U-Tena Youth Organization
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Nairobi Kenya

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

U-TENA



FOCUSING ON EMPOWERING AND DEVELOPING YOUTHS TO REALIZE THEIR POTENTIAL.

Introduction from the Executive Director

Despite the fact that the Covid_19 related challenges hit U-Tena Youth Organization our resilience was beyond reproach. Inquest to empower the youth to realize their potential, we continued to embark on the mission of providing opportunities to our community development partners by promoting healthy living, education, livelihoods, and social responsibility.
It is in the public domain, that the Covid_19 pandemic adversely affected the health and livelihood of many families around the globe. U-Tena played its part in responding to these challenges by mobilizing and distributing foodstuffs to more than 565 families, provided Personal protective equipment to health care providers, and supported Coronavirus screening activities.
We continued to support education activities in the middle of the Covid_19 pandemic by utilizing various innovative approaches- through community radio, online and regulated offline platforms. Our education initiative minimized learning loss among 530 high school students, supported more than five hundred parents on parenting their adolescents during school shut down, and motivated adolescents within our education project to carry out community services. This led them to distribute food to vulnerable households within their neighborhood.



Peter Onchuru Mokaya, Mgr

Executive Director,
U-Tena Youth Organization

While our frontline health care workers never rested, most of our health project activities that involve masses were halted or reorganized to utilize online platforms. We continued to distribute HIV self-test kits to workplaces and communities did HIV Testing Services to 25618 general population members and linked 379 reactive clients for health care support. By use of online and regulated offline platforms, we still continued with the mission of enhancing access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights services through youth responsive services. Our engagement with Brown University gave birth to a modified mental health project that will benefit young adolescents in Viwandani informal settlements in Nairobi for the next three years.
As a way of responding to the economic aftermath of the Covid_19 Pandemic, we again partnered with Kenya Community Development Foundation to support 213 youths in Mukuru not only to revive their income-generating activities but also to capacity build them to effectively manage their enterprises.
Now that year 2020 is gone, U-Tena is committed to continuing to serve the community with an overall goal of optimizing people, resources, and processes to improve the quality of youth's lives. This will be done by increasing efforts of improving our leadership system to deliver quality youth programs, delivering high-quality needs-led empowerment programs for youth through partnerships with other local and international providers, increase fundraising capacity, and advocate for resources to improve youth programming. We will endeavor to utilize technology and communicate our impacts on various platforms.

Lets continue holding our hands together for a brighter future.

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Education Achievements

- High School Scholarships awarded to 41 Students;
- 530 parents counseled on supporting the education of their adolescents;
- 630 adolescents mentored on academics and life skills;
- 400 high schools engaged in community service;
- More than 3000 parents and learners engaged through community radio



Health Achievements

- 13317 People tested for HIV;
- 12301 HIV Self Test Kits Distributed;
- 220 000 condoms distributed
- 120 Young adolescents engaged in mental health sessions;
- More than 3000 lives of youths improved through reproductive health interventions;



Livelihood Achievements

- 8 youth groups supported to improve their income-generating activities;
- Approximately 2.5 Million KES raised to improve the livelihoods of the youths in Mukuru informal settlements



Response to Covid_19

- Food distributed to more than 565 vulnerable households in Mukuru informal settlements of Nairobi;
- Personal Protective equipment's distributed to 6 health facilities;
- Reusable masks provided to 200 high school learners;



OUR MISSION

To provide development opportunities by promoting healthy living, education, livelihood, and social responsibility





OUR VISION

U –Tena is a cause-driven organization focused on empowering and developing youth to realize their potential

CORE OBJECTIVES

- Youth Mentorship and Development
- Organizational Development and Strengthening
- Marketing and Publicity
- Resource Mobilization for Sustainability

CORE VALUES & PRINCIPLES

- Excellence
- Social justice
- Impact focus
- Professionalsim
- Integrity

AREAS OF FOCUS

At the moment U-Tena works in the informal settlements of Nairobi Kenya that includes Mukuru, Korogocho, Mathare, Soweto, Dagoretti, Kamukunji, and Kibra. Below is a short description of U-Tena's programs.

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U – Tena focuses on developing the capacity of youth through a mentorship approach. U – Tena delivers four core programs identified as key need areas by young people, staff, and management. These programs include Health, education, livelihood, performing art, and civic awareness.

Health: In this program, U – Tena promotes good health by advocating for good governance for health, provide health awareness through training and education in order to achieve a healthy neighborhood in the communities where we work and beyond.

U – Tena endeavors to contribute to the UNAIDS 90 90 90 agenda by partnering with Government agencies in realizing universal health care, through screening, and care interventions. U-Tena operates a youth friendly resource center that is adjacent to Lunga Lunga government health center. In this center, youth play indoor games, access health information, counseling and curative services.

Education: U – Tena partner and work with relevant stakeholders in the education sector (Primary and secondary) to achieve better education outcomes. We provide mentorship programs, provide scholarships and engage in policy discourse with all partners.



Performing Arts: U – Tena is well known for its performing arts program, which is utilized as a mobilization and sensitization vehicle. Currently, the program is linked to a livelihood program, where young talented youth have been able to develop their skills and are able to earn a living through art. U – Tena identifies and develops young people's talents through arts and showcases this during conferences, community awareness, and fundraising galas. Sports outreach is embedded with performing art as a way of reaching young people with health information and services.

Livelihood: Through the livelihood program, U – Tena provides market-oriented vocational skills opportunities for youth. U-Tena engages youth through beadwork and jewelry making whilst we look for a market for the products. U-Tena supports youth to initiate urban farming, sanitation business, design among others. This is delivered through partnerships and training with professional organizations, mentorship, market expansion, and linkages to financial lending institutions.

Policy Engagement: U-Tena embeds policymakers in every project with a view of influencing policy based on the evidence realized by the projects.

1.0: Health Program

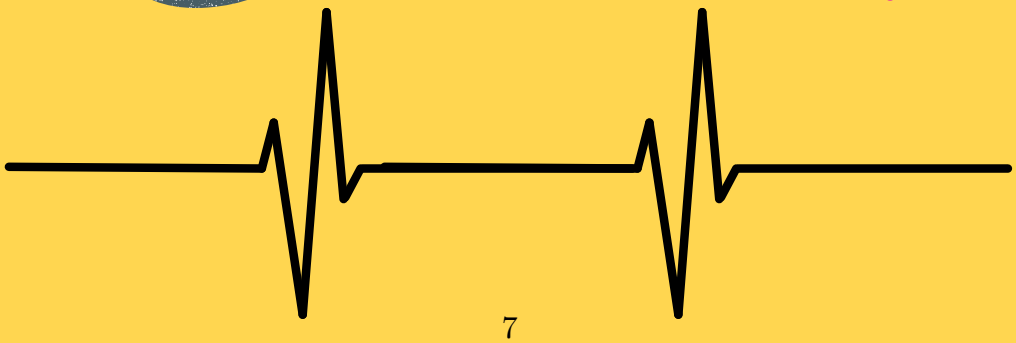
HEALTH PROGRAM

STRIVING FOR

Healthy, Independent and Empowered Community.







