



# Zawadi Fund International



2016 Annual Report

[www.cyec.net](http://www.cyec.net)

## Background and Mission

In the autumn of 2006, a small group of dedicated volunteers established the Children and Youth Empowerment Centre, Nyeri, to fill specific gaps in the care and support of street-dwelling families in Kenya. The Centre is dynamic and innovative – much more than a children’s home. They started with eight girls, and over the past ten years, they have touched the lives of hundreds of highly vulnerable children and youth.

Zawadi Fund International (ZFI) was established in 2009 as a US-based non-profit corporation to support the CYEC and affiliated programs in Kenya. ‘Zawadi’ is the Swahili word for ‘gift’ and was selected to represent our desire to develop the gifts of each child for the betterment of the community.

*The Children and Youth Empowerment Centre (CYEC) is focused on the comprehensive development of its target population, including life skills and entrepreneurship training, to enable these young people to lead fulfilling lives and contribute to the well-being of their communities. Zawadi Fund International is partnering with the CYEC to create innovative models for program sustainability, including mobilizing local resources and developing entrepreneurial initiatives for the Centre.*

## Empowering Children and Youth for Ten Years

The 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the CYC provided time for reflection and celebration. The Centre opened in October of 2006 with eight children and three (volunteer) staff members; in 2016, 171 children and youth were engaged in CYEC programming.

### Education

Education is the foundation of the Centre's mission. Children enter the program at varying ages and levels of education, so they are placed in the educational system as appropriate. They appreciate the opportunity to learn and they work hard! In 2010, the first group of five students completed primary education (8<sup>th</sup> grade), and in 2012, three completed high school. Over the ten years, 76 students have completed primary school and 23 high school. High schools in Kenya are selective, and placement is determined by a high-stakes exam at the end of eighth grade. Our students have received scholarships through foundations in Kenya and well-wishers around the world to continue their education.



The Centre established a nursery school in 2012 to ensure our children and those of the surrounding community would start school ready to learn. Since then, there has been an average of 30 preschoolers in this program. Local families appreciate having this program in their neighborhood.

In 2016, we had 58 children in primary school, 47 in high school and 27 in the nursery school. An additional 16 youth were in the skills training program, including six young people from the local community. While primary education in Kenya is free, high school is not – we appreciate those who provide scholarships for our students!

## **Zawadi Youth Enterprise Programme**

The Zawadi Youth Enterprise Programme (Z-YEP) was established in 2010 to provide business incubation services for youth at the CYEC. Through the Z-YEP, the youth start businesses (individually or in teams), develop leadership skills and learn how to manage and grow their businesses.

The Z-YEP has two levels of membership – junior and senior membership. Junior members live within the Centre, receive support for an income-generating project and are required to save regularly. After one year, they become senior members and are required to live outside the Centre. As senior Z-YEP members, youth are eligible for capacity-building services and government-sponsored youth development programs. Over the ten years, dozens of youth have benefited from Z-YEP training and access to loans from the Kenyan Youth Fund. There are currently seven senior members and ten junior members, and several youth have moved on to start their own businesses.

Significant accomplishments in 2016 include:

- **Agriculture:** Five youth are renting land in the shamba to grow vegetables. They sell their produce to the Centre and local markets, earning enough to pay their school fees and put some away for savings.
- **Dairy:** The two cows produce enough milk for each child to have a cup for breakfast, with the surplus sold locally. Dan, the nurse, notes this has improved their nutrition significantly.
- **Hay baling:** With a faculty member from Penn State, youth in the hay baling business received a grant from the USDA to expand their business to other youth centers in Kenya. New mowers have been purchased, and additional youth in other Kenyan communities were trained.
- **Skills training:** The CYEC provides programs in carpentry, welding, tailoring and computers. Currently there are six fee-paying students from outside the Centre and ten CYEC youth in these programs. After completing these programs, the youth will be able to be employed or self-employed.

## **Othaya Eco-Village**

Development of the first eco-village site in Othaya started in 2014. The eco-village provides a place for the youth to live, work and save as they transition to independent living. Othaya has a beautiful natural environment, and one of our main income-generating activities will be eco-tourism, with hiking, river rafting and biking, as well as agri-tourism. We have built traditional huts for guest housing, a kitchen facility, a dining hall and latrines. There is also agricultural land at Othaya, currently growing vegetables for the Centre. Several youth live at the eco-village now, and we will soon have capacity for more.



