U-TENA YOUTH ORGANIZATION

U-TENA ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Annual Report 2022

Providing development opportunities by promoting healthy living, education, livelihood and social responsibility.



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Executive Summary

The Chairman's Message

My great gratitude goes to our Almighty loving God who made it possible for our organization to remain focused on the cause with strong cohesion and strong bond within the staff and the stakeholders. Having successfully achieved almost 95% year set work plan it proved that everyone in the secretariat was dedicated fully to the target hence that makes our pride as an institution since it demonstrates fact that there is self -motivation to all which ensures more success to us.

Our partners and donors continue to be our biggest pillar in achieving all that we have today so we graciously appreciate your enormous support both in-kind and financial. We move to another year with our heads high and rejuvenated spirit geared to always doing the best to our greatest beneficiary that is our community.

May 2023 be a year full of greatness to all that is associated with us. Truly we are because you are.

God Bless U-Tena, God bless Kenya and God bless you all.



Jonathan Nzuki
Chairman and Founder

The Patron's Message



Anthony Mutuku

The year 2022 was a great year for U-Tena youth organization with several projects running and others coming to an end after years of implementation and other projects starting in the same year. ALOT-CHANGE a key project run in partnership with APHRC was coming to an end after nine years of implementation. Other projects within the organization continued to run and featured the areas of Health, education and livelihoods. The collaboration with several partners and donors continued to thrive. The good working relationship with our donors and partners greatly assisted U-Tena impact in the communities we serve. To our donors and partners we appreciate the good working relationship, the support you have continued to offer to U-Tena for the years we have worked together both financially and technically. we look forward for the continued collaboration in the coming years. The teamwork and dedication among staff members enabled U-Tena achieve the success in the year 2022.As we welcome 2023 we would like to thank all our donors, partners, staff and the communities we serve staff making the work of our organization visible and acceptable in the communities we serve. We thank God for the guidance, protection and wisdom in serving our communities.

The Executive Director's Message

This is the year that we implemented the last bit of the 2018-2022 strategic plan with an overall goal that aimed to, 'Optimize people, resources, and processes to improve the quality of life for youth'.
Guided by our strategic objectives, we endeavored to accelerate youth mentorship and development by delivering high-quality, needs-led empowerment programs for youth through partnerships with other local providers as elaborated in this report.
Organizational Development and Strengthening initiatives were deliberately undertaken to make sure that U–Tena is well-managed, sustainable, and effectively delivers quality youth programs in the areas of education, livelihoods, and health. Several partnering organizations came in handy. The knowledge and skills we symbiotically inoculated from them assure U-Tena's sustainability. Resource Mobilization for Sustainability remains a big challenge for most institutions like U-Tena. In 2022 we continued to diversify the funding stream, increased fundraising capacity, and advocated for resources to improve youth programming. We created a new partnership with Population Services Kenya to improve the health and livelihoods of individuals that were affected by drug-resistant TB in Nairobi County. For sure we continued to touch the lives of people in different frontiers.

We initiated and sustained an urban farm in Lunga Lunga health center's compound, a total of 120 students were awarded high school fees of KES 15,000-20,000 per student, a total of 360 adolescents were exposed to a one-month digital literacy skills training, U-Tena managed to test 11,026 individuals out of which 480 positives (4.4%positivity) and 444 (92.2%linked), a total of 59 drug-resistant TB patients were supported on the frontiers of health and livelihoods among other achievements. Our hands are freely open as we look forward to expanding the space of community development,through partnerships and collaborations through each entity's competitive advantage. Let me conclude by embracing the thoughts of Jeff Warne who said that,

"We are not put on this earth for ourselves but are placed here for each other. If you are there always for others, then in time of need, someone will be there for you." Jeff Warne

Welcome and let's face 2023 with confidence!



Peter Onchuru Mokaya, MSc
Executive Director, U-Tena Youth Organization;



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

Our Mission:
Our mission is to provide development opportunities by promoting healthy living, education, livelihood and social responsibility among youth.

Our Core Values:

Excellence;
We foster a workplace culture that embraces innovation, teamwork, leadership, and the sharing of knowledge.

Social justice;
We are a rights-based, action-oriented, and advocate group for those we serve.

Impact;
We believe change is possible. We are change catalysts for individuals, communities, and systems. We lead from one place to a better future.

Professionalism;
We use evidence-informed practices to provide quality services, demonstrating our commitment to ethical and professional standards.

I***ntegrity;***
We steward the resources entrusted to us with competency, efficiency, transparency, and care. We measure progress and report results to demonstrate the value we add.

