The Child Advocacy Campaign Report

September 2010
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This Report covers
The Child Advocacy Campaign year one 2010

Acknowledgements
Our thanks got to the participants in this year’s activities around Kampala and Wakiso districts who paved way for smooth implementations.

Special thanks to Dr. Eliezah Titus Busonga, Eng. Rehemah Nyanzi, Mrs. Beatrice Ayikoru of PCY- MoGLSD, Dr. Eric Mwangi, Mr. Gerhard Wallner and the entire board of the Organisation

Cover Photographs: CAC 2010 School Program and child labor
Photographs this page: DAC 2010 MoGLSD
The Eliezah Foundation Initiative Uganda

The Eliezah Foundation Initiative Uganda is a non-profit making organisation with interests in improvement of social lives of young people between 1 and 35 years of age. It provides advocacy for children/human rights through implementing activities that support growth and development of young people.

The organisation is a recognised civil service organ offering communities in Uganda with social support, protection and development strategies as ways of curbing child abuse, neglect and high rates of adult dependence. In Sub Saharan Africa where development challenges are enormous, the organisation chose utilising the efforts to support growth and development amongst young people to secure reduction of relative problems that are nearly tearing out the 56.1% of the total population of Uganda through implementation of workable ideas.

The History Of Eliezah Foundation Initiative Uganda

The Eliezah Foundation Initiative Uganda was established by Dr. Eliezah Titus Busonga on the 5th September 2005. It is registered in Uganda as a civil society organisation working to support children/youth rights and development in 2009, a new constitution was adopted by the executive through documentation of community perception and interests. The new constitution extended greater support, democracy and community flexibility to engage in administrative proceedings and selection of representatives on the board of the Organisation, since that time the transparency and service delivery methodologies have broaden and improved accordingly.

The Organisation now works with non political representatives deliver quality effective services to different communities. These representatives are selected through village gatherings organized by the organisation before, during and after activity implementations

More information about the History of the organisation is Available on google.com or at our website http://eliezahfoundation.org.org

Membership and administration

Membership of Eliezah Foundation Initiative is open to all people from all over the world with similar objectives and general support for youth and children in Uganda. Our honorary membership package gives opportunity to well wishers wishing to volunteer or support the organisation in any possible way

The administration/ management of Eliezah foundation initiative Uganda was transformed after the adoption of the new constitution in September 2009. An article introducing organisational Presidency was tabled and added to the constitution giving way for selection of board membership through elections. This is believed to be a major cause in the enhancement of board members service delivery and core adherence to responsibilities of late 2010. The president and chairperson carries 3 votes per one time voting concluding that if satisfaction of a board member service delivery reaches this executive member then he can declare such a board member for a particular aspired post. The board so far has 26 executive members and five departments including the Research Department the health department, Communications and coalitions department, the childrens, youth, and welfare departments.

Vision and Mission

The vision for the Eliezah Foundation Initiative is a noticeable favorable environment where all young people can grow to support development of to the nation with the ability to support their lives together with the lives of their families without depending on other people and without violation

Our mission is to empower all young people to development, utilizing all possible resources and approaches including core child growth and development as a right
I introduced this program to the organisations’ board amidst tension for financial support, however my belief for the reaction of this program in communities was unbelievably positive even without available finance to boost the implementation process. My conscious was telling me that it had to happen, something should be done to strategize child growth and development in society, however the campaign did not and has not ended there and it still is moving on. This is one of the reasons why we decided to shift some of the 2010 activities to the 2011 schedule of the campaign program, with all the representatives who have positively reacted to service delivery of the campaigns objectives to respective intended community, am proud to have built such a network of togetherness in reaction to community challenges. This four year program intends to mainstream and react to challenges towards the growth and development of young people and create possible ways of young peoples participation in decision making and allocation of resources to support their social and economic welfare. With the registered achievements so far, am extremely positive that the approach designed to pursue this campaign is very effective. The reaction of beneficiaries and the general public towards the activities so far implementation has given more strength to the board to continue pursuing the campaign. In provision of suggestions towards smooth and effective implementation as planned, funds is the major problem affecting the implementation of all the activities and so we decide to pause the campaign and shift the remaining schedule to the annual activity plan of 2011 and utilize the remaining period of this year to solicit funds to continue with the fruitful program.

Many friends, family and colleagues have strongly supported this cause and through this campaign clubs and viable groups have been created or enhanced to support the cause. This has made our dream a reality because at the designing of this program, our major intension was to attract populations to utilize the little available resources to support families and/ or generate options to child/ youth growth and development with in the next four years. I have seen this happening and has made me so proud not forgetting all that came with the campaign proceedings at large.

