



USAID 4TheChild



Quarterly Newsletter
Issue 7: January - March 2023

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MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERS



Prof. Robert Tenge
Principal, MUCHS

I take this opportunity to welcome you to the 7th edition of the USAID 4TheChild newsletter!

Moi University continues to appreciate the partnership with USAID/Kenya and East Africa in the implementation of USAID 4TheChild supporting adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) in Kisumu County and orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) and their families in Bungoma, Busia, Kakamega, Kisumu, and Siaya counties. As USAID implementing partner, Moi University College of Health Sciences (MUCHS) is fully committed to strengthening this partnership for the benefit of the beneficiaries and communities that we serve.

We are excited to share with you that USAID 4TheChild continues to nurture collaborations with the respective county governments in the five counties, emphasizing the crucial role of county leadership in coordinating the implementation and monitoring of the program.

MUCHS recognizes that successful delivery of the program requires collaboration with not only other United States Government (USG)-supported mechanisms but also with private sector entities. We appreciate the partners who have yielded to our call to assist us increase access to health and social services for our beneficiaries.

In line with the design of the USAID 4TheChild program, MUCHS continues to support co-implementation and co-monitoring efforts with the county governments through the establishment of the County Program Delivery Committee (CPDC) in each of the five counties.



Kenneth Otieno
Acting Chief of Party, USAID 4TheChild

We are glad to share the program achievements during the January-March 2023 performance period. In this edition, USAID 4TheChild shares exciting highlights of key performance, success stories from our implementation experience, and some of the major activities planned for the subsequent quarter. USAID 4TheChild enrolled 5,912 new adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) in the DREAMS project. The program provided primary package of evidence-based interventions to 7,208 AGYW and reached 113,127 orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) with health and social services based on need.

I note that the implementation of the USAID 4TheChild program continues to benefit from strategic partnerships and collaborations with public and private sector actors. On behalf of the Program Management Team (PMT), I want to express our appreciation to the eight sub-recipient organizations for their continued commitment and support in the implementation of the program. I appreciate the continued support from the various national and county government departments that collaborate with us. The program recognizes the leveraged support from other USG-funded mechanisms and non-USG-funded programs within our catchment area. As we progress through this financial year, our primary focus remains on strengthening our collaborations and partnerships to ensure increased access to high-quality health and social services for our beneficiaries.

I urge our stakeholders to continue pulling resources together to protect, invest in, and improve the health and education of the children we serve.

**Tuungane
Tulinde
Tuwekeze
Tuboreshe
Afya na Elimu ya
Mtoto**

About Us

Name	Acronym
TUUNGANE TULINDE TUWEKEZE TUBORESHE AFYA NA ELIMU YA MTOTO	4TheChild
What the name means	
TUUNGANE	<i>Pooling resources together for the benefit of vulnerable children and their families.</i>
TULINDE	<i>Protecting the welfare of the vulnerable children</i>
TUWEKEZE	<i>Invest in children and systems strengthening for sustainability</i>
TUBORESHE	<i>Improving access to quality services for vulnerable children and the families</i>
AFYA NA ELIMU YA MTOTO	<i>Health and education of the Child</i>

4TheChild Program

USAID 4TheChild is a five-year (2021-2026) PEPFAR-funded program, through USAID/Kenya and East Africa, that is implemented by Moi University College of Health Sciences (MUCHS) in a consortium with Make Me Smile - Kenya (MMS-K). MUCHS implements the program through the Academic Model Providing Access To Healthcare (AMPATH).

USAID 4TheChild's Mission

Goal

To increase use of quality county-led health and social services in Bungoma, Busia, Kakamega, Kisumu, and Siaya counties

Objective 1 DREAMS

To increase access and demand to quality HIV prevention services for adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) in Kisumu County

Objective 2 OVC Support

To increase access to quality health and social services for orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) and their families in Bungoma, Busia, Kakamega, Kisumu, and Siaya counties

Objective 3 COVID-19 Mitigation

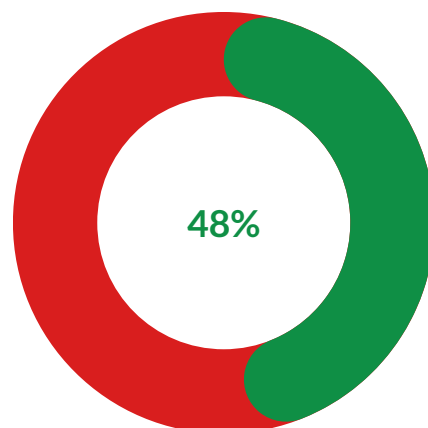
To create demand and accelerate widespread and equitable access to and delivery of safe and effective COVID-19 vaccination in Kakamega, Kisumu, and Siaya counties

PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

DREAMS (January - March 2023)

AGYW_PREV

A total of 7,208 adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) received the primary package of evidence-based services/ interventions in line with the Kenya DREAMS Layering Table – i.e., 48% of active AGYW (14,870).