Area of expertise

1. Livelihood and resilience building
2. Education
3. Youth engagement
4. Sexual and reproductive health
5. HIV and AIDS
6. Non-communicable diseases
7. Performing arts for development

EDUCATION

A LOT CHANGE REPORT

A LOT-Change project is a community based after-school support program that has been implemented in Korogocho and Viwandani since 2013. The program is being implemented in conjunction with Miss Koch Kenya (MKK) and U-Tena Youth Organization.
This project is motivated by the need to have an integrated approach to improve learning outcomes, psychosocial 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 (2016-2018) to include a leadership component and also target both adolescent boys and girls, with the other components remaining the same.

ALOT Change Phase III is a follow-up study of the Phase II cohort who transitioned to secondary school in 2019. In this Phase, APHRC in liaison with Miss Koch and U-Tena is testing the feasibility of implementing the A LOT-Change model among older adolescents and also establish the sustainability of the effects of the intervention as observed in Phase II on the adolescents in secondary school.

The intervention components in Phase III include, career awareness training, mentoring in soft skills, holiday homework support, digital literacy and parental counselling. In the short-term, these components are expected to broaden the enrolled students' 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 by securing the future of these adolescent boys and girls, they will in turn transform their communities positively.

Progress against strategic goals / objectives/ Achievements

a) Digital Literacy Session

Computer and digital literacy skills are essential skills to help young people to navigate technological systems that they interact with on a daily basis. The aim of the program was to introduce and equip A LOT Change mentees with computer skills as tools to meet basic needs such as applying for a job, creating a resume, emailing a family or a friend and navigating the internet. Mentees were taken through basic computer knowledge and Microsoft packages giving learners skills from one level to the next before they graduated. The program was implemented in both project sites and 360 mentees benefitted from the intervention.

b) Parental Counselling

Parental counseling sessions are organized as community support groups, where parents of A LOT change beneficiaries come together to learn from one another as well as bring out challenging issues of interest to the other parents as well as to the benefit of the children.
Additionally, parents are given different lifeskills topics on how to deal with personal issues, conflicts, financial, community problems e.t.c. these sessions have proved to be important because they help parents to effectively deal with emerging issues in their immediate environment that affect their relationships with the children as well as education performance. It's evident that there was active involvement by the parents in the education journey of their children. The sessions have been productive in the sense that parents find the need to follow up on their children.



c) Delivery of the holiday homework support:

Effectiveness of the session, mentors demonstrated desirable practices such as lesson planning, preparing teaching materials in advance, using available revision materials, using interactive techniques, conducting regular assessments and engaging with parents and community to discuss learner performance improvement strategies. In addition, project managers provided supervision of the activities with respect to mobilization and attendance.

d) Service Learning

On the 22nd April, 2022 in Viwandani, U – Tena used a joint approach to mobilize beneficiaries to take part in community clean up activity as part of service learning event. The event focused on community clean – up, award of education scholarships to needy students as well as certification of students who attended the digital literacy classes. The event was graced by key stakeholders in the education and health sectors, who appreciated the work that U – Tena and APHRC was doing in Viwandani of promoting education.

Goal :	**Planned Activities**	**Outputs achieved**
Increase efforts towards securing the future of the children In urban informal settlements by improving learning outcomes, transition to secondary schools, leadership skills and social behaviour among boys and girls aged 12 to 19 years	Parental counselling Service learning	10 parentals sessions conducted 1 service learning session done
	Digital literacy	360 adolescents exposed to a one month of digital literacy skills
	Holiday homework support	14 holiday homework sessions done to 360 adolescents
	Life skills	4 life skills sessions done to 360 adolescents

Sampled Testimonies

1. VIVIAN KERUBO:

I am very Thankful U-Tena and APHRC for the program which had a great impact on our lives both in education and life approach in general. As an adolescent navigating through everyday challenges could not have been successful if it was not for the support and mentorship received. In addition, I appreciate the Programme support during the Covid-19 period through education and using radios to continue supporting us and food support to the vulnerable in our community.

2. JOSEPH WAMBUA:

On behalf of my fellow mentees, am giving my gratitude for the program for it had made us improve in academic's performance through homework support. Also, life skills coaching has led to improved positive behavior and created a healthier relationship with parents and teachers.

3. SIMON BARAZA:

As a parent, I must say the guidance and counseling have improved our parenting skills and our relationship with our children. I have the confidence to talk to my children both girls and boys without any fear.

TUJIFUNZE PLUS

With the goal to fast track / accelerate recovery and minimize the loss of learning and impact of Covid – 19 on struggling learners, U-Tena successfully implemeted the Tujifunze Plus project in 2022. Specifically, the project was to improve learning outcomes for learners by providing access to after school learning opportunities for 600 struggling learners and life skills sessions to 1000 learners in Mukuru areas.

Tujifunze Plus is a two years 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 300 class five and 300 class six both boys and girls directly by providing alternative academic learning opportunities. The project focused on community participation and facilitating remedial sessions within the week and over the weekend supporting time takers in numeracy and literacy in a school set up and 1000 learners exposed to life skills sessions.

