



Implementing Social Transformation Work

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EDITORIAL

Only A Mite

In the Bible, Mark 12: 41, Jesus sat opposite the treasury carefully watching as the congregants streamed to give their regular offerings. To some, it was a weekly religious tradition, while to others a true sense of sacrifice laced the giving. As some put in large sums in a show of abundance, a poor widow humbly joins the procession and gives all she had; a mite, referred as pennies then.

What ran through her mind as she walked forth? Was she clouded with low self-esteem as she watched the rich give 'so much' while all she had was 'so little.' Did she realize that her attitude would win her more accolades than the earlier display of stretched hands but hardened hearts. Did the people give out of duty rather than passion for service? Why did Jesus choose to observe their giving on this particular day?

What practical lessons can we learn from this account as we interact with the needy in our communities?

In our own simple way we are called to clothe the naked, feed the hungry, visit the imprisoned, show compassion to the widows, defend the orphans, and support the needy. Though blessed with different resource-capabilities, we are expected to give anyway. It's not the amount we give that matters most to God, but the state of our hearts and our attitudes as we give.

As individuals and groups pool resources to support the needy in the dioceses and congregations, no input is minimal. Whether a lump sum or a mite, it makes a difference.

Joyce Mwangi

Development Workers Scale Mt. Kenya To Raise Funds



ADS Mt. Kenya East staff at the Mt. Kenya Lenana peak

STORY BY: Joyce Mwangi

A team of Anglican Development Services Mt. Kenya East development workers scaled Mt. Kenya to raise funds for development work.

The staff plan to hold various local fundraising initiatives to support the expansion plan of Mt. Kenya Hospital which serves hundreds in Kirinyaga community. The fundraising initiative has been categorized in phases and Phase 1 hopes to raise Kshs. 13 million (approximately \$150, 000). “We want to use our energy to raise resources. This was just an awareness creation campaign but more are coming up,” said Catherine Mwangi the ADS Mt. Kenya director.

Foreign aid from developed countries has been one of the biggest sources of funding over the past fifty years offering support for alleviating poverty and reducing the socio-economic gap between the developed and the developing countries. But the funding challenges posed by conventional sources of funding need to be buffered by more sustainable and effective approaches towards community development.

Last year alone, US President’s Emergency Plan For Aids Relief (PEPFAR) reduced funding by about Sh6 billion (US\$69 million) and thus scaling down of operations in more than 500 non-governmental

organizations (NGOs) dependent on the donor fund. The massive fund cuts that contribute about 90 per cent of the country’s Aids funding direly affected civil organizations in the health sector, especially those involved in the fight against HIV and Aids.

Over the years donor funds have been the lifeline of non– governmental organizations in Kenya but the recent dwindle in funding has triggered diversification of fundraising initiatives.

That notwithstanding, the church has a mandate in the society to enhance equity, social justice and development.

Social transformation initiatives are further partnering with private charities, foundations and corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives to diversify the funding sources.

With the rolling out of devolution form of governance, partnering with the county governments for community welfare and development schemes is another avenue to consider. Donations and gifts, from individuals or informal groups are also an alternative funding source.

ADS Mt. Kenya East will hold a 29 kilometre fundraising walk from Embu to Kiritiri in December 2014. ◉



ADS Kenya Welcomes New Director

Mr. Bwibo Adieri has been appointed the new Anglican Development Services Kenya Director.

Bwibo has a wide experience in Program as well as Organizational Development leadership and management spanning over 20 years. He has worked with the Government of Kenya and further has sharpened his skills in various established organizations such as National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCCK), Hope For African Children Initiative and Plan International. He joined NCCCK as a Business Advisor and rose through the ranks to the level of Director of Social Service Program and Director of Capacity building for Membership.

Later he joined Hope For African Children Initiative as the Country Director. In Plan International, he served as the Regional Program Manager covering Kenya, Uganda and Zambia and later as the Organizational Development Advisor. Before leaving to join ADS Kenya, Mr. Bwibo was Head of Programmes at Plan International Kenya.

He seeks to invest his expertise in the Anglican Church Social transformation services to better implementation of development work nationwide.

Accountants Training In Nakuru

50 Accountants from ACK Dioceses, ADS Regions, ACK Institutions and Guest Houses participated in a training organized by ACK Provincial office in conjunction with ADS Kenya.

The 3-day training which was held in Imani Guest House Nakuru covered the following: Tax Planning & Crimes, Devolution, Retirement Benefit Authority (RBA) functions & Opportunities, National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF) functions, New National Social Security Fund (NSSF) Act and the Church Commissioners for Kenya (CCK) roles and functions.

The accountants had an opportunity to engage with the different speakers to understand implications of various new legislations on the church and church departments.

International Youth Day

On 12th August 2014 There are 1.2 billion youth in the world aged 15– 24 years, 20% of the world's youth experience a medical health condition. The theme of International Youth Day 2014 is "Youth and Mental Health" under the slogan '**Mental Health Matters**'.

Youth with mental health conditions can often experience stigma and discrimination, which in turn can lead to exclusion and/or discourage people from seeking help for fear of being negatively 'labelled'.

Efforts are needed to overcome this stigma to ensure that young people with mental health conditions can lead full and healthy lives free of isolation and unnecessary shame, and that they openly seek the services and support they need.

Source: United Nations, Youth Social Policy and Development

The accountants appreciated the efforts made by the Provincial office and ADS Kenya in convening the meeting. They also proposed that such meetings should be organized after every 2 years so that accountants from all Dioceses in the Province can share experiences and learn new dimensions in their filed.

Story By: Peter Nyorsok
ADS Kenya Capacity Building Coordinator

WE ARE

Anglican Development Services–
Kenya (ADS-Kenya).

WHAT WE DO

ADS-Kenya is the National-level organ set up with the purpose of spearheading ACK development issues and positive social transformation.

OUR KEY AREAS

Advocacy. Gender, Health and HIV/AIDS. Disaster Management & Mitigation. IT, Research & Sustainability. Church & Community Capacity Building. Documentation