1.1: IMARISHA MAISHA HIV/AIDS

In 2020, the Ministry of health in Kenya reported that the country's HIV prevalence was 4.9%. According to the Kenya Population-Based HIV Impact Assessment survey of 2018 HIV prevalence in women was 6.6% as opposed to men who recorded 3.1%. The gender burden disparity was recorded more than three times in the ages of 20-34 years.

Over the years, Kenya has made desirable progress in the fight against HIV and AIDS: Annual HIV infections have been reducing and HIV-related deaths have gone down. In 2020 officials from the ministry of health alluded that over 96% of people who know that are HIV positive have been put on treatment while 90% of those who are on treatment have a low viral load that poses a low risk of HIV transmission.

U-Tena partners with Aids Healthcare Foundation Kenya (AHF-Kenya) to offer HIV Testing Services (HTS)- Imarisha Maisha project. This was done through the identification of new testers in the population for testing, referral, and linkage to care and treatment for at least 90% of all seropositive clients. All these efforts are directed towards the 90-90-90 UNAIDS goal which simply means that by 2020, 90% of, all people living with HIV will know their HIV status, by 2020, 90% of all people with diagnosed HIV infection will receive sustained antiretroviral therapy and by 2020, 90% of all people receiving antiretroviral therapy will have viral suppression.

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The project team ensures quality in HIV Testing Services (HTS) by providing monthly supervision of HTS providers which refreshes and empowers them. Assisted Partner Notification Services-Index (PNS), rapid response initiative (RRI) testing boosted efforts of identifying new testers of which reactive clients were put into immediate care support. The youth-friendly center assisted in the mobilization of young people at Lunga Lunga health center averaging 200 per month for HTS referrals.

In 2020, U-Tena supported some HIV Testing services sites in Nairobi county which includes Soweto Primary Health Care Center in Embakasi East, Bahati Health Centre, Lunga Lunga Health Centre, Jericho Health Centre in Makadara sub-counties. We also worked with HTS Providers in SHOFCO Medical Clinic Kibera, Silanga Dispensary, Kibera community health center, and AMREF in Langata sub-counties.
Imarisha Maisha project was successful in Makadara, Langata, and Embakasi East sub-counties by utilizing available resources & work plan effectively & efficiently. Monthly and quarterly reporting as stipulated for ease of project monitoring and evaluation was done by the project implementation team. Monthly site supervision and data quality audit in service sites were also done promptly.

U-Tena sites received **268558** condoms from the ministry of health and AHF Kenya and distributed **208616** between March and December 2020.

Table 1: The 2020 Summary

Indicators	2020 Targets	Numbers	Percentage (%)
Total Tested	13317	10124	**60.5%**
Newly tested	6864 30%)	7535	**56.7%**
Seropositive	915 (4%)	343	**2.6%**
Linkage	90%	334	**97.1%**

Imarisha Maisha and Covid_19 Pandemic

There was a delay in the implementation of Assisted Partner Notification Services-Index (PNS) in March, April, and May due to Covid_19 lockdown measures. Rapid Response Initiative (RRI) was delayed too derailing targets of 2020



This is because there were no clear strategies of doing it following the Ministry of Health guidelines concerning the fight of Covid_19.

The Pandemic affected flow of patients due to hysteria brought about shifts in several sites supported by U-Tena.



1.2 Chukua Selfie



The Chukua Selfie project is an HIV project implemented by U-TENA youth organization in partnership with Population Service Kenya (PSK). U-TENA youth organization has a team member and HIV Testing Service providers working on the implementation of the project. The project is being implemented in Makadara and Embakasi sub-counties in Nairobi Kenya.
The goal of this project is to improve health outcomes of people living with HIV (PLHIV) not reached by conventional HIV Testing Services (HTS) through earlier diagnosis and uptake of antiretroviral therapy (ART), while also averting new infections through reduced transmission. The project will help the Government of Kenya reached its 95-95-95 targets by developing and catalyzing the market for HIV Self-Test (HIVST).
There are three kinds of kits used: Insti and Sure Check that are blood-based and Ora Quick that are oral-based. These kits are used in the implementation of the project.

The project has a follow-up channel of SMS, phone calls, and WhatsApp chat board for support. Also, there is a toll-free number 1190 provided for further assistance. The project is conducted in both community hotspots and workplaces mostly targeting men between the ages of 20 to 35 years who are not in a position to afford the HIV self-test kits.

The activities that were carried out in a community hotspot set up, the applied model is elaborated below;

1. The Distributing team was divided into two, one conducting the demonstration, data recording, and distributing kits and another helped on onsite testing.
2. Onsite testing was conducted for the willing clients with assistance where required.
3. The Distributing team was all branded with T-shirts and surgical masks for activity.
4. Data entry was done after the activity.
5. HTS provider and U-TENA staff were present.





Models Used At Workplace

1. One peer educator conducted the demonstration and did registration to the client.
2. The next peer educator helped the client in case they needed assistance while testing onsite
3. All the peer educators had branded chukua Selfie T-shirt and surgical masks
4. Data entry was done onsite.
5. A tent was pitched for privacy.
6. HIV Testing Service provider was present for conducting a confirmatory test.
7. U-TENA staffs were present.





INDICATORS	MALE			FEMALE			TOTAL		
	0-20Yrs	21-34Yrs	35+Yrs	0-20Yrs	21-34Yrs	35+Yrs	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Reached with HIV prevention package messages	1013	5757	2788	544	2040	891	9558	3475	13033
Observed and participated in the self- test kit demonstration	990	5684	2727	515	1992	935	9401	3442	12843
Received the self- test kit	945	5505	2634	472	1912	833	9084	3217	12301
Tested on site	514	3876	1627	248	1184	379	6017	1811	7828
Refused to test on site	431	1629	1007	224	727	454	3067	1405	4472
Reactive (Tested HIV positive)	0	14	10	0	15	6	24	21	45
Linked for care and treatment	0	14	10	0	15	6	24	21	45
Referred for any other services (Can list the common services)							0	0	0
Condoms distributed	3020	19788	11264	1516	2394	756	34072	4666	38738

Table three: Chukua Selfie Summary



1.3: ADOLESCENT SEXUAL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (ASRHR)

Jichanue Project

Worldwide, adolescents and youth lack access to youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health and rights services coupled with a lack of accurate information and especially adolescents living in informal settlements. In Kenya, gender roles and expectations plague adolescents and youth health-seeking behavior and restrict how males and females should behave and act. Consequently, young people are excluded from interventions and decisions about their own sexual and reproductive health and rights. U-Tena partners with Hivos to address ASRHR in Mukuru, Nairobi.





The ongoing project seeks to enhance access to comprehensive sexual reproductive health and rights services through youth responsive services. The project aims to improve the knowledge and capacities of youth to make informed decisions on their SRHR and demand for essential services. Secondly, Jichanue is committed to increasing the availability and uptake of quality integrated Sexual reproductive health rights services for young people. The projects finally aim to strengthen governance and coordination capacity for integrated SRHR programming at all levels. U – Tena aims to reach more than 3,000 adolescents and young people living in informal settlements of Viwandani and its environs.