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 counselling sessions.

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 learners and ensure that they attend the sessions.

Progress against strategic goals / objectives

Under the education pillar, U-Tena works to achieve its strategic priority area one; youth development through mentorship.

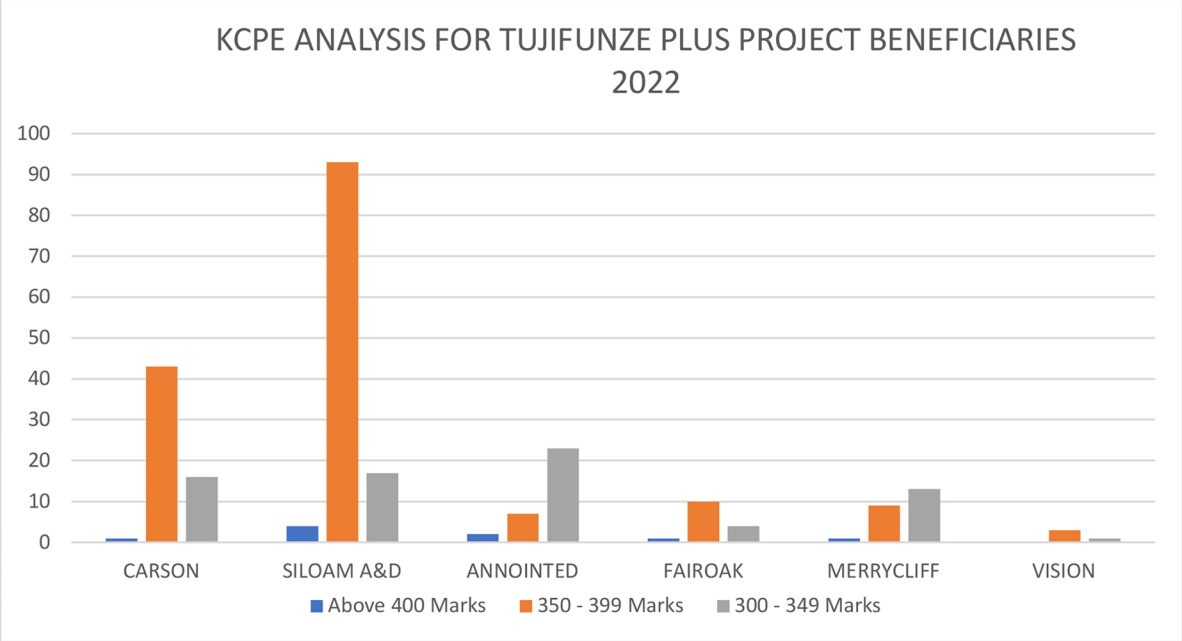
-Tujifunze plus therefore aims to achieve the specific objective to provide and support access to appropriate learning, development and progression opportunities. In the year 2022, U-Tena recruited learners who were supported to improve their learning outcomes through several interventions including weekly remedial sessions where 128 sessions were done for both numeracy and literacy, life skills sessions successfully conducting 36 sessions in the seven centres and parental engagement and involvement.

-The involvement of the parent as an enabler was to equip them with knowledge and skills to support their childrens education both in school and create a ondusive learning environment at home for the learners.

-To ensure the entire process is monitored and evaluated at the end of the project to inform decisions and future interventions, U-Tena worked with an external MERL consultant where evaluations were done at different levels.

PROJECT ACADEMIC RESULTS

Below are the academic results for the class eight 2022 beneficiaries fro the different centres specifically for the learners who have been supported through the Tujifunze Plus Project



World Education Fund

U-Tena Youth Organization has been partnering with World Education Fund to offer scholarships to bright and needy students in Mukuru slums.

In 2022 a total of 120 students were awarded school fees of KES 20,000 per student each.	
Partnering schools	28 National Schools with 40 students 68 Extra County Schools with 73 students 4 County Schools with 4 students 2 Sub-county Schools with 2 students 1 private school with one student
Transition	Twenty-three out of 40 students that received scholarships scored C+ and above and transited to university in 2023(1st Cohort



