



FORUM FOR WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT, DEMOCRACY & JUSTICE

ON THE PATH TO FUNDAMENTAL
FREEDOMS FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

CHUKUA HATUAI

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5th September 2017,

Dear Friend,

RE: LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FOR COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUP (CFG)

Forum for Women in Development, Democracy and Justice is a Women's Organization working to strengthen our community systems in Prevention and Response to HIV, Tuberculosis and Gender Based Violence with an emphasis on holding our political actors responsible for ensuring that laws and policies are implemented to improve service delivery and trickle-down economics to the benefit of grassroots communities.

It is my pleasure to write in support of Community Focus Group to Fundraise for their project train 100 young women gain and acquire skills to forge a livelihood. I have known and worked with Pamela and Community Focus Group (CFG) since 2001 in my capacity as a colleague in changing lives and communities I identified the Community Focus Group (CFG), led by Pamela Ateka Muthiora as the Executive Director, delivering new, untested, and grass roots initiatives to promote child, youth and gender equality. Pamela's and CFG's work has supported infants and children and young women into healthcare and education and advocated for the healthcare and education rights of orphans, adolescents and vulnerable. I was astounded by the challenging environment in regard political, cultural, policy, funding and the scale of the problem. Pamela had established through vision and strength of resolve an organization working in the townships of Kenya, and was supporting education, food security and offering a safe environment for orphans, children and women to meet and learn to be empowered of their rights. Currently the project train 100 young women is supporting four young women, I am motivated and encouraged by the work Community Focus Group (CFG) through their courage and passion in face of difficult odds. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance or if you have questions. I wish Community Focus Group staff all of the best in endeavor to get support to change the community.

Yours Faithfully,

Nancy Sitima,
Programs Director,
Forum for Women in Development, Democracy and Justice



PROJECT TITLE: Train 100 young women to gain skills in Kenya

Wendy is 16 years old she dropped out of school after conceiving her beautiful baby who is currently 9 months, Wendy is now able to go back to school and complete her course because of your support and after she finishes she will be able to forge a livelihood for her and her child.

17 year old purity is the mother to a 7th month old baby, because of the demands of a young baby and financial constraints of her family to employ a house help so that she can continue with school, Purity could not be able to attend school, your donations will enable her to finish secondary school and get her KCSE certificate and even progress further in acquiring skills.

Born 15 years ago , Millicent had a beautiful bouncing baby five months ago ,she made the conscious decision that this will not deter her quest to get a meaningful education and kept the dream alive , Millicent is now able to return to school keeping hope of a better life ahead alive

One young lady who almost despaired is Benlne she had her baby one and a half years ago and from that time she has been waiting for an opportunity to get a second chance in improving her life this project and your support is that second chance and Benlne now has that through your support and CFGs project.

Our project will support this and other Kenyan girls who have dropped out of school because of teenage pregnancy Kenya's population is largely young. Persons aged 19 years and below account for more than half of population while those aged 15 years and below form 50% of country's population (census, 2009).

Young people especially girls have unique health and development needs, they are faced by enormous challenges such as teenage pregnancy which often compromise their health and future. Early sexual debut, unplanned pregnancy, and higher number of births remain issues for adolescent girls and young women.

According to the Kenya demographic and health survey (2014), 15% of women age 15-19 have already had at least one birth. The percentage of women who have begun child bearing increases rapidly with age, from about 3% among women age 15 to 40% among women age 19. The rural-urban difference is small; indicating that early child bearing is nearly the same across place of residence.

The study also shows that slightly more than 3 in 10 women age 15-19 with no education have begun child bearing compared with only 12% among those who have secondary or higher level of education. Similarly, teenagers from poor households are more likely to have begun child bearing (26%) than teenagers from wealthier households (10%).

Prevalence of early childbearing is highest in counties like Nairobi , within Nyanza region at 22.2% (KDHS, 2014) followed by Rift Valley 21.2% and Coast 21%; it is lowest in Central 10% and

North Eastern region 12.2%. According to KDHS 2014 Homabay County has highest rate of early childbearing which stands at 33.3%, followed by Nyamira at 27.8% and 24.3% within the Nyanza region.

Summary

Community Focus Group Plans to train 100 young women in Kayole Nairobi county of Kenya who have dropped out of school because of pregnancy, Your donation will give a young woman the opportunity to acquire the skills needed to forge a sustainable livelihood for themselves and their families.

Challenge

Young girls drop out of school because of early pregnancies without the skills needed to get work or start a business

Solution

Supporting young women to acquire the skills training is a sustainable way for them to support themselves and their young families, your gift provides them with the skills and knowledge

Long-Term Impact

We will train 200 young women who drop out of school because of pregnancies will they will get a chance to gain skills to support themselves and their families in the future.

Activities

The following activities will make the project a success:

- **Baseline survey:**
CFG will gather data necessary for the implementation of the project in three counties. We will visit 5 constituencies in each of the counties. To cover all regions we will require 10 days in each county. The intention will be to focus on identifying, understanding and removing attitudinal, environmental and institutional barriers to supporting young women who have dropped out of school because of pregnancy and to change community perception of them

Capacity Building Workshop for Community Leaders

Title of the training: Support our young women

Locations: 3 Counties (3 days workshop in each County)

The composition of the participants is described above. They will be identified during the baseline survey and the list will be fully inclusive. The specific objectives are outlined above. CFG will accommodate all the 20 participants in each of the 3 counties for 4 days and also provide training facilities and trainers provided through this funding.

