

UZIMATELE MINISTRIES

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER - 2024



We want to thank all our friends and partners for the continued support you have given us over years that has enabled us to influence the lives of children in order to transform communities. It's a our joy when we make a child smile for a brighter future. Uzimatele Ministries is dedicated and committed to the vision of transforming, nurturing and empowering children through education. Our vision is to reach out to over one million children in order to alleviate families from poverty and live a dignified life.

We are happy to raise children through Uzimatele Family home based on our slogan of a 'place they call home' from 2004 up to date. Over thirty children have benefited from Uzimatele Family home with youngest being 4 years old. Currently, Mitchell is second year in campus while Eric has started his undergraduate study at university this year. Brandon is planning to join college very soon.

Others who had joined university and colleges have completed and are now working. Some are in casual employment; others in self-employment and formal employment.

Education Center is at the heart of Gituamba informal settlement as the only school. Others have failed to sustain a school in this area due to inability of the residents to sustain the school. The impact of Uzimatele has not only been felt in Gituamba informal settlement, but also in the neighbourhood. For the case of Education center hundreds of children have transited to high school then some to University and colleges leading to a complete transformation from poverty to better lives.

PROPOSED WOMEN EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

It has come to our attention that most pupils are dropping out of school at an alarming rate despite the study opportunity given to them by Uzimatele Education Centre due to their humble background.

Our impact assessment however has shown us that most of these cases are emerging from single mother headed households whose fate occasioned by either teenage pregnancy, early marriage, death of their spouse or abandonment due to poverty among other causes.

Inability to provide basic necessities such as food and clothing has resulted into many of these children dropping out of school either to assist their single mother in doing odd jobs for food or ending up in streets as street children.

We have also noted that many of these women have fallen prey of peddling and smuggling illicit brew and dangerous drugs like Marijuana, which unfortunately exposes them to risks of being arrested by police and consequently jailed. The already vulnerable children are left with nobody to look after.

Seventy percent of households in informal settlements are headed by single mothers with an average of 4 children per house.

It is for the above reasons that Uzimatele has seen the need of initiating a women empowerment program to mitigate on the above problems.

Offering a study opportunity to these vulnerable children alone has never been a guarantee of keeping them in school and hence the need for family strengthening to leverage on the causes of their absenteeism as explained above.

We are planning and hoping to come up with programs that will impart them with skills that shall enable them to engage in income generating employment opportunities labelled as community based care reform agenda, which in turn helps the children to grow within their family set up.

They include

1. Dress making
2. Hair dressing

The training program will ran for one year after which they will graduate with certificates.

These will almost guarantee them jobs that will enable them to be self-sufficient.

If we get financial support, we shall be recruiting women every year to undertake the above courses. Moreover, we shall also put them to a guidance and counselling sessions on key areas such as family planning and household economics.

Family strengthening is one of the strongest pillar of childcare. It forms the primary step in helping a child grow in a serene and conducive environment. When priority is given to education ahead of family support, the results has revealed that only 40% end up with a complete transition to the secondary school and finally better life. The remaining sixty percent end up sliding back to the same abject condition by either dropping out of school, early pregnancy or joining others in the streets because the family's inability to provide basic needs.

Therefore, it is our finding that, if we add family strengthening through empowerment of these single mothers and widows, assuredly, the children will be provided with their basic needs and hence have time to attend to lessons in school.



This is Irene with two of her children. Irene is a single mother of three. She is one of the parents at Uzimatele Education Center. In the photo, she is appearing with two of her three children.

She resides in Gituamba informal settlement. Her first-born daughter Tracy was and still is educated by Uzimatele having been a pupil at our education center since grade one to grade 8 and now she is in Form one.

Just like many other single mothers and widows, Irene is really struggling to fend for her remaining two daughters in terms of food, shelter and clothing. She has also been struggling to raise house rent due to lack of a sustainable income from odd jobs. This has immensely affected her children's concentration in school in terms of daily attendance. Despite her hard work, lack of skills has denied her a substantive job opportunity to raise her children in a dignified

manner.