## **Residential Care**

The CYEC has a residential program based on a boarding school model, which provides a safe and healthy environment for children who are homeless or from difficult domestic backgrounds. Through its programming, the CYEC strives to develop values and behavior patterns to prepare these young people for successful reintegration. In 2016, some 130 children were in residence at the CYEC.

**Nutrition Support:** Thanks to the generous support of Zawadi Fund donors, all of the children at the Centre have fruit four days a week while the younger ones have regular servings of nutritious porridge in the mornings.

**Drop-In Center:** The CYEC partners with a center in Chaka to ensure children are ready to transition from life in the streets. We support roughly 26 children through this program.

**Health Services:** The CYEC provides for the physical, mental and emotional health of the children under their care. The Centre has a medical clinic for basic healthcare, managed by a qualified and experienced nurse and a part-time counselor for psychosocial support. ZFI supported the purchase of medicines and supplies for the clinic in 2016.

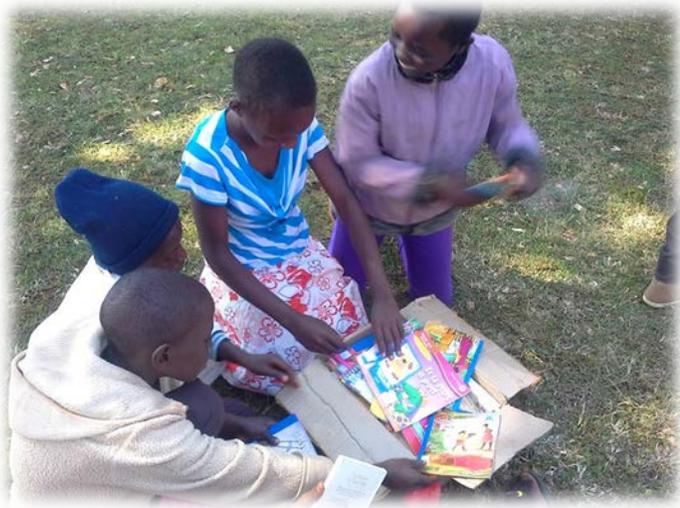
**Zawadi Shop:** Children and youth at the CYEC have the opportunity to earn and save Zawadi points to buy toys and non-essential clothing at the Zawadi Shop. This initiative, with in-kind and financial support from ZFI donors, rewards children's effort and good behavior and promotes a saving culture.

**Clubs & Sports:** The CYEC has an active club and sports program to engage the talents and special aptitudes of the children and youth at the Centre and to facilitate their self-understanding. These clubs include a reading club, wildlife club, scouts, football (soccer) club and acrobatics club. There are also clubs for adolescent girls and boys to teach them about puberty and healthy relationships. In 2015, several of the girls participated in GLOW – Girls Leading our World – a leadership program sponsored by USAID.

**Basic Needs:** In 2016, ZFI donors helped to meet critical operational expenses including food, clothing, shoes, utilities and staff expenses when needed. Your support gives these children a place to call home!

## Outreach

We've rented a small facility in the nearby community of Ngaini to provide outreach to children there, as well as special events for our own children. Our weekend events make reading fun! Agricultural land at this site is also used to produce food for the Centre.



## Partnerships

The Centre continues to benefit from the network of partnerships it has created to bring together creative, dedicated people and institutions to develop and implement innovative programs. Key among these are US and Kenyan institutions including Penn State University, Kansas State University, Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, Nyeri Technical Training Institute, and Kagumo Teachers' Training College.

The Zawadi Society is a Kenyan organization through which local civic groups, businesses, religious bodies and individuals support the Centre's programs through volunteering, mentoring, financial or in-kind support.

## 2017 Priorities and Initiatives

Development activities in 2017 will be focused on the following areas:

- Establishment of a drop-in centre in the town of Nyeri to reach street-dwelling young people there.
- Expansion of the community outreach program through the Zawadi Society
- Further integration of non-formal learning activities in the Centre's program in order to better reach those with special needs.

## Zawadi Fund International 2016 Financial Statement

<b>Donations</b>	
Direct donations	\$35,036.07
Indirect donations (Global Giving & Network for Good)	16,216.80
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$51,252.87</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Dispersal to CYEC	\$54,902.66
Residential care	43,334.67
Education and Training	7,093.42
Enterprise Development and Infrastructure	4,474.57
Business expenses (website, financial software, banner, etc.)	470.27
Bank, transfer and on-line collection fees	885.80
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$56,258.73</b>
<b>Net Change in Assets</b>	<b>\$-5,005.86</b>
<b>Assets at the beginning of the year</b>	<b>\$12,215.44</b>
<b>Assets at the end of the year</b>	<b>\$7,209.58</b>

ZFI has no paid staff, keeping our overhead expenses to a minimum. That means your donations go straight to support the children and programming at the CYEC!