Jichanue na Sex and Reproductive Health Information and Services

Key Achievements

- Jichanue has achieved most of its targets despite COVID-19 pandemics including two quarters done successfully.
- Trained youth advocates who supported their peers as well as sensitization of young people at the community level to access sexual and reproductive health services.
- Supported and trained health service providers from identified facilities in Viwandani and its environs.
- Took part in international celebrations, International Youth Day, and international safe abortions day.
- Strengthened FOKAS- Viwandani youth groups network forums;
- Through the project, youth dialogues were organized and done by targeting adolescents and young people. Through the dialogues, barriers to access SRHR services identified at baseline were addressed.
- Survey results indicate that the attitudes of service providers at health facilities matter so much to young people.
- Youth-friendly Center equipped and used as a safe space and platform to reach out to youth on SRHR, receive services as well as referrals.
- Capacity building youth groups through resource mobilization training.
- Photovoice training highlighting challenges associated with unsafe abortion done.
- Community outreach on family planning done.
- Used social media and other e-platforms during the pandemic to reach more adolescents and young people remotely.



Table two: Summary of 2020

Activity	Numbers
Number of people that attended youth dialogues	320
Trained SRHR youth advocates	30
Number of trained health care providers	15
Number of trained youths on Photovoice	30
FOKAS (Member youth groups)	7
Cumulative youths that accessed SRHR at the youth center	1831
Youth groups that were capacity built on resource mobilization	24
People serviced through community outreaches	2144
Youths engaged through online platforms	4160
% increase of youth that access SRHR curative services at Lunga Lunga health center	From 25%

Jichanue project management would like to thank HIVOS for the support and partnership. The project is halfway and the team is committed to achieving intended goals. U-Tena thanks the external Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Officer, Ministry of health for the cordial relationship and support that has ensured the successful implementation of Jichanue project.



1.4: Mental Health

Eight Years with Globemed

KUZA is a Swahili word for Nurture. The program is a two-year girl-led mentorship program in which girls aged 12-17 within Mukuru slums participate. Girls were recruited in July into the mentorship program and are mentored on sexual and reproductive health, self-esteem, life skills, crafting, and financial literacy. The main objectives of Kuza included sharing knowledge, igniting aspirations, reducing early marriage, and preventing teenage pregnancies, with a long-term goal of economically empowered young women. Mentees within the program are also exposed to the outside world to sharpen their aspirations and desires through career visits and/or exposure visits.

The program was implemented by trained U-Tena mentors who have experienced and overcome some of the challenges faced by the girls. Globemed at Brown funded the project, U-Tena implemented the program in partnership with community leaders and parents who support their girls to participate in the program. U-Tena has been implementing the Kuza program since 2012.

Alumni of the program become empowered to make informed decisions regarding their life and sexual behavior which leads to a later sexual debut. As a result, the girls have been able to complete their primary and secondary education, instead of having to drop out of school due to unplanned pregnancies. Through preventing early pregnancy these girls are able to avoid further exacerbating the already bad situation of poverty and poor housing.

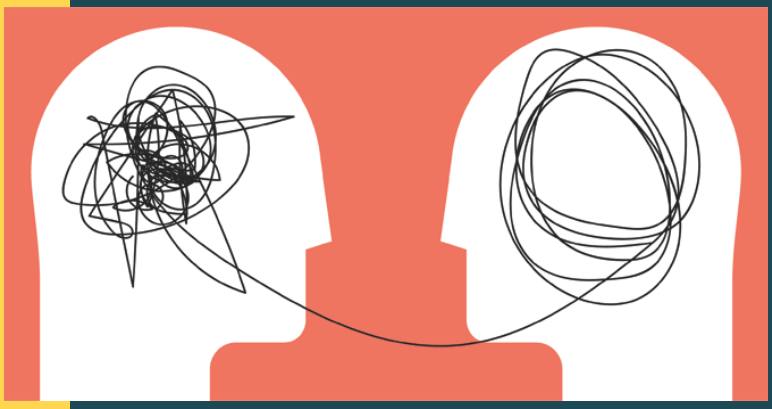
Since 2012, the KUZA project has been able to reach 263 girls. During the first year of the program the girls meet in small clubs of between 10-20 girls with their mentor and co-mentor and discuss issues surrounding sexual and reproductive health. In the second year, topics such as financial literacy which includes learning a livelihood skill like beadwork, or performing art are part of the curriculum. The mentors use personal experience and their personal stories to motivated to the adolescent girls they mentor. Additionally, the mentors use manuals as a guide and the mentees are given handbooks with similar information. Since the inception of Kuza, 90% of the girls have been able to transit to secondary schools and complete their studies without dropping due to early marriage or teenage pregnancies. This is directly attributed to the mentorship they have received within the years and the support they receive including provision of sanitary pads to ensure they stay in school even during their menstruation days.

From KUZA to RISE- Boys brought on board

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, a group of Brown University students reviewed the said sexual and reproductive health program, KUZA, that U-Tena Youth Organization was running in the informal settlements of Nairobi, Kenya. The joint team between Brown University students and U-Tena Youth Organization came up with the recommendation of injecting a mental health component on the above sexual/reproductive health program.



The above engagements were done virtually. Students of Brown University met with the mentors and management team of U-Tena at least three times a month to discuss the impact of the KUZA project and the effect that COVID-19 had on young adolescents of informal settlements. After long discussions, reviews of existing literature, baseline survey, and up-to-date news that was on mainstream media, it was anonymously agreed that a mental health intervention was urgent during and after the COVID-19 pandemic in the informal settlements of Nairobi, Kenya.



The Brown University team collaborated with U-Tena Youth Organization's team to come up with an intervention strategy that would benefit 120 young adolescents (boys and girls).
The inclusion of the mental health component transformed the project's name from KUZA to RISE.
At the moment the project is funded by Brown University Students.

Addressing Reproductive Health from the lens of Mental Health Among Young Adolescents in Viwandani-Mukuru Nairobi Kenya.













EDUCATION PROGRAM

STRIVING TO

Empower the Community Through Education.





2.1: TUJIFUNZE PROJECT

INTRODUCTION

Tujifunze was a three months (pilot) project funded by GRIC and implemented by U – Tena Youth Organization. The intervention was designed and implemented to address learning disruption caused by Covid – 19 in Kenya, which forced learning institutions to be closed. The project was aimed at improving learning outcomes for 200 form three and 30 form four students directly by providing alternative academic learning opportunities. The project focused on community participation and facilitating out-of-school learning support. In addition, Tujifunze fostered strong collaboration with the local community including parents, community leaders, and all stakeholders who play a pivotal role in mobilizing and supporting learners. The project was designed to offer interactive academic learning opportunities, facilitate life skills training, engage with the local community as well as reach out to the parents through radio sessions.