Below are more photos of Irene, her two young children and further below is Tracy her eldest daughter who is currently under the full care of Uzimatele Family home and sponsorship program.



Tracy the first-born daughter of Irene who is now in high school but staying at the Family home.

If Irene above can be economically empowered by our proposed program above, then she can be able to provide the necessities to her children, as hence that will in turn enable them to attend school continuously. She represents many others in similar plight.

UZIMATELE EDUCATION CENTER

Uzimatele Education center under the new curriculum has scaled up to grade 8 now. One extra classroom is needed to accommodate grade 9 learners by January next year. We are therefore appealing for support to construct the said class during the long holiday of two months i.e. November and December.

To enhance the learning environment of the pupils, class renovations such as repainting of the inner and outer walls of the classrooms needs to be done.

Equipping classrooms with bookshelves, Seats with lockers for upper class learners will boost both the teachers and learners working relationship and uplift the standards.

We have also noted that most learners are unable to concentrate in school due to hunger. Most of their parents can barely afford lunch and hence we are hoping to initiate a feeding program for them in near future.



Some of the pupils at Uzimatele Education Centre.

Undertaking their lessons under maximum concentration as others looks on.

UZIMATELE FAMILY HOME

The following are some of the Uzimatele Family home children living happily in a serene and enabling environment, away from the busy hustle and bustle of the Kasarani -Mwiki road and its suburbs



Jochabed: grade 7

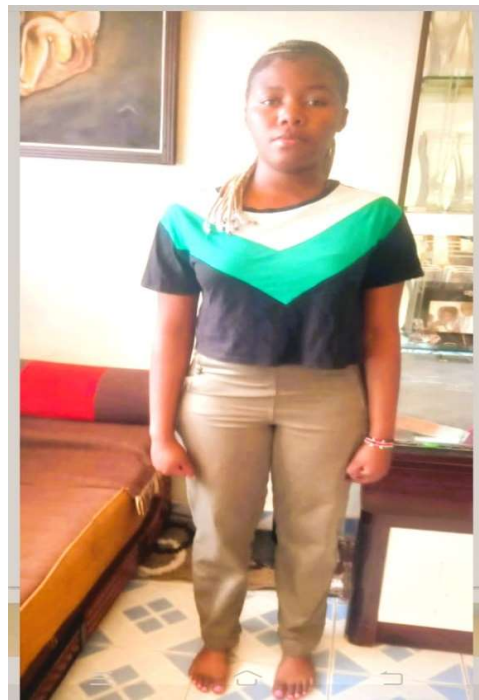
Christine: Grade 8

Shaniz: Grade 4

Morgan: Grade 5



Ibrahim a Grade 7 Learner



Mitchell a campus student



Brandon Odongo planning

To join College soon



Eric Okili Currently an undergraduate

First year at the University

UZIMATELE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Most Recent Activities

Scholarship graduates joining University

Brenda one among our scholarship beneficiaries has successfully completed her apprenticeship program at Uzimatele Education Center as an assistant teacher and now she has joined campus to pursue a career of her dream.



Photo of Brenda at Uzimatele Education Center

Mentorship program

To be boost and enhance the confidence, creativity cognitive development and psychosocial well-being of our children, we decided to include modelling sessions in our mentorship program

As shown in the photos be



Modelling sessions under different categories



High Concentration during mentorship program



Lunch Break

We wish to thank you very much for your prayers, support, and donations of any kind. Together we have been able to conquer the tasks of helping all the children under Uzimatele Ministries with tremendous success.

We cannot be able to explain everything in terms of the impact of Uzimatele Ministries. What we have managed is just a small fraction of huge achievement as confirmed by testimonies and appreciations from the families in community.

Prepared by: Administrator (Samuel Namutilu)

Approved by: Director (George Otieno)

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