opportunities for others.

Tailoring.

Tailoring is also part of the vocational training. The centre was privileged to train 54 learners who were able to complete and master the tailoring skills . Among the trained there were 13 teenage girls who had dropped out of school due to early pregnancy or lack of school fees. Others were 21 men and 20 women. All the learners after completing were able to secure job opportunities and others have been able to open their own sewing shops and even create job opportunities for others. This has been a great encouragement for the teenagers who were wasting their life because they had no hope of acquiring skills which would later give them access to job opportunities. .

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Baking.

Baking training is one of the most liked. 120 Learners were enrolled who could come at different hours and ensured that they have learned how to bake. There were 40 teenagers, 30 youths, 35 women and 15 men . There were also 50 learners from the school who had started and continued to learn baking as part of their home science subject whereby they are supposed to learn how to cook different types of foods.

Learners enjoy eating and selling their products which they bake and also the entire school benefits from the products because at break time children take porridge and a piece of cake or a remainder of what is baked. They extremely enjoy it and it is encouraging them to come to school without failure. The school also benefited from the money that remains and what is used to support school activities that need financial attention.

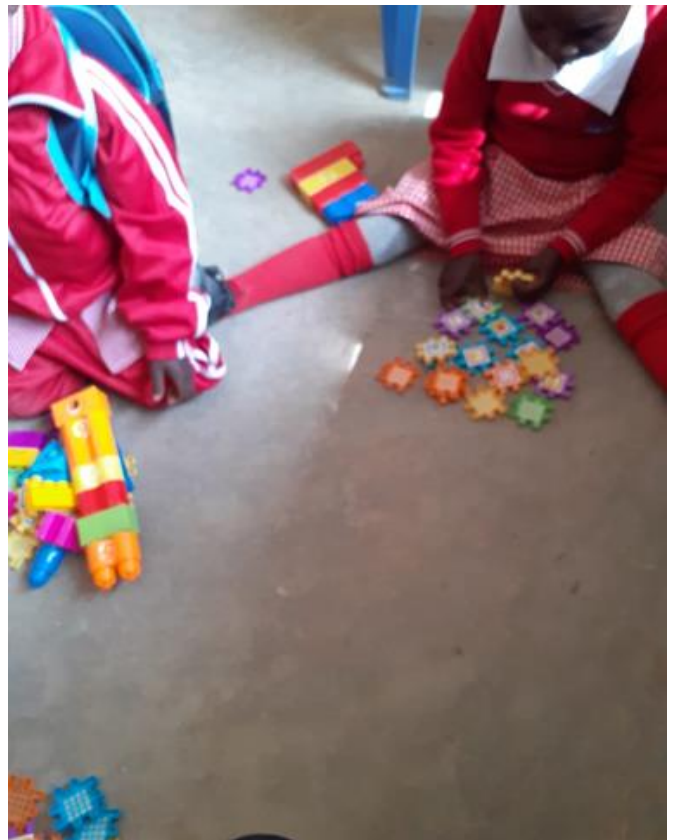
Farming.

Shammah has a small land near the school which the founder had bought a few years ago but was too small to be developed. The founder donated the plot to the school for the learners to practice farming. Children have been enjoying learning farming because they like practical work.. They have been able to learn the skills and take the knowledge back at home. They have been able to earn out of their small improvised gardens which they planted vegetables in gunny sacks and containers among others. Children and parents have been learning the practices and improving their farming practices . The vegetables have been supported in the feeding programme in school.

Florence, the founder of Kalimani Shammah Centre concluded: "We are happy that we are able to give life skills which have been able to work towards giving people hope who thought their lives had come to an end .The skills have also helped to bring down poverty levels in our society."



children taking breakfast in Kalimani



children playing



Tailoring

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Other activities undertaken by FAPADAG

Promotion and Publicity Activities and Fundraising for the Shammah Projects

FAPADAG projects have been promoted through the Facebook, the website of FAPADAG, in local papers and through newsletters. On several online events the projects have been discussed among students in higher education institutions.

Again many friends of FAPADAG have made generous financial contributions to the successful continuation of the Shammah projects.

An application for funding has been made and was approved at the beginning of 2024 by Wilde Ganzen (for an amount of 7222€).

Teaching modules on occupation based community development and addressing inequalities

Still the Bachelor students in Georgia, Masters students in Bulgaria and Spain have been taught by Hanneke van Bruggen on-line and life about community development and social transformation through occupation. All earnings from this work (if there is any) are going directly to the FAPADAG account.

The objectives for 2024 are:

FAPADAG together with Shammah Kibera will develop the vocational rooms for bakery and hair dressing skills and we look forward to urgently redeem back the feeding programme in Kibera by implementing the project which will serve as an income generating activity. The baking training together with hair dressing will help to get some funds for running the school, work on the feeding programme and even improve the livelihood of the volunteers and create some jobs.

Challenges:

The biggest challenge is that the director of Shammah Kibera, Jemmimah, in October 2023 was diagnosed with serious cancer. FAPADAG has been involved in ensuring that Jemmimah get better treatment. Currently she is undergoing chemotherapy. At the same time we are considering how to make the Shammah centre sustainable. There is not yet an adequate solution.

The other challenge is that the Kibera slum is growing and that the need for affordable housing and employment is enormous high and will remain for most people a dream. Furthermore the people in Kibera are abused by politicians and a lot of conflicts are fought out in the slums, but no improvement is seen there. On the contrary the criminality and the rate of unemployment is growing.

Therefor it is important to try to keep the Shammah Centre going.

We like once again to thank all, who are contributing to the Shammah projects!!

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More information about the projects you can find on the website www.fapadaq.com.

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