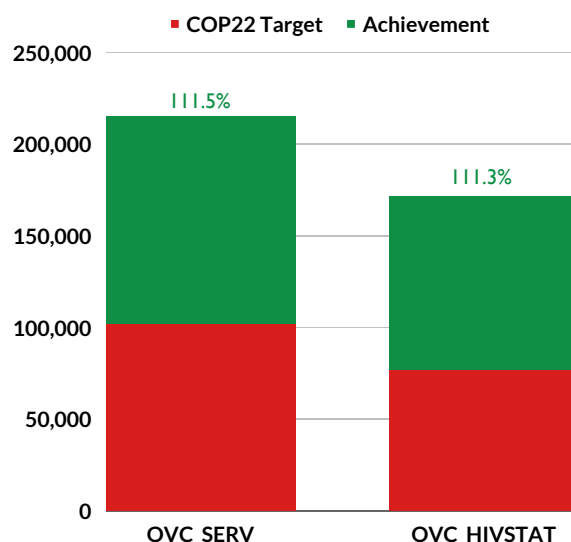
OVC Support (January - March 2023)

OVC_SERV

USAID 4TheChild served 113,127 (50,577m; 62,550f) orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) – i.e., 111% of the year's target of 101,469.

OVC_HIVSTAT

USAID 4TheChild served 84,769 orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) below 18 years with HIV status reported to the project – i.e., 111% of the year's target of 76,182.



COVID-19 Mitigation Support (January - March 2023)

Demand Creation (Kakamega, Kisumu, and Siaya Counties)

Platform	Radio & TV	Social Media	SMS and Calls	IECs	Other Platforms
Number of People Reached	1,671,640	263,244	358	8,370	66,028

Service Delivery (Kisumu County)

Vaccine/ Doses	1st Doses	2nd Doses + J&J	Booster Doses	Total
Number of People Vaccinated	13,060	36,921	29,535	79,516

ACTIVITY PROGRESS

1.0 DREAMS Interventions



USAID 4TheChild beneficiaries join MMS-K Director, Simon Peter, in a momentous education subsidy handover event in Kisumu County

USAID 4TheChild Empowers 5,095 AGYW through Education Subsidies

USAID 4TheChild made a significant impact by granting education subsidies to 5,095 AGYW. The initiative covered school fees for 743 girls, provided scholastic materials to 44, supplied uniforms to 646, and distributed dignity packs to 4,168 AGYW. Also, the program supported 28 AGYW who had previously dropped out as well as 27 teen mothers in returning to school. USAID 4TheChild, by addressing limited educational access for AGYW, aims to combat socioeconomic disadvantages, reduce AGYW's vulnerability to exploitation, prevent early marriages, and deter engagement in transactional sex. These efforts are crucial in lowering the AGYW's risk of contracting HIV.



USAID 4TheChild Kolwa East Ward Coordinator, a former DREAMS beneficiary, presenting a poster at the USAID AYP Best Practice Symposium in 2023

USAID 4TheChild DREAMS Team Shines at the 2023 USAID Adolescents and Young People Best Practice Symposium in Eldoret

The USAID 4TheChild DREAMS team, including a former DREAMS girl, made a significant impact at the 2023 USAID Adolescents and Young People (AYP) Best Practice Symposium in Eldoret, Uasin-Gishu County, Kenya. With the theme "Building Resilience through Collaboration," this three-day forum brought together over 180 attendees to review the performance of USAID implementing partners' AYP programs and share best practices in HIV prevention, family health, and treatment integration. During the event, the DREAMS team showcased their achievements through a poster presentation. Their program successfully utilized a multi-sectoral approach and actively engaged AGYW in identifying and supporting survivors of gender-based violence (GBV). This approach significantly improved the efficiency of the project's GBV response chain, highlighting the team's dedication and success in tackling the critical issue of GBV among AGYW.