**Zawadi Fund International, 571 Foxwood Lane, Paoli, PA 19301**

**EIN: 27-0726956**

## Personnel

### Children and Youth Empowerment Centre Staff

Paul Maina King'uru

*Director*

pmaina@cyec.net

Edward Njoi

*Head, Finance & Administration*

ednjoi@cyec.net

Daniel Waithaka

*Head, Residential Services*

dwaithaka@cyec.net

Issa Adam

*Acting Head, Training & Education*

issaadam@cyec.net

Bernard Odour

*Acting Head, Partnerships, Production & Enterprise Development*

bernardo@cyec.net

Gladwell Anangwe

*Logistics Officer*

gladwella@cyec.net

Mercy Nyaga

*Centre Secretary*

mercyn@cyec.net

### Zawadi Fund International Board Members

Mary Hale Tolar

*Director, Staley School of Leadership Studies*

*Kansas State University*

mtolar@ksu.edu

Paul Maina King'uru

*Founder & Director, CYEC*

pmaina@cyec.net

Janelle B. Larson

*Associate Professor of Agricultural*

*Economics & Head, Division of*

*Engineering, Business & Computing,*

*Penn State Berks*

jnblarson@gmail.com

### Zawadi Fund International Advisory Board Members

Sanjay Chauhan

Logan Gauby

Kelly Saladik

Carey Bell

Caroline Gimmillaro

Stephen Suffian

Andrew Bonneau

Teryn Greer

Kate Thompson

Lexi Dunnells

William Langford

Sierra Williams

Sarah Eissler

Kaitlin Long

Zayna Karam

## 2016 Zawadi Fund International Donors and Supporters

Anonymous	Sjoerd Duiker and Mary Alvarez
Fran and Richard Alloway	Becky Dunster
Amazon Smile	Sarah Eissler
Amy Anderson	Judy and John Endinger
Nancy Atchison	Aileen Esau
Jeff and Eleanor Barger	Amy Freeman
Courtney and Doug Baldrige	Joy and Doug Fuerst
Courtney Bauer	Mary Gage
Deanna Behring	Tom Gaziano
Carey Bell	Claudia Genuardi
Mike and Pam Benton	Leland Glenna and Esther Prins
Morgan Bienhoff	Global Giving
Berwyn United Methodist Church	Trisha Gott
Andrew Bonneau	Max and Maurine Hale
Bob and Barbara Borst	Margaret and Bob Hankins
Mike Bratton	Elizabeth Hawthorne
David and Dottie Brennan	Tom and Bobbie Heil
Nicole Brunozzi	Joel Hunter
Bandon Burriss	Keith Jerome
Susan and Vic Burriss	Cindy Johnson
Brenda Butz	Lynn and Jackie Johnson
Sanjay and Tanya Chauhan	Janet Karam
Steve and Carol Cherry	Zayna and Matt Karam-Simmond
Mei-Yu Chu	Lise Langhelle
Liz Coda	Bob and Laura Larson
Jan Cohen	Janelle Larson
Dan Connell	Marisa and Jake Larson
David Delozier	Nancy Larson
Patricia Dirksen	Javier Larson Montaner
Amy and Larry Dodds	Sofia Larson Montaner

Fred and Eloise Levitt  
Kaitlin Long  
Tom Lynn  
Wairua Maagu  
Gregory Maniatis and Nina Teicholz  
Rachel Mannix  
Andrea Marxen  
Carrie Masterson  
LaSandra McGhee  
Olga Jarrín and Luis Montaner  
Open Society Institute (match)  
Pat Oswald  
John and Lee Paylor  
Pavle Pecelj  
Orry Pratt  
Julie Prince  
William Richter  
Emily Ruppert  
Kelly Saladik  
Darlene Scarbrough  
Gordon Scarlett  
Todd Schultz and Paul Scott Silvera  
Joan Caiazzo Sherman  
Bethany Shirk  
Warren and Mary Lynn Staley  
Mark Stadtlander  
State College High Key Club  
Monica Strathman  
Steve Suffian  
Susan and Fred Suffian  
Kate Thompson  
Tom Thompson  
Mary and Dwight Tolar  
Nancy and Page Twiss  
Stephen Twiss  
José Vélez-Silva  
Tim and Jolynn Voth  
Sierra and Jerrell Williams  
Julie and Lance Wolters