As much as this campaign has been hectic for me, Its one of the most important things that have kept me going through this year, I am very happy for the accomplishments and swear to work harder for more similar and even better results. I therefore request all sections that work with and support children to come join hands with us to purse the cause of this campaign to posses a stronger voice for even a much better effect. Thank you to all of you who have endlessly supported and given this organisation strength to move forward in all aspect and Thank you.. for supporting Children in Uganda.

Dr. Eliezah Titus Busonga
Thank you for supporting this just cause towards
Children in Uganda, I am very happy to see the
outcomes of the project in such a short time and
request for a more energetic and effective
coalition towards implementation of this
program through out the process.

In the course of implementing the first section of CAC,
the challenges have been noticed and as much as we
have no resources, we are determined to move forward
and implement the project and as the chairperson for
the participation committee of the CAC, I encourage all
members and well wishers to come aboard and work with
us to empower this program. This program addressed
themtic issues like, Paediatrics HIV, Child Labor,
child growth, Children statutes and policy makers,
child planning and budgeting, Responsible parenthood,
Community participation in child growth and development,
Strategies for parents and children and many among others.

I am proud to see that the organisation has managed to
move forward and implement such a program amidst
all challenges however request for more community,
resource people and child actors integration in such
activities to support the cause. In 2005 when we began
working on statistics, we thought it was an intangible
approach to create some change in society and am so
proud that we have made it to this extent. With the
limited resources we have and the effort all board members
apply to the organisation cause, am very happy and
overwhelmed, thank you all for doing this. I promise to
continue supporting each and every activity and all
of you to strengthen our relationship that has kept us
together for the growth and development of children
and youth. I thank the chairperson, the cells representatives,
the community watch groups, the health workers, and the
general communities that have received and opened their
lives to us to smoothen implementation through designing
effective programs that fit into these particular communities,
thank you to the staff members and thank you to everyone
who looks at this campaign with a positive mind.

I therefore call upon all communities, stakeholders, parents,
Child actors, private sector and all development partners to
support this or similar activities in different regions to enable
children live in a favorable environment. Thank you very much
and I hope you enjoy reading this report. Join us through our
networks to participate in the program and we await seeing
your hand in the Child Advocacy Campaign 2011.
Introduction to the Child Advocacy Campaign

Child Advocacy Campaign 2010-13
The Child advocacy campaign was designed by Eliezhah Foundation as a strategy of curbing child abuse in different districts of Uganda. After the studies carried out in 2008-9, the board resolved that child integration activities should be focused on advocacy and lobbying through implementations of participatory programs to enable community learn how to cope with situations and dealing with them accordingly. It also looks at involving role players in the fight against child abuse and neglect.

Aim of CAC2010-2013
This campaign aims at creating awareness on child growth and development with in the two districts of Uganda by 2013 and creating way forward to over coming problems through advocacy, capacity building trainings and activities through community participation and support. It focuses on reaching up to 160000 people directly, a process it has already started on through the activities implemented so far, and case studies carried out the passed two years.

Background:
This program was initiated after the studies carried out on child growth and development i.e. the OVC study 2009, the study on situation analysis of child growth and development in Wakiso and Kampala districts, case study on UPE and USE education systems, situation analysis of the child statute, OVC, gender and healthy policies provisions and effectiveness, study review of the state of Uganda’s population, the child domestic violence campaign 2009, just to mention.

Campaign Approach:
After designing the program, the board resolved that role players, ministers concerned, children organisations, community representatives and members of the General Public should be provoked to attend one on one sessions organized by the participation committee of the campaign, headed by the vice chairperson to discuss children’s memoranda. At the same time, the organisation was to ensure full participation of children in all activities as well as community members where to listen and mainstream children’s reaction and start reacting to positive actions that enhance children’s surrounding.

Activities where discussed and short-listed in line with the objectives of the campaign although some activities focused on adults with a big role to play i.e. parents, ministers concerned, and the Uganda Police Family and child protection Unit. Many trainings where inserted in to the Program, some of which have been attended by a huge unlimited number of participants.