ACTIVITY PROGRESS



USAID 4TheChild DREAMS staff and beneficiaries participate in a procession commemorating International Women's Day 2023 at Mama Grace Onyango Social Center in Kisumu City

USAID 4TheChild Celebrates International Women's Day 2023 in Kisumu

USAID 4TheChild joined the world in celebrating International Women's Day 2023 at Mama Grace Onyango Social Center in Kisumu City. With the theme "DigitALL: Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality," the event aimed to explore the impact of the digital gender gap on widening economic and social inequalities. The day also highlighted the crucial need to safeguard the rights of women and girls in digital spaces and address issues of online and ICT-facilitated gender-based violence. Kenneth Otieno, the program Acting Chief of Party, took the stage to honour and celebrate the women and girls of USAID 4TheChild who are at the forefront of championing transformative technology and digital education for AGYW. Their efforts are centred around the *Future Hub*, an ICT centre located within *Angola Integrated DREAMS Hub* that equips young people with essential ICT skills, enhancing their access to information and enabling them meet demands of the job market.

USAID 4TheChild Participates in Kisumu County 2019 SGBV Policy Summit

USAID 4TheChild actively participated in the Kisumu County 2019 SGBV Policy Summit, which aimed to review the county's policy framework and identify strategies for enhancing the policy implementation. The policy focuses on addressing incidents of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) within the county, while promoting gender equality through the establishment of protective systems that prevent and respond to these violations effectively. It draws inspiration from national, regional, and international laws subscribed to by Kenya, and was developed in response to a widespread prevalence of SGBV violations. During the summit, Kenneth Otieno, the Acting Chief of Party, played a key role in a panel discussion that sought to identify new strategies for SGBV prevention and response. The event also served as a platform to foster partnerships and collaborations to further enhance the interventions/efforts against SGBV.



USAID 4TheChild Acting Chief of Party, Kenneth Otieno, participating in a panel discussion on the prevention and response to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) during the Kisumu County 2019 SGBV Policy Summit

ACTIVITY PROGRESS

2.0 OVC Support



Teams from USAID 4TheChild and the Bungoma Deputy Governor's office, led by Deputy Governor Janepher Mbatiany, during a courtesy call to enhance collaboration to improve livelihoods of OVC households



Members of the Bungoma CPDC gather for a sensitization meeting focused on their roles and mandate in ensuring the delivery of high-quality health and social services to OVC and their families

USAID 4TheChild Collaborates with Bungoma County Government to Enhance Livelihoods of OVC Households

Led by the Acting Chief of Party, Kenneth Otieno, USAID 4TheChild engaged Janepher Mbatiany, the Bungoma Deputy Governor who also serves as the head of Partnership, Investment, and Resource Mobilization in the County. The discussions of the day focused on strengthening collaboration between the OVC program and the county government. The aim was to enhance the livelihoods of OVC and their families. Besides, the meeting emphasized the importance of county leadership in coordinating public and private sector entities to contribute resources towards improving access to health and social services for OVC in Bungoma County.

USAID 4TheChild Strengthens Bungoma CPDC's Capacity for OVC Support

USAID 4TheChild organized a comprehensive two-day sensitization session for the Bungoma County Program Delivery Committee (CPDC) to ensure the provision of high-quality health and social services to OVC and their families. The session oriented the CPDC members to the OVC case management process and emphasized the importance of active stakeholder engagement to optimize services for OVC support. During the session, the CPDC identified three priority thematic areas for the year ahead. These include enhancing viral load uptake and expediting viral load suppression, facilitating the acquisition of birth certificates for OVC, and fostering stronger partnerships between the public and private sectors to enhance OVC support. By undertaking these initiatives, USAID 4TheChild aims to bolster the Bungoma CPDC's capabilities in effectively spearheading interventions for OVC support, ultimately leading to improved outcomes for vulnerable children in the county.