The project was able to reach its target of said 230 students, and in fact, 85% of the students attended over 70% of the targeted sessions, registering a high attendance rate. There were minimal cases of dropout and lack of attendance. High attendance is attributed to the fact that U – Tena has been working in the community in partnership with parents and local leaders to mobilize students and ensure that they attend the sessions. Attendance records were used to assess attendance.

It is important that the adolescents continue to be supported through high-quality teaching and learning in a classroom setting. It is appropriate to continue additional English and Mathematics classes to equip students with knowledge in order to improve their learning outcomes.

It is important to continue to embed life skills training during the structured academic support, in order to boost the morale of students who are behind and put in place remedial learning plans and additional support structures.



Tujifunze in the middle of Covid19 PANDEMIC









SOME PROJECT RESULTS

Outcome 1: Improved learning outcomes for adolescent boys and girls

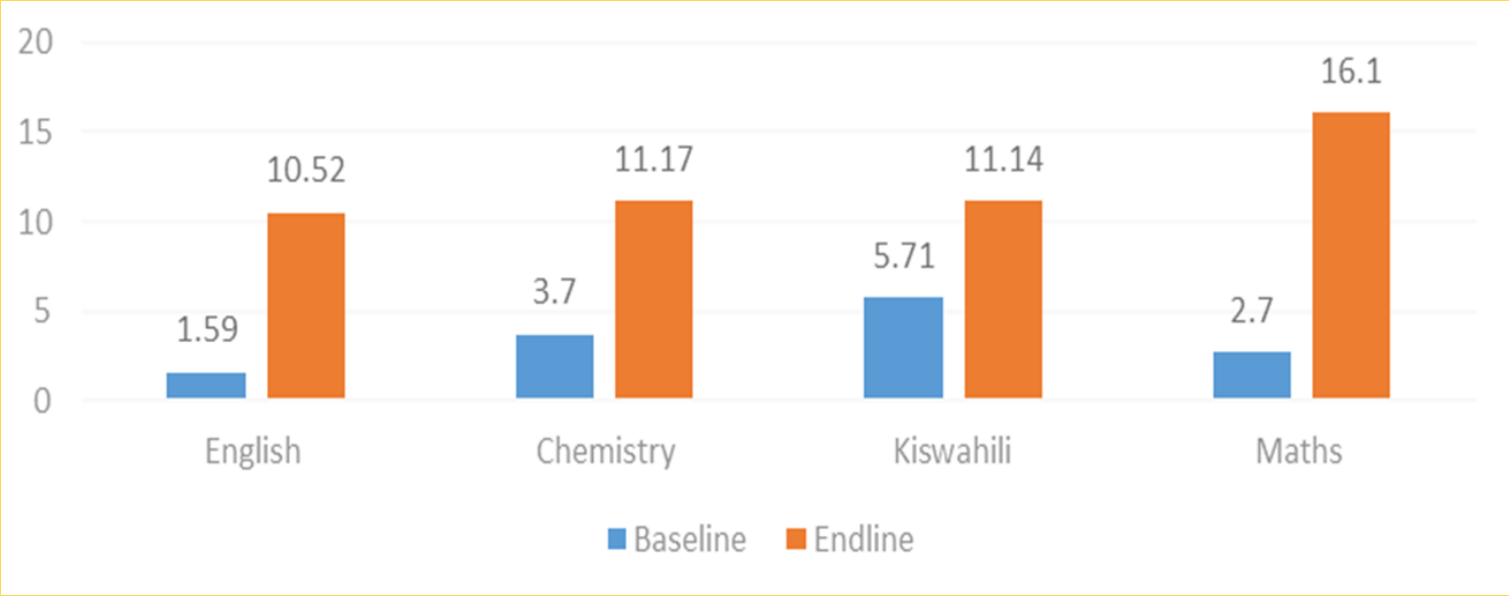


Table four: Subjects mean score at pre and post

The above table indicates overall improvements in all the subjects. The pre-test indicates low scores across the four subjects that were delivered. After the 28 lessons that were covered, the mean score indicates a high performance and this is derived from individual scores on every subject.

Outcome 2: Improved life skills knowledge and practices for adolescent boys and girls

Under this outcome, students were exposed to one hour of life skills training that was geared towards building student's confidence, self - esteem, improve their decision-making skills, improving their interpersonal relationships as well as helping them to cope with stress and supporting others. For life skills, 80 students were randomly assessed and feedback documented.

Students were asked to identify three life skills and describe how they have used the life skills in the past three weeks. The majority of the students at 82% were able to accurately identify key life skills and described how they have used the life skills in their lives. The remaining 10% could only identify one life skill and were unable to correctly relate this with their daily life. 8% were not able to identify any life skills.

The students were asked how they have used life skills in the past three weeks. From the below anecdotal, 90 % of the students identified self-awareness as important, in addition, they noted that it helps them to build their self-confidence and self–esteem. It is apparent that students have been able to work with what they have learned during the life skills sessions. This is to be encouraged and supported. Fifteen percent of students identified both decision-making and interpersonal skills as being important.

Self esteem Assesment

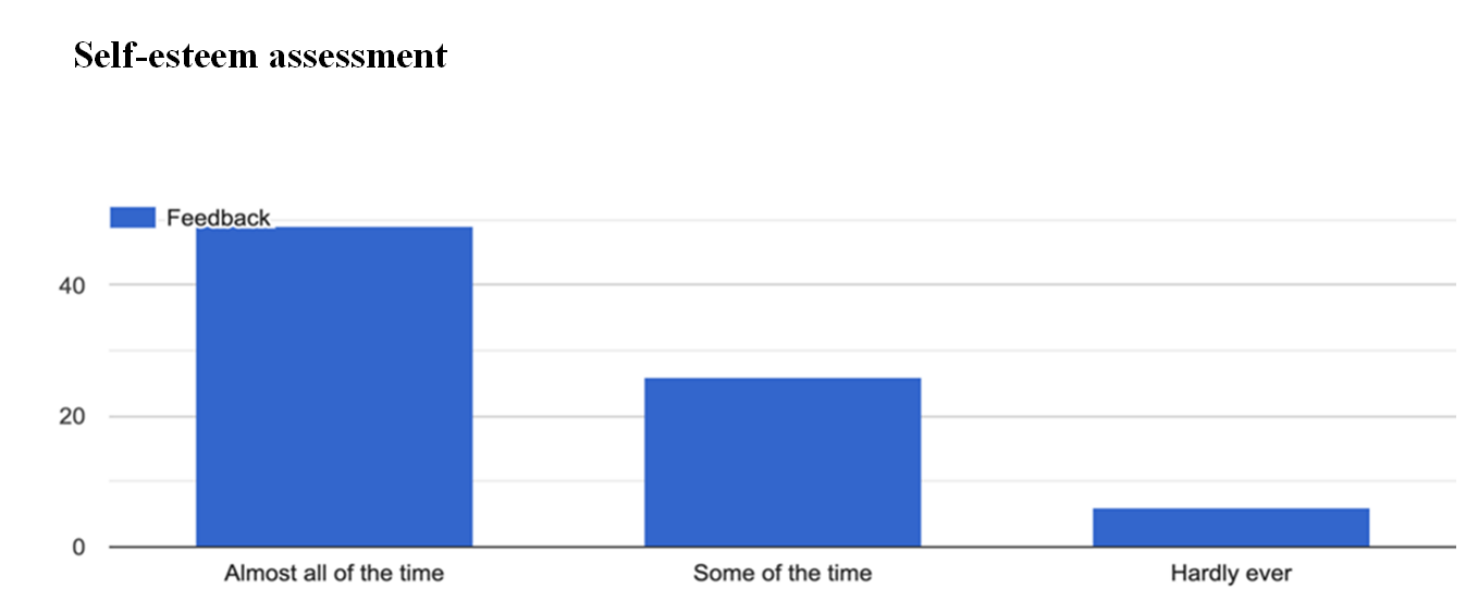


Table Six: Subjects mean score at pre and post

The table shows that most of the students reported that they could stand on themselves at all times at 75%. This is an increase from what was reported at baseline since at baseline 51% had indicated that they could stand for themselves at all times. It would be fair to note that the change in perception and attitude can be attributed to the intervention which corroborates with what was reported in table 5 above.