Objectives:
The overall objective of this campaign is the decrease of child abuse and neglect through exploitation of possible resources to achieve the Aim but a detailed range of objectives include

1. To curb worst forms of child labor and exploitation with in the two districts
2. To increase on sustainable development programs through capacity enhancement on child growth and development
3. To create awareness of the effect of instability in families as being child domestic violence
4. To create platforms for children to discuss issue that affect them
5. To come up with workable approaches in handling child related problems as civil society
6. To document and avail relevant information to role players at the end of this project to help advocate for their rights and social welfare being.
7. To develop relevant documentations for researchers as reference.
8. To monitor and support OVC
9. To plan and contribute to social wellbeing at household level
Target Audience:
This project works around humans between 1 to 70 years of age, as it operates with in Kampala and Wakiso districts of Uganda and aims to reach over 160000 people all together however in 2010, it has operated solely amongst young people, parents and guardians, schools, slums, policy makers and role players

Target Areas:
KAMPALA DISTRICT
The communities around Kampala that directly benefited from the 2010 program include, Katwe Kiganda Zone A and B, Mulago II and III, Kamwokya Lubuga Zone, Kawempe Kiganda zone, and Kazo Angola areas respectively.

Activities for Kampala:
The organization monitored high population rates of children in these places, it is known to us that these are slum places with high populations and at least a third of the children living here have the following problems:
- Poor or no education facilitation
- Poor nutrition
- Poor hygiene
- Poor family relationships
- Child labor at a higher rate in worst forms of labor
- OVC and HIV infections at high rates
- Neglect and child domestic violence
- Child poverty
- Early parenthood and unwanted pregnancies
- Trafficking
- Early sexual debuts

Notice of such problems a strategy of intervention was designed to fit such communities during this program implementation.
Activities implemented in Kampala include.
- VCTs for young people
- Capacity building on sanitation and nutrition
- Role model homestead support
- Viable community groups creation
- Child care advocacy trainings
- Capacity enhancement on child protection
- Children platforms,
- Painting days for creating awareness

Wakiso District:
The communities around Wakiso that directly benefited from this program include, Nansana V, Wamala, magano A and B, kawanda Kisimu, Ttula, Jinja Kalori, Namasuba Kikkajjo, and Elim Katooke areas.

All these areas are surbubs with Wakiso and Kampala Districst.

Activities for Wakiso
Adding to the above problems of people in the different parts of this operation these areas have high rates of:
- Early marriages
- Early sexual debuts
- Unwanted pregnancies
- HIV/AIDS
- Gender based violence
- Child domestic violence
- OVC
- Child Labor and exploitation

Activities Implemented in Wakiso:
- VCT services
- Redress to 3 children
- Digging 20 garbage disposal pits in 20 homes
- Counseling and guidance services
- Referrals/ technical support to children and young people with health/ Domestic violence/ Gender related cases

Summary Beneficiary
The total number of people who have directly benefited from this program since February 2010 have totaled to 423 and we believe the numbers are even higher as some people did not register in our books.
The Campaign and HIV/AIDS

Paediatrics HIV/AIDS
The Organisation has worked hand in hand with the Health department headed by Dr. Eric Mwangi to support paediatrics HIV, however with the number of casualties rising to more than our allocations, we are meeting in December to discuss whether we should simply refer cases to our network friendly organisation or locate and develop a strategy to deal with the rising numbers. In the meeting held in April 2010 at the chairperson’s residence, the board resolved that the Chairperson together with Dr. Eric Mwangi develop a paediatrics guide or hand manual that can be distributed to communities benefiting from the CAC. The manual was released in June 2010 and was distributed during the PMTCT projects Implemented in Nakulabye, Nansana, Nabweru and Namayina areas. This manual contains information about care and treatment of children living or at risk of catching HIV/AIDS.

Dr. Eliezah Titus developed a manual called “HIV AND THE BODY” that he has constantly distributed to small groups with young people that include many bits of Paediatrics HIV/AIDS. There is information added to our HIV/AIDS tab on the website and was provided to describe the problems related with opportunistic infections, how to deal with them and where to access the help, the process is endless but more information can be accessed through our website.

Paediatrics Cellings
It is a culture of the organisation to create community viable/ action/ watch groups with in communities. These groups act as peer educators to people in their or other communities who might have a similar challenges, the organisation empowers these groups with necessary support to deal with the challenges they face and act as role models to people with similar challenges. During the campaign, four children groups were formed in different areas but two of these groups are paediatrics HIV groups.

VCTs
The organisation carried out two VCT sessions in 6 months, confidentiality is important but results were overwhelmingly positive especially amongst youths above 23 and the young parents. This is an annual activity but normally it focuses on older people however rates of children who were positive to the virus were also relatively high. The organisation is yet to decide on a date to sit and revise means of allocating resources to support paediatrics HIV for this campaign.

