

SUMMARY

Kenya Big Dream successfully launched in the target communities of Baringo and West Pokot, gaining traction to reduce violence against children while operating in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The project pivoted its activities quickly as a result of the pandemic’s harmful secondary effects on child protection. This included adding new activities, such as raising mass awareness through radio. We reached 459,695 listeners through talk shows on two local FM stations. The shows emphasized protecting children from female genital mutilation (FGM), child marriage, child labor, and other forms of abuse. Although this activity was via indirect contact, the radio listenership surpassed the target for participants reached directly for the entire five-year project. Other activities:

- 45 faith leaders were trained on Celebrating Families, which emphasizes healthy relationships

and good parenting skills based on a biblical model of forgiveness, love, and compassion. Leaders also learned how to train their congregations.

- 430 children in three primary schools received life skills training from their teachers right before schools closed due to COVID.
- 900 vulnerable families took part in the project’s cash transfer program to mitigate the secondary effects of COVID-19, using this cash to boost their small businesses and meet food needs.
- 300 families identified by their communities each were supported with two goats to improve their herds’ breed and produce a reliable milk source.

Despite COVID’s harmful effects, the project pivoted quickly in its first year to reach the most vulnerable and mitigate FGM and early marriage.



“Now, I work so hard to change people’s mind in my community so they can save our children and girls from [FGM]. I also want to protect them from the anguish and pain that I feel when I remember the girls that I may have harmed unknowingly.”

—Paka, a former practitioner of FGM in Baringo County

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES



Trained 675 members of AACs, our key partners in child protection work, to provide community oversight on FGM, child marriage, and other child-rights violations.



Provided 7,600 girls with dignity kits, which include sanitary pads, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and other personal hygiene items, to protect them against receiving the same items in exchange for sex.



592 community members became members of 74 Savings for Transformation groups, saving money collectively to improve their economic situations and reduce the financial incentives of child marriage.

KEY LEARNINGS

Increasing community support of child protection—through in-person and radio messages by community members and faith leaders—is crucial in providing a safe environment, especially in the midst of a pandemic.

Kenya’s Department of Children Services (DCS) has been key in helping us train a child protection volunteer in each of the 20 wards in West Pokot County, where DCS is understaffed. We connected with volunteers virtually.

Effective community campaigns on COVID-19, child protection, and school enrollment came about through strengthened partnerships with Kenyan ministries of health and education, DCS, AACs, and others.

LIFE-OF-PROGRAM UPDATE



PLANS FOR THE NEXT SIX MONTHS

Our focus going forward includes designing and planning for the start of Phase 2 of the project in FY22. At the same time, we will continue our Phase 1 work, which includes training community members to champion and become mentors in Empowered Worldview, a faith-based approach to helping communities shift from a mindset of dependency to one of empowerment. We also will work on finalizing value-chain mapping and market assessments; engaging in government forums to promote services related to child protection and livelihoods; training project staff members and faith leaders on Channels of Hope, an approach to address child protection and gender issues; and training parents on Celebrating Families.

THANK YOU

With your support, we can dream big to help more children in Kenya escape FGM, early marriage, and other forms of abuse. Thank you for partnering with us to change attitudes and behaviors, while offering hope for a better future.



“Rael (above, receiving sanitary pads) is an excellent example of people living with a disability who, through contact with the project, have [been] supported in terms of empowering them to remain resilient and focused on making their lives better.”

—Moses Chepkonga
Program Manager
Kenya Big Dream

*This is a five-year project spanning FY20 through FY24.

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FINANCIALS

Program spending October 2019 through September 2020

Activity	FY20 Spending	FY20 Funding	Project-to-Date Spending	Project-to-Date Funding
Outcome 1: Girls and boys play an active role in influencing change among their peers, parents, and communities in ending FGM and child marriage.	\$ 156,306	\$ 199,395	\$ 156,306	\$ 199,395
Child-led education and active engagement enhanced to end FGM and child marriage	66,109	80,982	66,109	80,982
High-risk girls develop skills and resilience for positive asset development, including learning the importance of the healthy timing and spacing of pregnancy	17,914	27,436	17,914	27,436
Survivors and extremely high-risk girls access appropriate educational and vocational training opportunities	63,065	75,924	63,065	75,924
Barriers to education reduced for vulnerable girls	9,218	15,053	9,218	15,053
Outcome 2: Households are empowered to protect, nurture, and support girls and boys so they are free from all forms of abuse.	189,215	260,115	189,215	260,115
Capacity of community members enhanced to implement Empowered Worldview in the community	33,938	52,259	33,938	52,259
Targeted households (including those with extremely at-risk girls and women who no longer perform FGM) have completed livelihoods training and received productive assets	79,920	122,125	79,920	122,125
Households increase their savings and access to financial services through participation in Savings for Transformation	18,124	18,177	18,124	18,177
Parents/caregivers provide parenting support for their children at different development stages	57,233	67,554	57,233	67,554
Outcome 3: Communities provide a safe, protective environment in which girls and boys can thrive.	149,398	226,913	149,398	226,913
Community leads public awareness, education, and mobilization on ending child marriage and FGM	101,500	150,231	101,500	150,231
Faith communities actively engage in protecting children and transforming harmful behaviors, attitudes, and practices	45,220	73,845	45,220	73,845
Community-based reporting and referral mechanism promoted for combating FGM and child marriage	2,678	2,837	2,678	2,837
Outcome 4: Formal systems and structures are strengthened at national and subnational levels for child protection.	201,451	226,896	201,451	226,896
Child protection information management promoted at all levels to improve planning	-	-	-	-
Capacity of duty bearers strengthened to enforce laws and provide services that protect children through social accountability	41,334	43,909	41,334	43,909
External engagement and networking with government and non-state actors strengthened on ending child marriage and FGM	18,283	19,739	18,283	19,739
Monitoring, evaluation, accountability, and learning practices enhanced on ending child marriage and FGM	141,834	163,248	141,834	163,248
Subtotal	696,370	913,319	696,370	913,319
Management and Fundraising	232,123	304,440	232,123	304,440
Total	\$ 928,493	\$ 1,217,759	\$ 928,493	\$ 1,217,759