OUTCOME 3 - Increased parental and community involvement in their child's rights and education

Through several activities including parental engagement through radio shows, parental meetings, one on one conversation, and follow-up, parents and community leaders reported increased involvement in supporting the student's education. This was captured during the said activities although the project was not able to adequately analyze the relationship between the improved performance and the change in behavior of the adolescents and the parental involvement sessions. However, as a way of measuring the effectiveness and listenership, ten parents were randomly called and confirmed they were able to listen to the radio programs at least twice

2.2: Advancing Learning Outcomes for Transformational Change Project

INTRODUCTION

The A LOT-Change project is a community-based after-school support program that has been running in Korogocho and Viwandani since 2013. It is born out of the need to have an integrated approach to improve learning outcomes, psycho-social wellbeing, and behavior among adolescent girls and boys. The first phase (2013-2015) only targeted adolescent girls in grades 6-8 and comprised of homework support in numeracy and literacy, life skills mentoring, parental counseling, and transition to secondary school subsidy. From the successes of the initial phase, the intervention was scaled up in phase 2 (2016-18) to include a leadership component and also target both adolescent boys and girls, with the other components remaining the same. Phase III is a follow-up study of the phase II cohort who transitioned to secondary school in 2019 and will be testing the feasibility of implementing the A LOT-Change model among older adolescents and also check the sustainability of the effects observed in phase II.

In the short-term, these activities are expected to broaden their view of prospective future career paths in different sectors and knowledge of what it takes to get there: improve their social responsibility and citizenship skills, Improve soft skills knowledge among adolescent boys and girls, Improve learning outcomes; enhance their knowledge and skills in the use of digital hardware and related software, and increase parental support for their children's education.

In the long term, we hope that the program will help secure the future of adolescent boys and girls living in urban informal settlements.



The intervention activities for the proposed phase in 2020 included:

- Parental counseling
- Sensitization meeting
- Soft skills through radio
- Career awareness sessions through radio
- Service learning









Parental Counseling, Physical meeting and through Community Radio.

In 2020 most parents had so many issues that needed to be addressed. By the fact that the community knows they are part of the project, most people who had issues approached them for guidance. It has been a challenge for the parents to stay with the adolescents for the longest time ever due to COVID.
To increase parental support for their children's education, U-Tena conducted counseling sessions with the parents and guardians who are part of the project beneficiaries. These sessions were conducted in several groups of 20 parents at most to ensure that covid 19 guidelines on social distancing are observed and all other protocols were also observed. The sessions were facilitated by professional counselors. Additional parental engagement sessions were done through Ruben FM community radio.

The sessions focused on; Effective communication, digital parenting, drunkardness and parenting, child abuse, teen pregnancy and stress management.



Soft skills through radio: U-Tena conducted soft skills sessions targeting both the parents and adolescents. These sessions were done by qualified counselors.



The sessions mostly focused on: peer pressure, effective communication, goal setting, and parental involvement, gender-based violence, teen pregnancy, stress management, adolescence and parental involvement, preparation for school reopening.
The sessions mostly focused on: peer pressure, effective communication, goal setting, and parental involvement, gender-based violence, teen pregnancy, stress management, adolescence, and parental involvement, preparation for school reopening. By the end of sessions, it was noted that willingness of parents to listen to the radio programs provided that they are convenient and communication well done.

Service Learning: Service-learning is one of the key activities under the ALOT change 3 project. The activity focuses on engaging the adolescents in an activity to give back to their community either within Viwandani or outside Viwandani. The activity also aims at making the adolescents responsible aiming at preparing them to be responsible citizens. The adolescents decide on what activity they are comfortable doing with minimal or no supervision. In the middle of the Covi_19 pandemic, adolescents decided to distribute foodstuffs to vulnerable households in Viwandani slums. Listing of the beneficiary households was done by the adolescents but supported by the village elders where 100 households were identified to benefit from the food donations. During the food distribution which was done on the 10th December 2020, all activities including moderating, registration, and distribution of the foodstuff were done by the adolescents. One hundred households directly benefitted from the food distribution and the total number of household members who benefited were 488.









2.3: STaRS Project

U-Tena youth Organization and African Population and Health Research Center partnered on the implementation of STaRS intervention project intervention through a radio program hosted at Ruben FM, Viwandani. This project targets young adolescents in programs studied and addressed issues of gender roles, education, and development in the informal setting of Viwandani Nairobi Kenya.



During the project, implementation U-Tena worked with APHRC to implement STaRS project by providing radio program facilitators and performing artists.

U-Tena Youth Organization also attended meetings and co-produced content that were discussed/disseminated during the radio program.

2.4 World Education Fund

U-Tena Youth Organization partners with World Education Fund in different ways. The mission of the World Education Fund is to provide a platform that enables our users to have an impact on the lives of worthy but needy students in the developing world by helping them to further their education. In 2020, U-Tena partnered with World Education Fund to provide high school scholarships to 40 students in Korogocho and Viwandani Slums in Nairobi Kenya.

Due to Covid_19 economic hardship, U-Tena also partnered with World Education Fund to provide foodstuff to 47 needy families in Viwandani and Korogocho during Christmas Holidays.







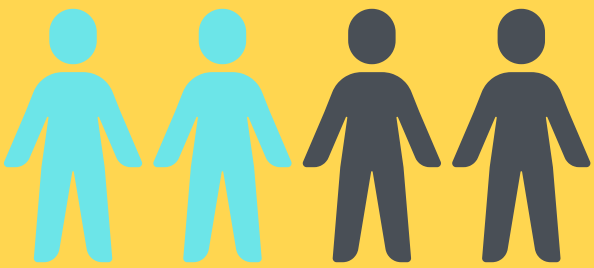


3.0 Livelihood

LIVELIHOOD PROGRAM

STRIVING TO

Empower the Community Through Sustainable Projects.