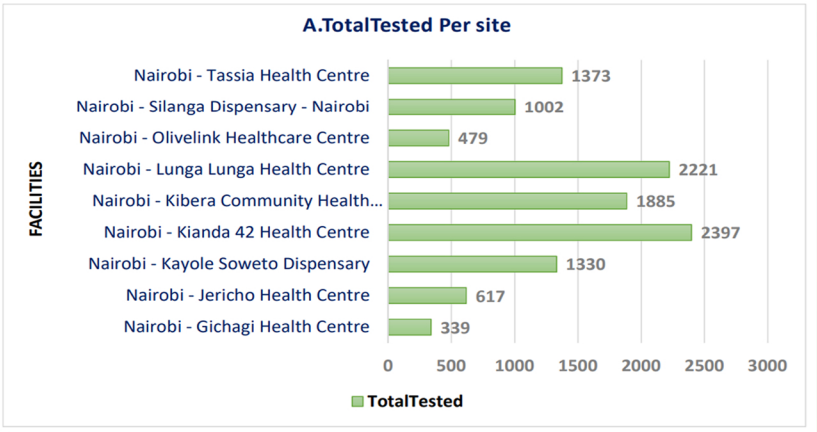
HEALTH

IMARISHA MAISHA

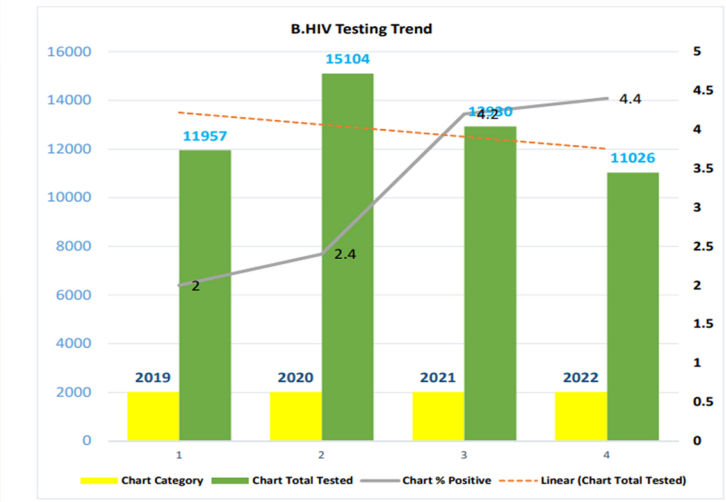
Imarisha Maisha is an HIV project that is under the Health program at U-Tena . The project is tasked with identification, testing, linkage, and treatment of clients in rapid testing program towards 95-95-95. U-Tena supported 9 sites in four sub-counties that is LungaLunga Health Centre, Olivelink Health, Jericho Health Centre, Kayole Soweto Dispensary, Tassia Health Center, Kibera AMREF, Silanga Dispensary, Kianda 42 health center and Gichagi health center.

U-Tena managed to test 11026 in total out of which 480 positives (4.4%positivity) and 444(92.2%linked) by 31th December 2022. The strategy was Rapid testing, Assisted partner notification services, rapid response initiative, and referrals through a youth□friendly resource center. The main activities include; Site support supervision, Data quality assurance/audit, HIV Testing Services support supervision, quarterly data review, and condom distribution across sites that U-Tena supports. Imarisha managed 11 monthly supervision, 8 HTS supervision, 2 refresher training, 11 site supervisions & distributed 101,002 condoms.

Data Insights







Summary Framework

Goal	Target	Outputs achieved by December 2022
UNAID goals 95-95-95 towards transforming lives through social responsibility and quality HIV rapid tesing prevention programming.	⊠ Tested 19565 clients ⊠ Positive 782 clients ⊠ 90% clients linked	⊠ Tested: 11026 ⊠ Postive: 480 (4.4%) ⊠ Linkage: 444 (92.5%)

DRTB PROJECT

Drug resistant TB project is a health project being implemented by U-tena in partnership with Population services kenya and targets patients with Drug resistant TB within Nairobi region.

The project aims at offering psychosocial support for DRTB patients and Economic empowerment through the establishment of income-generating activities.

Project against strategic objectives

Goal	Planned Activities	Outputs achieved
Formation of 6 support groups across Nairobi county	Support group meeting for each target sub-county	6 support groups formed across Nairobi county with 4 officially registered with the relevant government ministry, and acquired a group certificate, and opened a group bank account.
Offer psychosocial support to DRTB patients	Support group meetings	Psychosocial support offered to patients.
Conduct entrepreneurship training for the DRTB patients	Entrepreneurship training	27 patients trained on entrepreneurship.
Enrolment of patients to the support groups	Suport group meetings	59 patients enrolled to the support groups.

LESSONS LEARNT

- Peer influence-patients are encouraged/motivated when they share their stories.
- Support groups act as safe spaces for patients to share their challenges.
- Support groups act as a platform to strengthen the relationship between patients and various stakeholders (nurses, counselors, and sub county lab coordinators).



MENTAL HEALTH

RISE Project is a U-TENA in partnership with Brown University (USA) students being implemented in Viwandani Nairobi among 120 adolescents.
The methodology implied is through focus group discussion (FGDs) and one- on -one psychological support model with the use of Problem Management Plus tools designed by the World Health Organization with an objective to reduce the burden of common mental health problems among people who are faced with adversity and in need not able to access appropriate care. RISE project incorporates mental health in Sexual reproductive health (SRH).
This methodology acts as a rapport creator which unpacks the challenges the mentees are facing in the community, school, and home set-up. It helps in going to the level of the mentees and conducting the sessions with them as per their heartfelt needs at hand.
This project impacted the lives of 120 young adolescents in 2022 by use of the WHO Problem Management Plus.