Youth and HIV/Aids
As much as the campaign is for children, but according to the African Youth Charter, a youth is anyone between the age of 15 to 35 yet with the constitution of The Republic of Uganda, a Child is anyone between 0 and 18 years of age. The campaign has registered many young people reacting to HIV/AIDS services and information, this give the implementation a smooth passage to provision of services and information to young people. Many of them read our HIV/AIDS information and carry it home to share it with relatives.

PMTCT Programs
During this campaign, we normally meet to discuss even more possible ways of how children are affected in all possible ways and PMTCT being one of them, our small project for young mothers shares information on topics i.e Breastfeeding, HIV/AIDS, Safe sex, and NRA/CPR tests. This information is offered to all young parents including young fathers.

Youth HIV/AIDS Platforms
These platforms support information sharing were youths who are affected by HIV/AIDS meet those who are infected to develop capacity on how to deal with other challenges different from treatment, care and stigma. These platforms bring together youths who are not HIV positive to learn about HIV and interact one on one with the HIV/AIDS affected and infected people respectively. These platforms help young people develop confidence and abilities to react to the prevention of HIV and also support HIV/AIDS infected people.
The Campaign and OVC
Throughout the implementation the issue of OVC was extremely visible, at many incidents children have ended up stuck with the organisation because most of them are orphaned or/ and vulnerable is very many unpleasant ways. In total, the organisation now has 15 children generated from the campaign adding to the number of supported children by the organisation to total to 67, now with such number of school going children we met to find solutions and the only reliable solution is to request for individuals, organisations or any concerned human being to directly pick and support one or more kids in school but again such people have not crossed our path yet.

We therefore call upon anyone who can or knows anyone who can help these children please contact us on the main emails or write to eliezahfoundation@gmail.com and offer to help us on this matter

Child Labor
The organisation is a member at the National Children’s Council. NCC is a body legislated by an act in the constitution to apply framework tools regarding children in Uganda, as Eliezah foundation Initiative Uganda, we have participated in all activities of NCC and have many case studies done on Laboring of Children in different parts of Uganda. We have Programs ousted from the campaign i.e. the education program, where children through the organisation carry on advocacy messages for the need for child education to the entire public, we also have Activities directly addressing child labor. We have I.C.E materials distributed free of charge to the general public addressing child labor.

Other Child Interventions in the Campaign.
This campaign addressed thematic issues of children including, child trafficking, domestic violence, Security and Protection, Drug abuse, sexual exploitation, child planning and budgeting, early forced marriages. The child participation week of the campaign addressed even bigger issues by the children, a presentation from Mariam Nalweyiso (One of the Organisation’s beneficiary) of Pic Hill Primary school won the best child representative awards because it expresses the total injustices by society, government and families towards children and at the same time provides relevant solutions to these injustices.

The Children’s Memoranda
Children on an annual basis are approached and requested to list the good and bad things about their lives. This is done by the organisation as a way of generating memoranda of children to create action points for the organisation and a guide for policy makers and other child programs implementers.

The organisation is pilling up the first children's memoranda from the data collected since 2007 and will be released in 2011.
Children's Dialogue
Many African cultures do not give children dialogue to participate in decision making of any kind because of traditions. The CAC has given dialogue to children to discuss and participate in creating a favorable environment for other children in Uganda. The EFI children have constantly participated in recruitment of new entries of needy children at the organisation as a way of creating a closer relationship to share experience and looking out for each other. Our child beneficiaries handled by the chairperson are very active in decision making on matter concerning children and their strong collective voice is always considered. In the recent children’s dialogue held in August, EFI Children were brought together with local councils leaders and the Members of Parliament who managed attending and matters discussed were of great importance to every participant, we noticed that some of the discussed issues were not known to the representatives.

Programming
This concerns children with in families and the general public in general. It is even much more effective if children add a voice to the programs they benefit from because then its easier to know what they want so that the implementing body understand the reasons behind such wish and how to make them effective. Government is crippled in reacting to children memoranda because until recently, it had not started involving children in programming for child interventions and even now the procedure is still insufficient.

The Community Groups
The Community cells
The cells comprise of people with similar challenges, they are not limited to numbers although they elect representatives on the EFI Board. The Campaign has seen more than 20 groups created, these groups vary on activity and have a role to play towards a particular challenge with in their group. The organisation registers these groups and their members and equips them with necessary material to help them react to their challenges, they encourage experience sharing and community participation.