3.1 Mtaani Initiative

U-Tena Partnered with Kenya Community Development Foundation to support youths on livelihoods. This project was timely because most youths have lost their jobs because of the Covid_19 pandemic. Most small businesses that were owned by different youth groups went down and they probably need a boost to grow during and after the pandemic period. This was a legitimate way of enhancing livelihood as opposed to living youths engaging in illegitimate ways of earning their livelihoods e,g crime.
This project targets youths who are in organized and registered youth groups. These youth are supported by capacity building their groups and sub-granted to run the livelihood ventures. These groups receive continuous mentorship from U-Tena Youth Organization. This project targets 10 youth groups, 213 households that serves about 639 individuals.

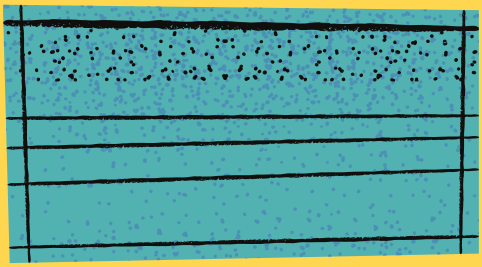


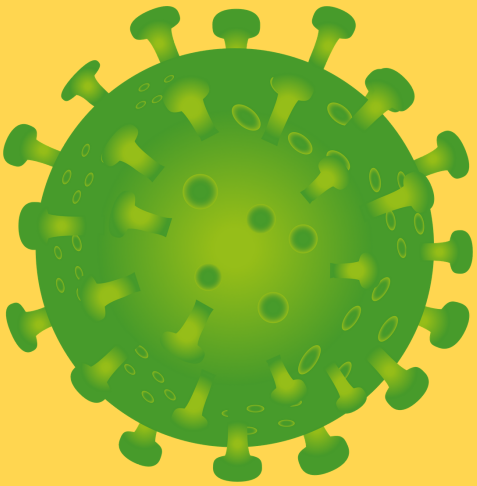


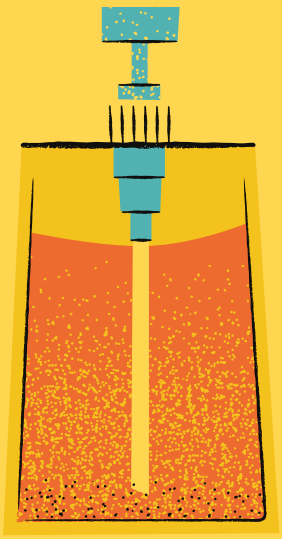


4.0

RESPONSE TO COVID_19









U-Tena KCDF and Cummins Car & General Ltd: these institutions partnered to roll out interventions that responded to the plight of the vulnerable persons in our communities during the Covid_19 Pandemic in 2020.
Courtesy of the above partners U-Tena received food support worth Kes. 450,000, packaged into 330 units. Each of these packages was worth Ksh 1,342, which means it was able to cater to 330 vulnerable households for 2 weeks (each). These foodstuffs went to young parents and guardians who work in the informal sector and were laid off or were struggling to find work during the Covid_19 period.





U-Tena, KCDF, Primechandbhai foundation and Visa Oshwal Community: The said institutions partnered to provide foodstuffs to 65 five vulnerable families in Viwandani. This was part of cushioning affected youth families during the Covid_19 pandemic. The package had foodstuff and some household essentials that would last for two weeks.

U-Tena Youth Organization and World Education Fund: World Education fund, donated foodstuffs that U-Tena distributed to 47 vulnerable families during the covid_19 Pandemic.
U-Tena and Mara Farming: Mara farming provided vegetables that were distributed to 50 needy families during the Covid_19 Pandemic.



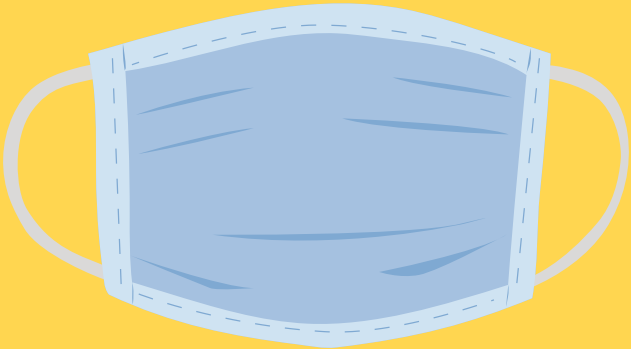


Provision of Personal Protective Equipment



During Covid_19 U-Tena and AHF Kenya partnered to provide sanitizers and other personal protective equipment to health care providers in different health facilities in Makadara, Embakasi and Langata sub-counties





5.0

TEAM MEMBERS



Peter Mokaya– Executive Director



Peter Onchuru Mokaya is a current Executive Director of U-Tena Youth Organization. He holds a Master of Science degree in Health Economics and Policy from the University of Nairobi Kenya. Peter also possesses a Master of Science degree from St Elizabeth College of Health and Social Work Bratislava, Slovakia and a Bachelor of Science degree in Social Work and Health care from the same institution that collaborates with the Catholic University of Eastern Africa. Peter also holds a certificate of trauma counseling from Amani Counseling and Training Institute. The co-founder of U-Tena youth organization has previously worked in Jhpiego, Community Cleaning services, African population and Health Research Center, Movement of men against AIDS in Kenya, COGRI- Lea Toto Program, Chaminade training Institute, Maasai Mara University, Carile College among others.

Peter has a keen interest in health economics, research intervention studies, resource mobilization for community development, mentorship of primary school, high school, and tertiary learners, family planning, non-communicable diseases among the youth among others.

Peter Speaks...

The great Joshua J. Marine said, “challenges are what makes life interesting, and overcoming them is what makes life meaningful.” It is upon the quoted ideology that motivated U-Tena Youth Organization team to make our community developing work interesting by being part of the soldiers that fought the Covid_19 pandemic from medical, social, and economic fronts in 2020.



U-Tena is a youth-driven organization and our generation only read pandemics in historical books. Not knowing that our generation was to be part of the epidemiological history of pandemics, Covid_19 struck in the far city of Wuhan and eventually landed in our doorsteps in 2020. If Viktor Frankl was alive he would probably say again that, ‘’those who have a ‘why’ to live, can bear with almost any ‘how’.” For sure, we had a reason to live beyond 2020 as a generation. I surely, worked with the team to give our community a reason to live the challenges of Covid_19. I closely worked with our staff members and other organization partners to distribute personal protective equipment to our health care team members, we mobilized foodstuff and distributed it to more than 400 households in Mukuru informal settlements, we supported the Makadara health management team to conduct community coronavirus test in Viwandani informal settlements.

As the Covid_19 situation dictated, we restructured our programming to adhere to the Ministry of Health Guidelines. I Inspired my great team to consider carrying some of the activities through community radio or through various online platforms. U-Tena team organized for youth dialogues on Sex and reproductive health and rights through online platforms, We extensively used Ruben FM community radio to carry out our counseling and mentorship programs and managed to expand our audience reach by more than five folds.