ACTIVITY PROGRESS



A group of private sector players from Kakamega County convenes for a meeting with USAID 4TheChild to mobilize support for the OVC program

USAID 4TheChild Partners with Private Sector Players to Support OVC

In collaboration with Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) - Bungoma and Kakamega chapters, USAID 4TheChild organized meetings with members of the private sector in Bungoma and Kakamega counties. The aim was to mobilize private funding and investments for the OVC program, while also expanding markets and increasing income and job opportunities for the program's target subpopulations. During the meetings, the private sector players expressed their willingness to support the OVC program. Their commitments included sensitizing the business community about the program, its interventions, and potential collaboration areas. They also pledged to build the capacity of OVC caregivers and connect them with business opportunities and support. Furthermore, the private sector players agreed to facilitate a platform for business start-ups by OVC and their households. Additionally, they expressed their commitment to support vulnerable households through cash and in-kind contributions.



A section of leaders from the Kakamega County Department of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, and Co-operatives gathers for a meeting with USAID 4TheChild representatives to explore joint initiatives and strategies to enhance the economic well-being and resilience of OVC households in Kakamega County

USAID 4TheChild Engages Kakamega County Government to Enhance OVC Household Support

USAID 4TheChild conducted a consultative meeting with the leadership of Kakamega County Department of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, and Co-operatives to explore opportunities for collaboration to enhance food and nutrition security for OVC households. The program highlighted resource gaps in addressing the needs of 12,559 OVC across the county and sought to establish how best it could work alongside the county department to improve the livelihoods of OVC households. The county leaders committed to providing food production support to OVC households. They also agreed to partner with the OVC program to train ward agricultural officers on modern climate-smart agriculture production technologies, which would then be shared with OVC households. The program will share a list of beneficiaries with the county government to be prioritized for available services.

ACTIVITY PROGRESS



USAID 4TheChild Acting Chief of Party, Kenneth Otieno, shares insights, updates, and valuable resources to empower and assist OVC caregivers in their crucial role of caring for vulnerable children during a SILC group meeting in Busia County

OVC Caregivers' Group Integrates a Health Component to Promote Group Members' Adherence to HIV Medication

In Busia County, a Savings and Internal Lending Communities (SILC) Group has integrated a health component to support its members in adhering to HIV medication. The group has 26 caregivers of OVC enrolled in USAID 4TheChild. In addition to their savings and loan activities, the group has membership from healthcare workers who provide health education and psychosocial support during group meetings. Remarkably, the group meetings are scheduled to coincide with the members' clinical appointment dates, thus ensuring that they fulfill their "to-come-again" (TCA). This approach demonstrates a holistic effort by the group to enhance the well-being and treatment outcomes of its members.

"While HIV-related stigma was a challenge in the past, the interactions with healthcare workers within the group have significantly addressed this issue and improved adherence to HIV treatment among group members," said the chairperson.

18 Boys in Bunyala Graduate to Combat Relationship Abuse, Harassment, and Sexual Assault in their Communities

18 boys from Bunyala Sub-County, Busia County, successfully completed a 12-week session on Coaching Boys into Men (CBiM) program – an evidence-based violence prevention program that trains and motivates football coaches to teach their young male athletes in healthy relationship skills, mental health practices, and that violence never equals strength. The boys were guided on topics such as respect, managing aggression, gender-based violence, positive behaviour, and relationships. In the same context, Busia County has 24 trained CBiM coaches who have supported 385 boys to complete sessions while 326 are currently in session. USAID 4TheChild has noted that the boys undertaking these sessions exude behaviour change and influence their peers and family to change their attitudes on gender inequality and intimate partner violence and improve responses to women experiencing violence.



Adolescent boys posing for a team photo during a 12-week session on Coaching Boys into Men program at Budebu Primary School in Bunyala South Sub-County, Busia County

ACTIVITY PROGRESS



From Left: Jemin K'Onyango, the County Children Coordinator for Siaya, Benard Oguna, the Managing Director for GZA, and Kenneth Otieno, the Acting Chief of Party for USAID 4TheChild, during a courtesy call on the Directorate of Children Services to assess the progress of OVC interventions in Siaya County

USAID 4TheChild Engages DCS, Siaya, to Enhance OVC Program Interventions and Service Delivery

USAID 4TheChild engaged with the Directorate of Children Services (DCS) office in Siaya County to assess the progress of program interventions benefiting over 17,000 OVC and their families in Siaya. The meeting aimed to ensure continuous improvement in service delivery for beneficiaries through strengthened collaboration with DCS. The presence of Maida Nyawade, the Director for Youth Affairs, Gender, and Social Services, and Zilper Imbuye, the Coordinator for OVC Services, highlighted the commitment and support of key stakeholders in prioritizing the welfare of OVC in Siaya. The program delivered a laptop to Jemin K'Onyango, the County Children Coordinator, to facilitate efficient service delivery and enhance support for the OVC.