The Community watch Groups
The watch groups are different from the cells. These watch groups are created to react to problems with in a particular community although they don’t have to be involved in the situation i.e. community members can form a Child trafficking watch group to react to the trafficking of children in a particular area. These groups are linked with the Family and Child Protection Unit of the Uganda police and have a direct contact person with in the Unit.
Parenthood
Achieving the objectives of the campaign parents are considered to play a big role in the development of the child, they provide security and support to their children. The organisation distributes manuals, capacity building trainings and community participatory activities to enhance good parenthood in society as a strategy to reduce child neglect and abuse. Messages forwarded to community include PMTCT services, HIV/Aids support, Breastfeeding information.

Parents share their experience with community and the organisation boosts dialogue for child growth and development to support this cause. As much as this is one of the easiest and cheapest activity, the organisation requires a lot of equipment to provide information to the community and creating access to this information.

Dr. Eric and Margret during the Children Immunisation week
Parents discussed and shared experience on child growth and development
Photo By: Dr. Mukiibi

Government
Every government plans and includes children in their annual budget however most governments do not directly allocate funds for children programs. This campaign and its approach to role players aimed at assertion of government on the issue of planning and budgeting for children with consideration starting at village levels. The Chairperson has directly faced government and the outcomes of all such meetings has been fast effective.

Government has introduced discussion meetings at district levels to penetrate communities and discuss effective ways of planning and budgeting for children in Uganda at sub-county levels. This is one of the biggest achievements of the CAC 2010.

The Day of The African Child 2010
The Organisation through the advocacy campaign and the exposure of the chairperson had a chance to be apart of the committee of the Day of the African child. The organisation is the Secretariat for the publicity committee of the Day of the African Child 2010. Funds to support this activity were provided by the Chairperson.

The Policies
After the case studies carried out in the past two years the organisation is now meeting to discuss to propose the secondary education fund bill that it intends to forward to parliament through the minister for children and youth. This bill is under draft and will encourage supporting secondary school going children to be able to cope with challenging situations at school and at the same time be able to support themselves in school. Remember that only 17% of primary leaving pupils join secondary school due to lack of materials and relative problems.
The Child Advocacy Campaign Executive

The Administration

Dr. Eliezhah Titus
Chairperson

He chairs the organisation, and designed the CAC program. He has funded the CAC 2010 projects although he is requesting to seek funding for the remaining potion. He is the CAC Contact person

Mrs. Christine Nantale
Secretary General

She is the Secretary for the CAC. She also the head of Counseling at the Organisation and the Secretary General of the Organisation

Eng. Rehemah Nyanzi
Vice Chairperson

She Chairs the Participation committee that works with recruitment of participants in the CAC. She is the vice chairperson of the Organisation and women's Representative on Board. She supports CA

Mr. Gerhard Wallner
General Duties officer

He has supported the organisation since 2007. He is the General Duties officer for the Organisation, He is the PRO for CAC 2010

Other CAC colleagues
Mr. Drake Mutyaba - Community Coordinator
Dr. Joyce Bynes - Communications/Public relations
Dr. Magret Bakireke - Women/Children Counselor
Mrs. Diana Zavuga - Youth Cells Coordinator
Mr. Musa Kalungi - Schools youth Counselor
Dr. Jonathan Mukiibi - Head of research
Eng. James Kwelimba - Head Accountability and Finance
Ms. Kasha Kusasira - Volunteer (Child Advocacy Campaign 2010)
Dr. Mugerwa Michael - Volunteer ("Do")
Mr. Bugembe James - HIV/AIDS Cells representative
Mr. Kabanda Timothy - Community Watch Groups Coordinator
Ms. Katana Faith - Children Affairs
Mr. Martin Nkahama - Community affairs Jinja
Ms. Justine Bugembe - Wakiso Community Affairs
Dr. Patience Kabagambe - Welfare
**I.C.E Materials**

We have ICE materials to all registered organisation members, this material can be accessed in PDF formats of soft copies or a hard copy on request via email or the general telephone lines

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**Some of Our Publications**

- Child Labor in the Neighborhood. Dr. Titus Busonga 2009
- Parenthood and Synopsis counseling. EFI-Uganda 2008
- The Psychiatry of Motherhood. Dr. Eliezah Titus, Dr. Eric Mwangi 2010
- Responsible Parenthood: Eliezah Titus 2010
- Youth Development: A mindset of an African youth: Dr. Joyce Bynes
- A million Jobs for you: $25 each. Dr. Jonathan Mukiibi 2009
- Resources while they last. Dr. Eliezah Titus 2010
- Child Mental Health Development. Dr. Eliezah Titus, Dr. Eric Mwangi

Any inquiries about this issue of report 2010 please write an email to Productions@eliezahfoundation.4t.com

Or call our general lines