Despite the fact that my team members were economically affected by the Covid_19 pandemics, their resilience was beyond reproach as they carried out their duties. While some physical activities were halted because of Covid_19 fears and funding constraints the team made sure that our community was still under our service through different online platforms. Yes, I can proudly boast as an executive director that no member of staff in this great organization was laid off because of economic challenges that were related to Covid_19. Our philosophy right from community beneficiaries to staff members, donors, and the government will still remain- we work hard together, face the challenges together and share the fruits together!

Nicholas Kyalo– Programs Director



Nicholas Kyalo Wambua holds a diploma in community development from Mount Kenya University. He is also a professional counselor having graduated from Amani Counselling Centre and Training Institute in the year 2010. Nicholas has over ten years of experience in community development work. In the recent past Nicholas, successfully managed projects in Non-Communicable Diseases, HIV and AIDS, Sanitation, performing art, and education. He has vast experience in monitoring and evaluation having worked as the Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, and Learning officer in U-Tena for over five years. Nicholas has also worked towards offering his professional skills in different health and education projects including but not limited to TUPANGE (The Kenya Urban Reproductive Health Initiative), JILINDE (Bridge to Scale) Nicholas is currently the program's director in U-Tena youth organization.

Nicholas Speaks...

The year 2020 was a year of great challenge due to the COVID 19 pandemic because most of U-Tena programs involve social gatherings and physical meetings which were banned. As a team player and as a program person, I had to ensure that all activities are effectively done, and objectives met which included changing of few strategies that directly relied on me. As a team player, I would say that despite all the challenges, the team was flexible to adapt to the new norms in ensuring that the organization and specific project goals were adequately met. I however learned that it is always important to prepare for the unknown and the importance of embracing the use of technology in programming. I also thank God for keeping us safe as an organization, all the volunteers and beneficiaries.



Phlectus Mimia - Accountant



Phlectus Mimia is a passionate and dedicated accounting professional backed with diverse experience and impressive academic background. She is the current accountant at U-Tena Youth Organization a CBO in Viwandani Nairobi. U-Tena predominately deals with but is not limited to Youth Mentorship, Empowerment, and Development through various projects in Education, Health, Performing Arts, Livelihood, and Policy Engagements.

Phlectus Mimia who holds a bachelor of commerce degree from Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology is passionate about business optimization and growth, through inclusive management and strategic planning. In her capacity as the accountant, she leads the Finance/Accounts department including certain aspects of Human Resource (HR)/Administration. She has been able to; set up systems, develop effective and cost-efficient policies, procedures, and tools which have greatly improved organizational budgeting and spending leading to increased savings and improved financial reporting.

Before joining U-TENA her expertise has been sought by reputable organizations such as Kenya Pipeline Company, International Organization for Migration (IOM), A&M consulting, PesaKit formerly Pitstop Technologies, among others. She is well acquainted with accounting and financial systems that are in monitoring, evaluating, analyzing, and reporting on financial positions in accordance with the expected budget line.

You can definitely expect complete transparency and accountability from her due to her passion and commitment to her work.



Mimia Speaks...

In 2020 COVID-19 brought the whole world to a standstill! Restrictions needed to be put in place to curb the spread of the virus such as group gatherings, this adversely affected our operations as most of our programs involve congregating groups. A countrywide lockdown was also imposed for most of the year.

There were new budgetary implications for already running programs in that, changes needed to be done to include things such as Infrared Thermometers, PPEs among other things which would lead to strain on the current annual budget.

The prevailing global trends were throwing numerous funding challenges on our organization, being the finance lead I had to steer the team with innovative and efficient reallocating available resources within the annual budget and we were able to come up with a contingency plan to sustain organizational operations for the year. With the support of my team, the mechanisms and systems I had initiated on savings and online banking in the previous year really helped us have a seamless transition to working remotely.

Despite all the challenges I can say 2020 really helped me advance my capabilities as an individual as I learned more on forecasting and analytics which is an important skill for future planning in uncertain times. They say that “challenges help in sweetening your victory!” and I believe as an organization we came out of 2020 victorious

Samuel Wawire- Monitoring and Evaluation Officer

Samuel Wawire Sifuna is U-Tena's Monitoring and evaluation. He holds Bachelors of Science degree in Health records and information management from Kenyatta University. Samuel holds a certificate in Growing Leadership mentor-ship program from Kenyatta University. He is a professional counselor having graduated from Amani Counselling Center and Training Institute.

Samuel, a film technologist and cinematographer-finalist at KCA University has volunteered as an intern-Health Records Information Officer at Kakamega county general hospital after graduation back in 2017.

Samuel as a documentarist has a passion of ensuring quality to change and improve people's lives. He is passionate in mentoring youths (peer educator) in the community to help them realize their full potential. Wawire boosts of diversity: Documentation, Data management, Information Technology- (Graphics design, web design), counselling, mentorship, total quality management (TQM), formulation of M&E tools, research, programming, resource mobilization, project management as well statistics. This health information manager is a visionary, results oriented guy focused on achieving targets set by organization in order to attain the goals as per the vision and mission of the organization through innovation using technology, critical and creative thinking, integrity, discipline, professionalism and Team work.





Samuel Speaks

In 2020, I pride myself as hard working, most innovative and results oriented individual who committed fully towards organization's growth (Strategic plan, vision and mission) and development. As a total quality manager, I was able to deliver high quality results from my effective programming and prudent utilization of organization's resources. I was tasked with monitoring and evaluation of project and project management role in the organization. As a project officer, I had two projects; Coordinating and managing Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Project and HIV and AIDS project. Overall, as Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Data officer I delivered the following: Documentation of project activities, creation of organizations data base for all projects, modification of data collection tools, reporting templates, data collection, verification, entry, verification, cleaning, analysis, presentation and dissemination of data. As an ICT expert, I assisted in designing project reports, infographics for branding and visibility as communications officer. In the office, I was responsible for technical IT operations /networking to ensure software and hardware are working perfectly. I took the lead in recruitment process for project staffs in all projects from advertising, conducting interviews and generating contracts for successful applicants with help of administration. As far as Community development is concerned, I have always been passionate about peer educating youths, parental counseling mentorship, conducting and involving community in outreaches and dialogues. Finally, I am available for office work and all other tasks assigned to me by my colleagues in the spirit of team work and accomplishing the goal of organization. Being my first year in project management, I encountered a series of challenges escalated by prevalent COVID-19 in implementation of projects. Working from home was a challenge as it interfered with direct communication with colleagues and beneficiaries.

Muthoni Kamau – Projects officer



Serah Muthoni Kamau has a diploma in Journalism, a certificate in Trauma counseling from Amani Counseling and Training Institute. Serah did a lot of private tutoring for primary and secondary school students before joining U-Tena Youth Organization.
Serah joined U-Tena Youth Organization as a mentor in the Girl Education Challenge project as a mentor for primary school girls. For a period of more than five years, she also played a pivotal role in parental counseling in U-Tena Youth Organization. Due to her good work, she was later promoted to lead several project implementation teams within U-Tena Youth Organization. At the moment she sits in the management panel of U-Tena youth Organization.