USAID 4TheChild Joins Hands with DCS to Strengthening the Implementation of the Children Act of 2022

USAID 4TheChild partnered with the Directorate of Children Services (DCS) to enhance the understanding and implementation of the Children Act, 2022, by staff and partners in Busia, Bungoma, Kakamega, Kisumu, and Siaya counties. Mr. Humphrey Wandeo, Nyanza Region Director for Children Services, held a sensitization session and provided valuable insights into the Act. He informed participants that the Children Act No. 29 of 2022 aims to fully realize constitutional provisions concerning children. It prioritizes the child's best interest as the primary consideration in all decisions related to their well-being. The Act includes provisions for the protection and care of children, with a focus on promoting family-based care over institutionalization. It aligns children's rights and matters with internationally ratified instruments and best practice guidelines. Additionally, the Act introduces new childcare concepts, establishes new institutions, and seeks to minimize unnecessary involvement of children in the penal system. Recognizing the impact of technology and emerging issues, such as radicalization, the Act also aims to safeguard children from potential harm.



THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA

LAWS OF KENYA

THE CHILDREN ACT

NO. 29 OF 2022

ACTIVITY PROGRESS

3.0 COVID-19 Mitigation



USAID 4TheChild Hands Over 34 Tablets to Support Entry of Backlog in the COVID-19 Vaccination Drive in Kakamega, Kisumu, and Siaya Counties

USAID 4TheChild delivered 34 tablets complete with power banks to the county governments of Siaya, Kisumu, and Kakamega to support efforts in real-time COVID-19 vaccination data entry in the M-Chanjo platform. In Siaya, the program visited the Department of Health and Sanitation, and delivered 8 tablets to Dr. Martin K'Onyango, the County Executive Committee Member for the Department of Health Services, flanked by Dr. Samuel Omondi Owino, the Chief Officer for Health, Ambrose Nyangeri, the County AIDS and STI Coordinator, and Dr. Eunice Fwaya, the Director of Medical and Biomedical Services at the County Government of Siaya. In Kisumu, the program delivered 15 tablets during a meeting with Dr. Ojwang' Lusi, the Chief Officer for the County Department of Medical Services, Public Health, and Sanitation and the County Health Management Team (CHMT). In Kakamega, the program handed over 11 tablets to Dr. Terry Kamau, the head of Programmes, flanked by the County Expanded Programme on Immunization Lead (CEPIL) and County Health Records Information Officer (CHRIO). The gadgets were earmarked for distribution to health facilities.



USAID 4TheChild engages Sigalagala National Polytechnic on COVID-19 Vaccination Initiatives

USAID 4TheChild engaged Sigalagala National Polytechnic to explore opportunities for reaching the school fraternity with COVID-19 vaccination demand creation activities. The team also met a few students to get first-hand information on the COVID-19 threat. A meeting with Lucy Olang'o, the Guidance and Counselling Officer (also in charge of HIV prevention) agreed to integrate COVID-19 mitigation activities with HIV awareness interventions targeted at students, in partnership with care and treatment partners and the County Department of Health (CDoH).



USAID 4TheChild team engaging students from Sigalagala National Polytechnic on the COVID-19 pandemic threat in the school and demand for vaccination

SELECT SUCCESS STORIES

USAID 4TheChild Supports Sibling Orphans and Vulnerable Children to Reclaim their Paternal Land In Kakamega County



Caroli (13 years old) and Tesina (12 years old) lost their father in 2016 and their mother in 2019. The orphaned siblings have since lived under the care of their over 70-year-old maternal grandmother.

In December 2019, Emukaba Health Facility discovered that the OVC were missing clinic appointments, which prompted the facility to visit their home to find out their whereabouts. The visit revealed that the children lived with their grandmother who was not keen on ensuring that her grandchildren honoured their clinic dates. In the best interest of the children, the team that visited the children – comprising a representative from the Ministry of Health, a police officer from the child protection unit, and an OVC social worker – agreed with the caregiver to place them at a children’s home temporarily while looking for an alternative caregiver. The team traced their paternal relatives and an uncle to the children agreed to take care of them.