Angaza_Adolescent and Young People Sexual Reproductive Health Rights Project

Angaza Mentorship Project is a U-Tena in partnership with Aids Healthcare Foundation Kenya being implemented in Viwandani among Adolescents& Young People(AYP). Currently, we are working with Star of Hope Secondary school specifically 15 form 1 students who are the ambassadors of their various streams.
We use different approaches and methodologies in disseminating ASRH information to the selected AYPs. Using the adolescents' guide by the Ministry of health Understanding Adolescents which has deep, vivid, and clear insights on how to combat AYPs issues, approaches, airing, and also ways to mitigate challenges they face in the community set-up.

In 2022 students and their parents were well-engaged in different areas.

- Communication skills with children;
- Parenting skills;
- Facilitated Joint parental-adolescents meeting to strengthen their relationships;
- Facilitated parental peer learning;
- Knowing children's friends;

Adolescents were meaningfully engaged in the following,

- Drugs and substance abuse;
- HIV and AIDS and other Sexually Transmitted Infections;
- Meaningful utilization of technology;
- Effective communication;
- Goal setting and future planning;
- Peer pressure consequences;

WORLD CONTRACEPTION DAY

#WCD2022

MAKADARA SUBCOUNTY ,NAIROBI CELEBRATES WCD ON:26TH SEPT 2022

TIME
FROM 9: 00 A.M

Theme :

Knowing the myths

Venue & Activities:

- Walk from Viwandani chief's camp to Lungalunga Health center
- Dialogue
- FP Inreach

triggerise
Connecting For Change

THE YOUTH FRIENDLY CENTER

A youth-friendly center is a place that brings together youths from different communities. It's called a friendly center because there is no discrimination held in the place. Youths use the friendly center to do activities that build them and also discuss the major things that are useful and can build their future.

The youth-friendly center offers both family planning and HIV Testing services. There are games that unite and bring the youths together including table tennis, chess, and table pool.

In the youth-friendly center, there were activities done that represent different occasions like World Aids Day, World Contraception Day, World Day of the Girl Child among others

The center is also used for training which educates the community members. The training includes Non-communicable diseases, health talk about Sanitation, HIV/AIDS, and COVID-19 VACCINE among others.



HEALTHY FOOD AFRICA PROJECT

U-Tena through the support of APHRC and city shamba chose crop farming after a successful training. The project team procured necessary inputs for crop farming including specific species tools, manure, pipes, fence, soil, pallets, and spirals. The farm was prepared accordingly with close consultation of city shamba.

Imarika incorporated modern urban farming techniques that's spirals, cone, pallets, verticals and partitions as a way of utilizing the space at the youth friendly resource centre.The project chose kienyeji, coriander, tomatoes,onions, kales, spinach and pumpkin to start with.

The team determined to succeed and utilized every resource at hand to make Imarika work including outsourcing funds for farm preparation and maintenance.



The site being strategic achieved the following:

1. Ready market for the proceeds from the immediate facility, vibanda and group members. Demand surpassed supply.
2. Resilience during drought as U-Tena partnered with the facility for water.
3. Providing mentorship to teen mums that succeeded in replicating the same model in the adjacent farms and exposing youth visiting the youth-friendly center to the farm.
4. The farm is on despite project funding closure. U-Tena decided to strengthen Imarika project as the main livelihood pillar.
5. Most buyers repeatedly bought our vegetables because of the quality and high nutrition value compared to other vegetables.

Details of your farming activities

Farm set up	*Imarika utilized cone, pallet gardens, and normal horizontal farming because of adequate space.*
Types of crops planted	*Vegetables included: pumpkins, coriander,soinach,Sukuma, onions, tomatoes, kienyeji like kunde,managu)*
Approximate amount of crops produced from your farm	*110KG (Approximate)* *Worthy KES 40,000*
How the harvest was used	*Consumed at a fee.* *Sold to facility staffs, organization members, and retailers.*
Market	*Sold to facility staffs, organization members, retailers.*
Income	*KES 40,000*
Pest and soil management practices	
Types of fertilizers you used	*Manure*
Types of manure used	*Mixture of Cow dung, rabbit wastes, sheep and goats wastes.*
Methods used for to control	*Timely watering of leaves* *Proper ploughing and weeding out affected leaves.*
Pesticides used	*None. There was no need as the farm was healthy.*