Muthoni Speaks...
I started working with U-Tena Youth Organization as a staff in 2020. Having been an adolescent mentor since 2013, I had a lot of anticipation to execute my duties for the year. Unfortunately, this was cut short due to the emerging of a covid-19 pandemic.
Just like any other Kenyan I had challenges to adapt to the new changes, working from home for most days, mask on all the times, economical and psychological challenges.
U-Tena being an organization that engages the community in education, health, livelihoods, and performing arts programs, the major programs that involved gathering were held off for the longest part of 2020 due to the guidelines provided by the government in relation to Covid-19 measures.
Moreover, I'm thankful to the organization, because, despite the challenges, the organization still retained my job and offered support to the community who were looking up to the organization.



Anthony Mutuku– Strategic Advisor

Anthony Mutuku has a wealth of experience in training and mentoring young people in life skills and leadership. He has been involved in community engagement through participatory approaches to understand community needs and how best they can be addressed. He has been trained in the training of trainers and participatory engagements. He seeks to offer his skills, knowledge, and experience to better the lives of young people to become resourceful citizens.



Anthony has over 18 years of work experience in training, mentoring, and engaging young people community leaders, and community members in the community. He has worked with several institutions working with young people including hope worldwide Kenya and Emory university in the faculty of an interfaith health program (IHP). Anthony has been a key leader in the formation and growth of U-Tena youth organization.



Anthony Speaks ...

I urge every team member to convert all challenges of 2020 into important lessons that can be strategically infused into U-Tena's future programming

Jonathan Nzuki– Senior Strategic Advisor

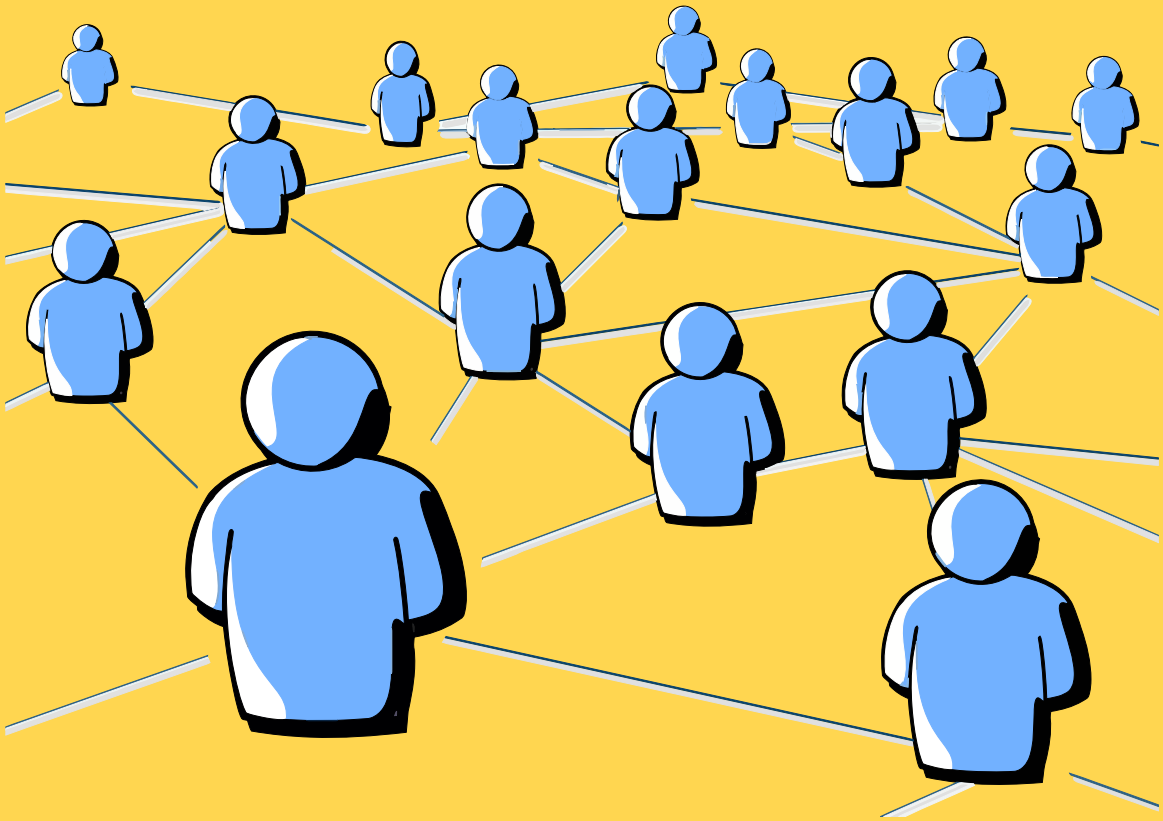


Having a background in leadership and management from St Paul's University, Jonathan believes that leaders are not born but made by people, with this fact he appreciates much the trust that staff members and the entire organization have accorded to him since the inception of this great institution as he has played a key role in making and ensuring its stability for the past 15 years where he is not only serving as a Senior Technical Director but also as the Board Chairman.
He is a community mobilizer with good rapport with the community resource persons and the local administration team thus making it easy for the organization to have a good environment to implement its projects reaching the right intended targeted beneficiaries.

Jonathan Speaks...
Twenty-Twenty being a very difficult year globally, I appreciate every staff who dedicated their time both in the office and remotely in ensuring the organization focus is on course.
Trusting that 2021 shall be a better year for the organization since we are all informed on how to survive and protect each other from contracting this deadly Covid – 19 virus as we adopt the new technologies of project implementation.
My advice to U-Tena fraternity is that we embrace each other as everyone is important with unique diversity and together we shall achieve more as a solid Team.

At the moment U-Tena Youth Organization works with the following change makers:

- 6 HIV Testing Counseling Staff Members in Makadara, Embakasi South, and Kibra Sub counties in Nairobi;
- 28 Education Project mentors;
- 10 HIV Self Test Kits Distributors;
- 8 Mental Health mentors/facilitators;
- 15 Parental Counsellors;
- 6 Community Health Volunteers;
- 2 Youth Friendly Resource Center Volunteers;



6.0 Financial Report

U-TENA YOUTH ORGANIZATION

U-Tena Youth Organization & Partners
Financial Report
For period ended 31st December 2020

Income from projecets	**Amount in KSH**	**Amount in USD**
Health:		
Imarisha Maisha -HIV&AIDS	3,883,200.00	38,070.59
Jichanue - ASRHR	1,500,000.00	14,705.88
RISE - Mental Health	195,524.00	1,916.90
Chukua Selfie -HIV&AIDS	600,000.00	5,882.35
Education:		-
A-LOT Change III	1,949,104.18	19,108.86
Tujifunze	527,143.00	5,168.07
Highe Shool Scholarship Program	773,600.00	7,584.31
Covid-19:		-
Emergency Reponse to Covid-19	450,000.00	4,411.76
Total	9,878,571.18	96,848.74

Notes: Exchange Rate Used : 1$ = Ksh 102

A detailed Financial Report available upon request through info@u-tena.org

7.0 Partners and Donors

In 2020 U-Tena Youth Organization Received Funding from the following Institutions:

World Education Fund

Population Services Kenya

African Population and Health Research Center