

# Kengele Children's Network (KCN) June 2010 Report

---



*Some of the Kengele Children during an academic trip at the Kenyatta National Hospital*

Compiled By  
Peter Mwashu Litonde  
Child Peace

Submitted to  
Joan Peters  
Be Kids



*A Partnership between Be Kids and Child Peace and the Children of Korogocho*

## **Introduction:**

We are at the middle stage of the Kengele Phase 3 project -- the month of June is good time to reflect and even strengthen the efforts to achieve our objectives for this particular Phase.

The children are very excited about the installation of the first community Children's Study Center in Kisumu Ndogo village of Korogocho. This has been delayed by the partner group (Kisumu Ndogo Poverty Eradication and Development Group (KPDG)) as they were digging a septic tank on the targeted space. However by the time of sending this report the ground had been leveled and now ready to receive the 40ft cargo container which is to be modified to become the Children's Study Centre.

Children continue to rehearse and perfect their skills in regard to the respective club activities in preparation to the July 31<sup>st</sup> Kengele Day celebrations dedicated to the Children of Korogocho.

Some of the Children also managed to participate in an academic field trip to the Kenyatta National Hospital, the first academic trip during this Phase.

## **Activity Report---5<sup>th</sup>**

### Village Caucuses:

The children and their respective facilitators embarked on a village based meeting in order to keep record and monitor the progress of the children as well as have any feed back from the children with regard to the preparation for the Kengele Day.



*Part of the group meeting in Korogocho A village*

- Those representing their colleagues in the program preparation committee reported their progress, suggesting activities of the day and spreading responsibilities to their peers especially for the Kengele Day activities.
- Those in different club activities narrated their experiences and how they are doing in their rehearsals
- The facilitators selected the children to participate in the upcoming academic field trip using the criteria on age, and career interest among the children
- Children attending activities slightly late due to extra tuition in schools on Saturdays
- The aging KCN children also were suggesting other activities to best suit them ( They resolved to go for a retreat on the following weekend to discuss in details)

### **Activity report ---12<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Retreat by the KCN youth and club activities:**

The teenagers in KCN went on retreat, each at their own expense, guided by facilitators Alex and Carol. This came after a realization that the older KCN children had special psychological and emotional needs that come with their age.

During the retreat 30 teenagers participated and addressed the issues of concern to their age which included:



*Part of the team during a group discussion*

- Adolescent sexual reproductive health: It is quite evident that this is a delicate age to any youth and a more challenging to the children of such back ground as Korogocho.
- Challenges they face growing up, both in their academic and social lives, and how best to handle conflicts between these two areas
- The surrounding environment in the slum and possible opportunities to mitigate harmful practices and achieve the best from their teenage years.

The teenagers also discussed the following strategies as a way forward on the issues they identified and the possible ways to meet their needs:

- Hold regular meetings as the KCN youth as a way of feedback for the benefit of each other and helping monitor each other as well as guiding one another. During the meetings to be held every 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend of the month, an adult facilitator will also be joining them
- Establish a Curriculum using an approach of dialogue circles and start reaching out to their peers who may not be in Kengele so as to guide them on issues affecting the youth
- Endeavour to be role models among the junior KCN Children by facilitating the Kengele process in their respective villages
- Starting a program of contributing 10 shillings per week per teenager and giving to one individual per week and only to be utilized in purchasing academic needs, or other special needs like sanitary towels
- The children also did an election of their Leaders in trying to organize themselves better and achieve their intentions

Other Club activities continued concurrently with the above activity as the children continued strengthening their Kengele Day preparations.;



### Visit at the Kenyatta National Hospital

As part of the mentorship process planned in this phase, career field trips have been found to be quite effective especially for the children aspiring to undertake a particular field of study, are taken to institutions teaching the same subjects or in a work place practicing the same.

Children with aspirations to undertake careers relating to health care, over 13 years of age, were taken to the Kenyatta National Hospital

This was as a result of a series of meetings with the public relations office of the hospital – we have eventually been able to take 20 KCN children to the country's largest referral health facility



*The youth at the Nutrition department being addressed by Nutritionist Mrs. Rosebella Keiyo*



*At the Physiotherapy department a trainer Mr. Oiminda*



*The whole team posing for a photo outside the Accident and Emergency unit*



*Part of the Children enjoying a meal after the visit*

**Activity report---19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>**

During these two last weekends the children have continued with the different club activities in the respective venues. With the resumption of normal activities at the Nairobi University, the Mandarin tutor also managed to continue on the classes on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

The facilitators also helped to identify the children to participate in the second career field trip to be held at the General Motors Company on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July. Those chosen fall in the category of engineering as a subject/ career they would like to pursue.

The magazine team also starts on the editing process of the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the magazine due in the month of August.

*Some of the photos taken by the photography children on varying themes:*



*Children selling vegetables on the street*



*A child helping in washing utensils at home*



*A very young kid attempting to carry a colleague*



*Children playing a kind of new game in Koch*

**Conclusion:**

Activities were mainly geared for the preparation of the upcoming Kengele Day. Most of the children are showing great improvement and commitment in the Kengele process as well as appreciating the benefits of interaction and association with their peers.

\*\*\*\*\*