Service Mapping (Health Provision Facilities)

CFG intends to approach this project with a multi – prong approach that provides bases for monitoring and evaluation. We will have the necessary data and information through service mapping to identify gaps that exist in the local health service provision. We hope that by

providing the necessary information through the service mapping the needy health facilities will get the necessary attention and improvement.

CFG will be on the ground for 10 days in each County, traversing 5 constituencies per county in the three years of the project term. Having identified the most prone areas through information gotten from the participants and community leaders and the stakeholders during the trainings, work will be simplified and the result will be adequately measured.

Community Outreach Forums

CFG will conduct 3 days community outreach activity in each of the 3 counties per year during the three year project term. All participants in the workshop will be involved in mobilization of their communities and will be granted an opportunity to address concerns arising from these meetings. This will be a good opportunity for the women and youth to articulate their issues in line with the goals of this project. It will be also a good opportunity to mobilize, educate and entertain the community using the creative arts in creating awareness of childhood pregnancies, sexual gender based violence etc

Skills Trainings

The 100 young women will receive skills training in Dressmaking, Hairdressing, Housekeeping, communication and the arts; the duration of the trainings will be 6 months per course.

Duration and Indicative Implementation timeline

2. Program Management

Key personnel: 1: Executive Director: Pamela Ateka; 17 years' experience in community service
2: Finance Manager: Charles Muthiora; 12 years' experience in donor fund management
3: Project Officer: Olivia Ogada; 7 years' experience in community service
4: Logistics officer: Prescott Munika; 7 years' experience in community mobilization

3a. A past Staff member says "Community Focus group gave me a chance to work directly with orphans and vulnerable children in informal settlements. This was a very noble task as I was deeply involved in implementation of the project activities. Some of the activities involved community mobilization and awareness. I have grown as a community development specialist today because of the exposure CFG offered me as a project officer during the projects' formative years. I know that there are a good number of beneficiaries whose lives continue to be transformed as a result of CFG involvement in the community".

3. Previous Experience and Organizational Capacity of Community Focus Group (CFG)

Community Focus Group (CFG) began as a feeding program for HIV orphans and other vulnerable children at that time we began by feeding 26 children under our care, with time the numbers grew and since 2003 the children grew and left. Through the years we have paid school fees, bought uniforms and school supplies for children. Our vision is for a just, free and equitable Kenya. We have since the year 2000 trained over 250 Community Based Organizations (CBO's), Faith Based Organizations among others, on Human Rights Based Approach programs. CFG has also held legal aid clinics, Psycho-social counseling on gender based violence etc, HRBA festivals and referrals on Human rights abuse in over 5 counties in Kenya including Nairobi, Kisumu, Nakuru, UasinGishu, Meru and Laikipia. On HIV/AIDS, CFG has educated the community during the World Aids Day over the last several years through performing arts festivals.

CFG has implemented training and awareness projects in partnership [with the U.N.D.P., HIVOS, ViiV Healthcare, GSK positive action, Australian storytelling Guild among other international donors, Tongues wagging Canada among others.

4. Budget Estimate: \$ 80,000 for one year

Community Focus Group (CFG)

Budget

Year: 2017/2018

Budget Lines

Programme Costs

Result 1: Increase young women school drop-outs awareness on Sustainable Livelihood skills

Supporting public awareness campaigns through identification of specific

Young women drop-out needs in 5 constituencies in Nairobi County

Information Gathering & contact persons, meeting venues identification, meeting local partners, briefs, meeting local leaders (Cost USD- 19050

Result 2: Capacity Building Training for 100 young Women on Sustainable Livelihood skills in 5 constituencies within Nairobi County including Entrepreneurship trainings: (Cost USD- 21080)

Result 3: Small Business Start-up Capital for the 100 young Women (Cost USD 10,000)

Result 4: Support/follow-up of the Small Businesses and Sustainable Livelihood (Cost USD- 3,200)

Result 5: Other related costs (Office Equipment) - (Cost USD 4,950 –

Result 6: Administration and Operating Expenses (Cost USD 21,720

Total USD 80,000

5. Brief Biography

Pamela Ateka Muthiora is a renowned Kenyan Poet, Author storyteller, Motivation speaker, and human rights Activist she is well traveled and has made presentations in the 5 continent. Ms Ateka is a founder of Community Focus Group (CFG) Kenya, the Author of the poetry book” Sing Africa Sing”. MS Ateka is a nominee of the Reebok Human rights Award (2006-2007), Pamela has successfully directed poetry festivals in Kenya 2005, 2007, 2008; 2009.She is an Alumni of The East side Institute in New York.







Community Focus Group
EMPOWERING THE COMMUNITY

Our Vision
A Just, Free and Equitable Kenya

Our Mission
Is to inform, connect and mobilize our community to realizing their human rights and to promote sustainable livelihoods.

Our Goal
To cause individual change that will improve the quality of life in our community.

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