Lessons	***Conclusions***
✓ *Water is essential for farming. It dictates the success of urban farming.* ✓ *Urban farming is scalable, replicable, and sustainable given the right mentorship and support.* ✓ *The community prefer naturally prepared vegetables to GMO's* ✓ *Persistent is key to success. Never give up even if you make losses because in the long run, success is inevitable if the team has a clear plan and strategy of crop farming*	*U-Tena would like to appreciate APHRC and the city shamba HFA for their trust, support, and partnership. The organization is committed to scaling up Imarika project beyond 2022 and sustaining it as the organization's main IGA.* *U-Tena is proud to mentor teen mothers and will continue to offer trainings/ mentorship to Mukuru community on urban farming towards zero hunger initiative.*








BRANDING AND VISIBILITY

Strategy

As a non-governmental organization, it is necessary to be visible towards other NGOs, NPOs, corporations grant funding agencies, philanthropies, public, government of Kenya, development institutions and other areas to conduct fundraising activities or to seek for sponsors and donations. Now that we are living in the digital age, the use of social media Has been the norm for majority of the world population who have access to the Internet hence it doesn't mean that all trends should just fade and disappear. U-Tena utilised some of the best ways to increase her presence globally through the following conduit:

Social Media.

To reach a wide range of audiences, you must be where they are. In this case, corporate funding for NGOs, donor agencies for NGOs, foreign funding agencies for NGOs and funding organisation for NGOs. Can be found in websites and shared on social media. For these agencies to notice, you will need to have a huge following and ideally tag them in every phenomenon. U-Tena utilized her Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and the website to share timely activities as they happened. The online dialogues and radio talk show in 2022 were covered live on the social media handles targeting youths, general population and appealing to different donors to get involved.
The strategy adopted by U-Tena was a content calendar where social media manager posts twice per work on events highlighting different events, program projects and advocacy.

Traditional Media.

U-Tena partnered with local radio station, Ruben F.M and K24 TV in 2022 to cover world contraception day. This ensured our national presence in marking one of the remarkable celebrations touching women and youth. The media voiced out challenges facing access to ASRH based on the opinions of the participants. U□Tena partnered with other Health NGOs to print a banner that brought to the fore the celebration theme and intended action points. Through this engagement UTena got new partners like Narobits that ended up working together in the SBIZE program.

EXPERIENCES

MY EXPERIENCES WITH MENTORING JEREMY SWANAPOLE MENTOR /COUNSELLOR UTENA YOUTH ORGANISATION

I am looking at the power outlet on the wall here in my personal space and reflecting on the mentoring and I realize that it's all about tapping into the power that is available to you . Mentoring is all about plugging into the rights sources to access the energy needed to make it through life. In my role as a mentor here at U-Tena Youth Organization I understood that a major part of my role is to be available source of positive influences, encouragement and direction to students and parents whom I came into contact with.



In the fall of 2015, I came into contact with U-Tena youth organization located along Lunga Lunga road in Nairobi, the organization mainly focuses on improving life at local and community level artistically, it was through this platform that I was ushered into the world of mentoring and community work. My role was to focus both on relationship and also set preconceived duties of mentees allocated to . The journey involved building of trust relationships, sharing expertise, moral support and reliability . The mentoring also focused on practicing life skills, leadership, time-managment, motivation ,influencing ,decision –making, empathy , problem –solving and managing emotions. This is to help the mentees learn the skills the organization had designed an excellent curriculum and activities based learning system that practices each skill through this project.

I believe a mentor affects the professional life of mentees by fostering insights, identifying needed knowledge and experienced growth opportunities .This assistance supplements the coaching an individual's already received from his or her supervisor. Mentoring gives you an extraordinary opportunity to facilitate a mentees personal and professional growth through sharing of knowledge you learned through years of experience. The primary intent of mentorship is to challenge the mentees to think in anew and defined ways. apart from just passing on skills, knowledge and building relationship mentorship is a two-way traffic in which also the mentor tends to benefit through this as indicated below;

Skills Enhancement: The experience one would gain by mentoring someone can facilitate your own professional growth, making you more of an asset to your organization. Working with my Mentee from a different background and with a different personality type allowed me to strengthen my coaching and leadership skills. My ability to manage people different from you is a valuable skill, especially as the workplace continues to grow more diverse. Besides skills enhancement, mentoring improved my performance at my workplace.

Increased in Motivation & Confidence level: My role as a mentor contributes to the success of your entire organization. As a member of the team, I very well know the importance of developing and retain ability. By priming promising mentees to become top-performing individuals and by providing them with the challenges, support, and commitment needed to keep them motivated, my mentoring efforts effectively helped in boosting team members' confidence levels.

You get to learn new stuff: When you become a mentor you learn about how things work at different levels and in different places. Additional context always makes you smarter. seriously learned many difficult work skills which may not be taught in schools or colleges like Empathy, Introspection, Time Management, Self-Awareness, and Emotional Intelligence which made me a better manager and leader. These skills helped me improve my judgement thereby enhancing my overall skill set and making me a more valuable member of my team.