The visit also revealed that the OVC’s late father had an allotment of two acres of land but upon his demise, his relatives, while dumping the children at their mother’s home, sold 1½ acres of the land. CABDA, a registered non-profit making organization that implements OVC support programs in Kakamega County, which had enrolled the two OVC in their program swore to repossess the land for the children. USAID 4TheChild, upon inception in 2021, brought in CABDA as a local implementing partner for OVC support in Kakamega County. CABDA then introduced the PEPFAR/USAID-supported project to the land case involving the OVC.

USAID 4TheChild then began supporting the police officer from the child protection unit, the assistant county commissioner (ACC 1), and the area’s chief in their discussions and interventions to reclaim the land. The case was reported to the police and proceeded to the courts, which advised for an alternative dispute resolution (ADR) on the matter. Later, a meeting, held between the two buyers of the piece of land and OVC relatives, resolved that the buyers relinquish a portion of what they had bought to the children and revoked the title deeds issued to the buyers. USAID 4TheChild then supported the payment of legal and administrative fees to facilitate the processing of a title deed under the name of the children (as minors) as provided for in the Succession Act of 2021.

On 23rd March, USAID 4TheChild, in collaboration with the National Government Administrative Officers (NGAO), Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Education, conducted a community sensitization in to sensitize the community members and leaders on caring for and protecting orphans and vulnerable children in the area. NGAO, during the community forum, enlightened the participants on succession and inheritance, as governed by the Law of Succession Act (Cap 160) and the 2010 Constitution of Kenya. To crown the day, Caroli and Tesina’s case was highlighted for the community to learn from and a draw a warning to deter similar cases from the community.

Caroli and Tesina were handed their title deed while their uncle was officially mandated to be the custodian of the land until they come of age – when their names will be inscribed in the title deed.

“I urge this community to join the project in taking care of OVC,” Kenneth Otieno, the USAID 4TheChild Acting Chief of Party, informed the participants. “USAID 4TheChild is anchored on partnerships with the community and other stakeholders for the betterment of the child.”

“We urge you to reach any government office near you to report such cases where people exploit the vulnerable,” Isaac Lusweti, the ACC 1, said. “Let it be known that no child will be denied a title deed because they are minors.”

SELECT SUCCESS STORIES

A Former DREAMS Girl Forms a Youth Group to Sensitize and Mentor Girls to Curb Gender-Based Violence, HIV/AIDS, and Teenage Pregnancies



In the heart of Kisumu, Kenya, lives a girl named Yvonne Ogolla who has always had a passion for helping her community. Yvonne grew up in Nyalenda B – one of the eight informal settlements in Kisumu City – where poverty, lack of education, and teenage pregnancy are prevalent, and she had seen first-hand how these issues affected her peers. Despite facing similar challenges, Yvonne was determined to reach her full potential, and enrolled in DREAMS in 2016 for a chance.

During her time in the DREAMS program, Yvonne benefitted from a comprehensive, multi-sectoral package of core interventions meant to address key factors that make girls and young women particularly vulnerable to HIV. With 23 other girls, she received training in financial literacy, empowering her to develop a habit of saving. She also trained on entrepreneurship skills besides being supported to pursue a course in social work and community development.

Upon graduating from the DREAMS in 2017, Yvonne volunteered in the program and worked as a facilitator for financial capability training (FCT) for AGYW. The DREAMS graduate knew that she wanted to make a difference in the lives of other young girls like herself, and so she decided to form a youth group with her 23 peers. The group began meeting at Nyalenda Health Centre every Friday to maintain the savings and loaning practices that they learned in DREAMS, contributing KES. 100 per week. They also discussed strategies to empower other girls and create awareness about the challenges faced by their peers living in Nyalenda slums.

"We chose the name 'Dream Girls Youth Group' which aptly describes our history and mission to empower girls and encourage them to become determined, resilient, mentored, AIDS-free, and safe women.

The group works to empower and safeguard members from gender-based violence (GBV) by offering loans for starting or enhancing their businesses. The group also guides members towards scholarship opportunities at vocational institutions, enabling those who are not keen on entrepreneurship to acquire valuable skills that can boost their employability. Besides, the group engages in community outreach activities in the slums to raise awareness on sexual reproductive health; educate girls on assorted topics, such as menstrual hygiene, HIV prevention, family planning, contraceptives, and GBV; and provide referrals and linkages to facilities that offer services on reproductive health.

