



KAKENYA CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE • HEALTH AND LEADERSHIP CAMPS • ENKISOMA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Interim Report
Kakenya Center for Excellence
November 30, 2014

1. General Information:

Organization Name: Kakenya Center for Excellence
Program Title: Health and Leadership Training Program
Grant Amount: \$45,000 (\$54,036 with additional funds)
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2. Program Recap:

The Health and Leadership Training program has been in operation since 2011. Until this year, the program was limited to two week-long trainings per year held at KCE's boarding school campus in the village of Enoosaen. At these "camps", we host girls from schools around the Keyian Division for a series of training sessions on health related information and leadership skills, as well as fun, confidence-building activities. The program's goals are fourfold:

- To increase girls' knowledge about health and leadership-related skills, Kenya's laws addressing the rights of children, and the harmful practices of FGM and early marriage;
- To open horizons for girls in the community by introducing them to learning and providing them with access to the fun and inspiring educational resources available through KCE;
- To foster long-term mentorship relationships between KCE students and girls in the community;
- To empower and motivate young girls throughout all participating communities to achieve their full potential.

As a way to increase our impact and reach even more girls with crucial information about their bodies, rights, and potential, we expanded the program through DFW's support in 2014 to include monthly two-day weekend trainings at schools around the region. Our goal was to reach 1,500 students annually through this scale-up plan, leading to decreased incidences of FGM and early marriage in the district.

3. Funding:

Funding for the program has not changed significantly. We have not secured any additional funding for the 2015 academic year for running the Health & Leadership program. Our fundraising has recently been focused on our Network for Excellence program, which supports graduated KCE boarding school students throughout their high school experiences, and on our boarding school program, which now has 170 students in grades 4-8.



4. Organizational Changes:

In July, we hired a Kenya Executive Director. Hillary Omala came to us from his former position as Executive Director of Carolina for Kibera. He has been closely involved with the scale-up process for the Health and Leadership Training program and brings a wealth of expertise in youth-focused programming. We also hired a program manager to oversee the Health and Leadership Training program. Her name is Wilkista Akinyi, and she is a recent graduate of the University of Nairobi and is now based full time in Ensoo. Otherwise, there are no notable differences between the program situation presented in the proposal and the current program situation.

5. Challenges:

We have faced the anticipated challenges of working in an extremely remote area that lacks infrastructure for easy transportation and communication. Programmed trainings have been delayed by weather conditions and subsequent transportation challenges, poor communication has resulted in more or less participants than expected for weekend trainings, and logistical challenges have occasionally resulted in struggles to provide timely meals and clean water for the participants. We have used each of the weekend trainings as an opportunity to learn and apply new strategies to the following training.

While we expected to encounter the challenges above, we did not expect that our goal of holding a weekend training every month would present a challenge, as well. Though we planned to conduct trainings once a month beginning in June, we were unable to carry out weekend sessions in July or September. During these months, we found our staff overwhelmed with other programmatic tasks, including field trips for our boarding school students and planning for other events on our campus. As we become more adept at planning and executing these trainings, we expect that the preparation will require less time and resources and that we will be able to successfully carry out weekend trainings each month in 2015.

Finally, we have faced challenges in beginning the process of creating the Health and Leadership Curriculum Handbook. With so many programmatic efforts required to get the weekend trainings up and running, less attention has been dedicated to codifying the curriculum. However, this is a top priority going into 2015.

6. Revision of Objectives:

Our objectives have largely remained the same, with one notable adjustment. As a result of community and school feedback, we decided to add a day of training for boys to our weekend sessions. The boys attend the first day of the training and are instructed in a separate space while the girls go through the usual training materials. We believe that including the boys is a key strategy for effective and lasting social change in attitudes toward girls' education and rights. Our target annual outreach number has increased from 1,500 to 2,000 students per year as a result of this change, reflecting the inclusion of boys in the weekend trainings.



7. Progress Toward Objectives:

Objective	Progress to Date
<p>1. Plan and implement two week-long Health and Leadership Training camps at KCE boarding school for KCE 6-7th graders and girls from up to 40 schools in the surrounding region.</p>	<p>The week-long camps are held in April and November or December. The first to take place during this grant cycle is currently in progress. The camp began November 22nd and continues until November 28th. There are 140 girls in attendance from 32 schools throughout the Keyian Division. Our Enosoen-based staff has worked hard to ensure that the camp runs smoothly, that training sessions are well-planned and engaging, and that all girls are provided with meals, supplies, and special completion certificates & t-shirts.</p>
<p>2. Scale up the Health and Leadership program to include weekend trainings at select schools around the region.</p>	<p>In June, we organized our first Health and Leadership Weekend Training. We held weekend trainings in August and October, as well. As noted above, we were unable to organize trainings in July and September due to other programs taking place at KCE and other schools. The trainings have been well-attended and very well received by participants and school staff. The program is in high demand throughout the region. To date, in the three weekend trainings, we have reached 835 students. This is an average of 278 students per training, which puts us on target to reach well over 2,000 students annually.</p>
<p>3. Create KCE Health and Leadership Curriculum Handbook to make the model accessible for other schools and organizations in other regions.</p>	<p>This objective is still in the early stages. As we move into 2015, this is a top priority for KCE program staff and executive leadership. With very high demand for the trainings, we feel more strongly than ever that the complete manual will be widely used and adopted in new locations. We are currently developing a strategy, designating responsibilities, and preparing an achievable timeline for completing the handbook.</p>

8. Anticipated Difficulties with Timeframe:

We do not anticipate any difficulties in completing the project within the proposed timeframe, aside from the delayed start to development of the Health and Leadership Curriculum Handbook. The academic year is now over for 2014, and schools will reopen in early January for a new school year. At that time, we will relaunch the weekend trainings and will begin planning for our weeklong April camp.



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KCE remains deeply grateful to the Dining for Women membership and donors for believing in our mission to forever alter the lives of disadvantaged girls in rural Kenya. Our Health and Leadership Training program, which DFW has so generously supported during this grant cycle, is making a significant difference in the communities around our boarding school. We want to share a few quotes with you from students who have participated in both the week-long and weekend trainings:

- *"I have gained very important knowledge that I will never forget in my life."*
- *"I think we should have this training every weekend. You have taught us things we didn't know. I have now refused FGM! We thank you for educating us."*
- *"We learned more about FGM and we will go and tell our friends back at home."*

This program is changing lives by providing girls with critical information that they need to understand their rights and to avoid harmful cultural practices. The impact is not limited to the girls who attend the trainings. Girls are sharing this information with others, telling friends, family, and other classmates about what they have learned. They leave feeling more empowered, and this is the key to creating a generation of women who are confident that they can become leaders in their community.