Collaboration for Problem Solving: Mentorship activities focused on having discussion and arguments on various general problem topics with the main objective of having a healthy discussion rather than arguing on it. Apart from the general topic mentioned in the activity, we discussed on my Mentee's problem wherein I collaborated with him to identify the concerns and brainstorming on a possible plan and solution. I asked my mentees to try this out and we also discussed the positive and negative outcomes of it. It may not be necessary that as a Mentor your solution be the most effective for him, but collaboration and brainstorming can open up many other solutions of which the Mentees or Mentor may or may not have thought.

Conclusion : 'The life you end up changing could be your own'. Based on the above quote, Although mentoring can be a truly rewarding experience, becoming a Mentor is a big decision and one that should not be taken lightly. Our decision to become Mentors will lead to a series of events and opportunities you can't possibly foresee, to experiences and challenges and rewards you can't anticipate — but all of them will force you to learn and evolve and, perhaps even despite yourself, become a better human being.

I thank U-Tena Youth Organization management together with mentoring team for considering me and giving me an opportunity to perform this role and also to appreciate the excellent work you are doing as organization .

ALICE W. NJOROGE

I am a community social worker and a counselor. For the past seven months, I have been volunteering my services to teenagers and parents in Viwandani under U-Tena organization

projects.



Counseling is a field that requires a lot of professionalism, commitment, resilience and compassion. It has been a good experience to give people a listening ear and a shoulder to lean on, guide, help and give referrals when necessary. It has also taught me a lot of things from other people's experiences and molded me into a better person hence making other people better as well.

The counseling sessions have improved child-to-child relationships and this has helped a lot in improving academic performances, reducing teenage pregnancies and family conflicts to a better community. I also want to thank U-Tena for supporting counselors in having debriefing sessions just to ensure that they are okay and able to continue offering their services to the community since the problem shared is half solved.

Thank you so much.

AMONG THE EXPERIENCES IN THE PROJECT IN BRIEF ARE:

1. Children have shown improvement in the targeted areas of numeracy and literacy.
2. Parents have given series of testimonies of how counselling sessions have empowered them.
3. Life skills have transformed many lives and changed behaviors testified.
4. Motivation to teachers and pupils have been encouraging. This involves monetary and milk packets.
5. The school board and teachers are well empowered.
6. My outstanding experience is of a girl called Mitchell Makungu who joined the program when she was drastically failing in Mathematics and English, scoring less than 30% in each. In KCPE, she scored 57%(C+) in Mathematics and 60%(B-) in English.

JACKSON MAUNGE NDETI

CENTRE MANAGER OF TUJIFUNZE PLUS PROJECT AT FAIR OAK SCHOOL CENTRE.



I am glad for the opportunity to share my experience with Tujifunze Plus project. Since its inception in Mukuru Kwa Njega, I have been an active member. This begun in February 2021 where I signed a memorandum on behalf of our school. For the one year of phase one and phase two where its coming to an end, I have attended all forums, meetings, counselling sessions and received the donor- GRIC in our school twice for mentoring. I have well-coordinated the schools in our Centre for the two years.

As an achievement of the project, our school has managed to attain 74.67 in English and 70.92 in Mathematics in the last released KCPE results. Thank you so much Tujifunze Plus Project through U-Tena.

LESSONS LEARNT/EXPERIENCE

In 2022, my experience at U-TENA YOUTH ORGANIZATION was great and recommendable. Am very glad that I learned a lot of new things with the organization. I have learned to socialize with the youths and help them get the services offered in the youth-friendly center.

As the Youth Friendly Services manager, I have been able to learn more about family planning, sexual reproductive health and HIV/AIDS. The year was a success for me.

EMMA ACHIENG'

Generally, my work experience at U-Tena Youth organization was so positive and amazing in the year 2022. I was very happy with the number of things I learned and the diverse experience I gained for the last few months that I was at U-Tena, for me it has been a learning process and a diverse exposure which I must confess I made a step in developing my career here.

The first program I was introduced to was the education project, that is World Education Fund (WEF). The project has advanced my knowledge in data entry, programming and socialization with different teenage students, parents or their guardians. Knowing the impact of how this fund is of great help to them through their termly journals, is really something that should be applauded. Being part of the Angaza mentorship program is something I feel proud of and knowing that I have students at heart and that they look up to me as their role model and mentor is indeed a blessing and I feel good about that.



Imarisha Maisha as a health project has broadened my thoughts, views, and perceptions about community health wise and I am looking forward to learning more come 2023. Taking part in site visits and commodity distribution both consumables and non-consumables to AHF-supported facilities like Kayole NMS and the rest in partnership with U-Tena has been a great and one of my great achievements in 2022. This exercise really motivated me and made my 2022 a success.

The year 2022 was a milestone for me to soar higher and I loved the exposure that came with it. May the

Nicholas Speaks.....