In 2022, the group received its first donation-funded project. After recommendation from USAID 4TheChild, Dream Girls Youth Group secured USD 5,000 to run a six-month campaign to end teenage pregnancies and new HIV infections among fisherfolks in Dunga Beach in Kisumu County. The campaign impacted 1,000 AGYW and 600 DREAMS girls directly, providing them with comprehensive, age-appropriate sexuality education in safe spaces as well as training on entrepreneurship and financial capability. The girls also organized community dialogues to reach 1,600 stakeholders and advocate for ending GBV, particularly sexual violence among girls and promoting sexual reproductive health and rights.

Yvonne and her team recognized that they had accomplished something exceptional as their group expanded to include 35 members. They had established a society of young individuals who were enthusiastic about effecting change, and they were generating a tangible difference in their community.

"We are expanding as a group and will incorporate boys and young men as champions of the girl child," Yvonne said of DREAMS Girls Youth Group's expanded mission. "We will empower the boys on girls' issues so that they can help us advocate for a supportive environment for AGYW."

KEY EVENTS IN THE NEXT QUARTER

Next quarter, April to June 2023, USAID 4TheChild will:



DREAMS

- Accelerate AGYW layering to enhance demand and access to health services.
- Conduct beneficiary feedback forums.
- Cascade training on mental health and SASA!



OVC Support

- Train case workers on LIVES; to help identify SGBV cases and provide a first-line response to survivors.
- Participate in the launch of the Kakamega County Children Protection Policy.
- Finalize the development of county children protection policies in Busia and Kisumu counties.



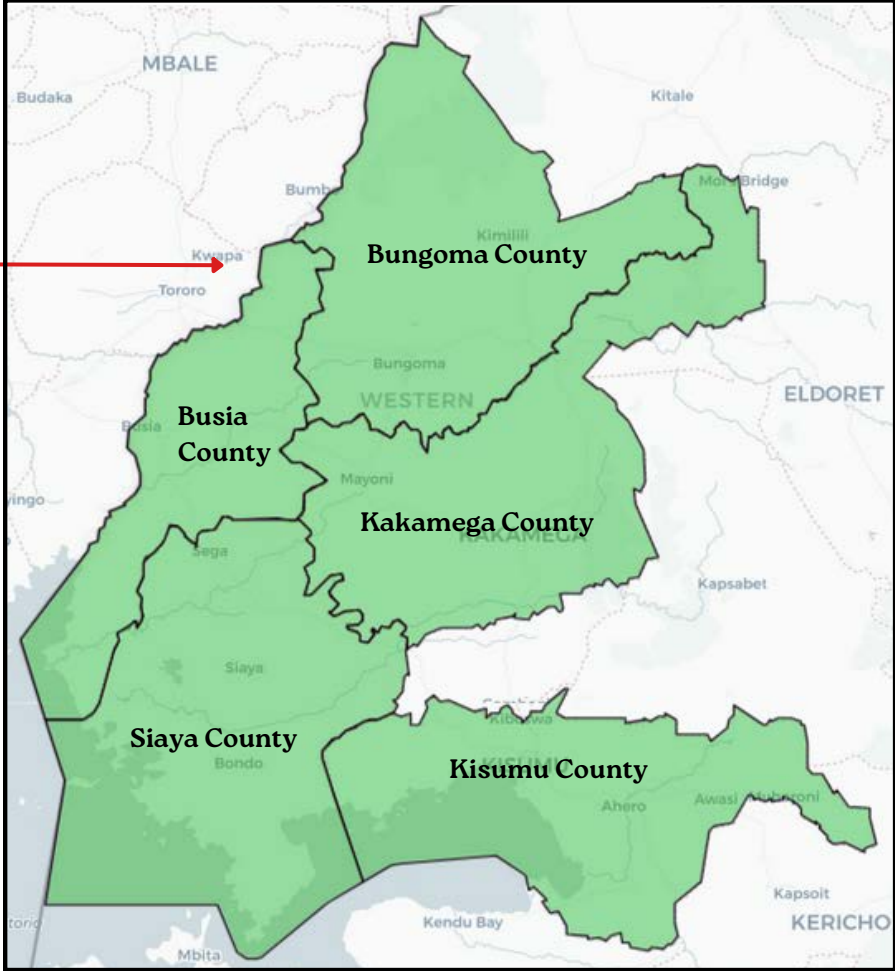
COVID-19 Mitigation

- Utilize digital platforms to create demand and mobilize people for COVID-19 vaccination.
- Facilitate risk communication messaging on COVID-19 through local mass media channels.
- Enhance community-wide risk communication outreaches on COVID-19 vaccination.

OVC and DREAMS stakeholders coming together to protect, invest in, and improve the health and education of the child with the generous support of the American People through the United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

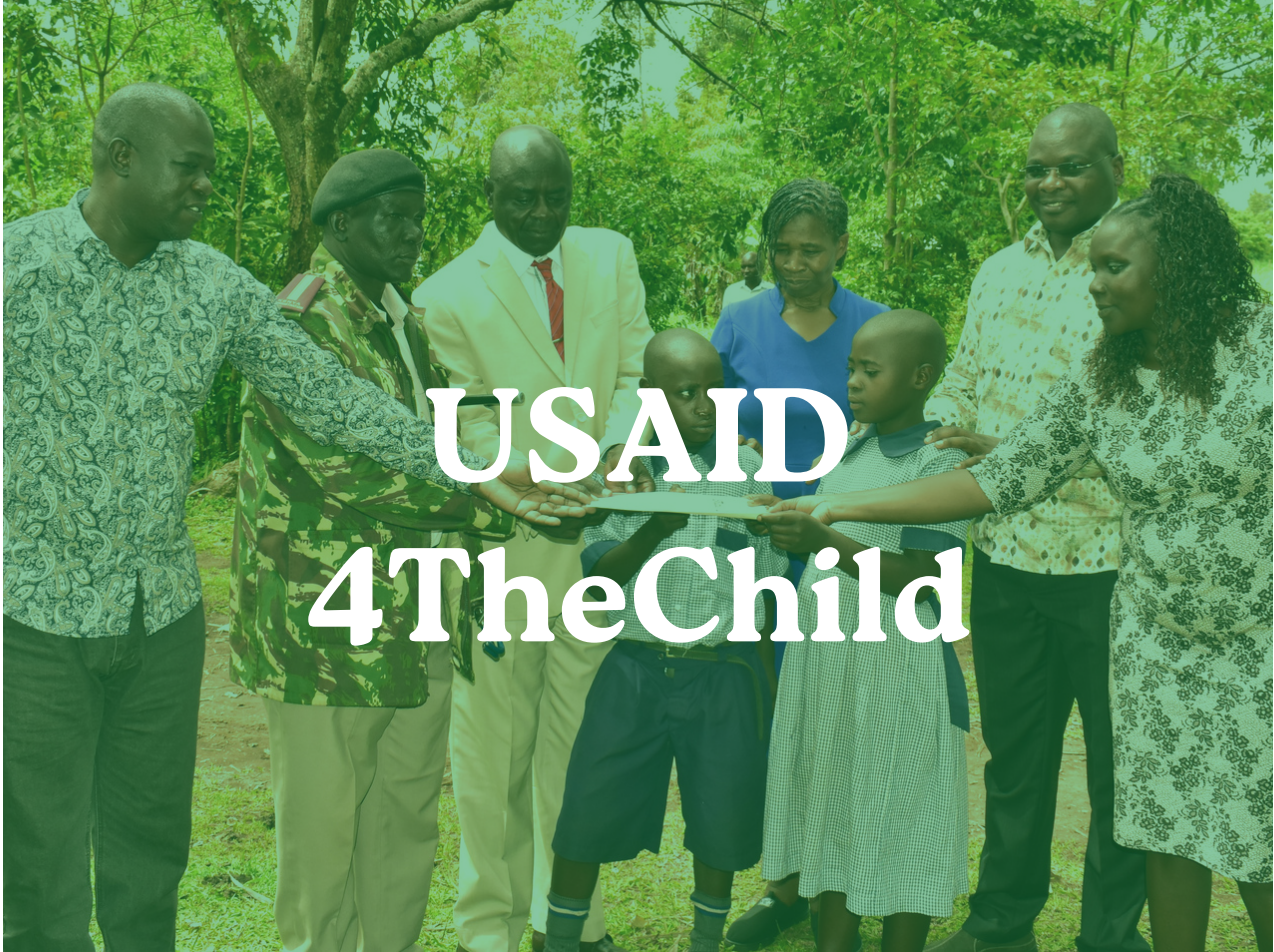
PROGRAM COVERAGE AND PARTNERS

Program Coverage



Key Partners





Tuongane Tulinde Tuwekeze Tuboreshe Afya na Elimu ya Mtoto

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