As we reflect on the past year, I am incredibly proud of the impact our organization has made through our health, livelihood, and education programs. We remain committed to our mission of empowering communities and fostering sustainable development, and it is with great joy that we share the highlights of our accomplishments in this year's annual report.



Health Programs: Our health programs have made a profound difference in the lives of countless individuals and especially the young people in the urban informal settlement. Through our dedicated team and partnership with healthcare professionals and community health workers, we have provided health education to vulnerable populations. Our efforts in disease prevention and access to essential healthcare have led to improved health outcomes and enhanced overall well-being in the communities we serve.

Livelihood Programs: Our livelihood programs have empowered individuals and families to break the cycle of poverty and achieve economic self-sufficiency. By offering training, resources, and support for income-generating activities, we have witnessed the transformation of lives as community members developed entrepreneurial skills and established sustainable livelihoods. These successes have not only increased household income but also instilled a sense of pride and resilience within the communities.

Education Programs: Education is the foundation of progress, and our education programs have been a driving force in empowering the next generation. Through partnership with schools, access to quality education has expanded, providing children with opportunities for a brighter future. Our focus on inclusive and equitable education has also made strides in promoting gender equality and social inclusion.

Staff and Partner Appreciation: None of these achievements would have been possible without the unwavering dedication and hard work of our committed staff members. As Programs Director, I am deeply grateful for their passion, professionalism, and tireless efforts in making our initiatives a reality. Their commitment to our mission has been instrumental in shaping the positive outcomes we celebrate today. Furthermore, our success is greatly attributed to the collaborative efforts with our esteemed partners. Their support, expertise, and shared vision have been invaluable in amplifying the impact of our programs. Together, we have built strong partnerships that drive sustainable change and bring hope to the communities we serve.

Looking Ahead: While we celebrate the accomplishments of the past year, we also recognize the ongoing challenges that lie ahead. As we continue on this journey, we remain steadfast in our commitment to innovation, collaboration, and community-centered approaches. Together with our staff, partners, and the communities themselves, we look forward to creating an even greater impact in the years to come.

In closing, I express my heartfelt gratitude to all who have contributed to the success of our organization. Your support has been the cornerstone of our achievements, and we remain inspired and committed to making a positive difference in the lives of those we serve.

Emmilly Atieno

Am grateful to God for a successful 2022 year and for working great team in U-Tena who are focused and goal-oriented. The year 2022 was a great year that through U-Tena I was able to learn and establish myself in my career and advancement in learning. Through U-Tena, I was able to attend trainings given a platform to share with the community members when implementing a project called DRUG Resistance TB (DR-TB project) on entrepreneurship skills that was helpful for them to start and run their businesses throughout the project and also use the skills after the project.



In line with the goals and vision of the organization, I was able to take part in forums that helped me learn more about financial management, fund mobilizations, effective communication, Budget creation, financial reporting, and through these forums, one of our partners was able to capacity built me on the knowledge and implementation of QuickBooks (an accounting software). Through this, I was enabled to bring success and effectiveness in the reporting of the financial records in the organization. U-Tena is the best place to be for growth and development.

I am extremely proud and grateful to be part of such a dynamic and forward-looking organization. I wish to thank the board, my colleagues at the U-Tena Youth Organization whose hard work, expertise, and innovative spirit are reflected throughout the report, the community, and our partners for their support over the past year.

Serving the Community through U-Tena



Peter Mokaya, reflects.....

It is hard to give an account of every experience I encountered while serving the community through the U-Tena Youth Organization. For sure I will sample out the few that I find fit herein.

The year 2022 began with high hope. The team of U-Tena was energized to serve the Mukuru community and beyond. We were sure that our Imarisha Maisha_ HIV and AIDS project was going tocontinue since its initiation in 2016. I'm humbled to stretch my head an inch higher and say that I motivated my team to clearly plan and make every possible contribution to the 95 95 95 UNAIDS agenda of locating at least 95 percent of the population that didn't know their HIV status and tests them, while aiming for 100% enroll at least 95% of the HIV reactive clients to quality treatment and care and finally put every possible effort that the viral suppression of individuals under our care goes beyond the rapid detectable viral load levels. By the end of 2022, U-Tena managed to test 11,026 individuals out of which 480 were positive (4.4%positivity) and 444 (92.2%linked). I wish to remind us that these are not just numbers but people who give meaningful contributions to their families and the nation's economy.

The great Advanced Learning Outcome for Transformational Change Project was coming to an end. Our 9 years of engagement with the African Population and Health Research Center in mentoring more than 2000 individuals from grade six through university level was not only ending but provided an opportunity for us to reflect on the impact we had contributed to the great men and women of the Viwandani community.

For sure Holiday homework support boosted the academic performance of our learners, Life skills and leadership mentorship empowered our adolescents to face life challenges with confidence, Exposure visits expanded the career choices of our learners, Mental Health Support gave our learners the stability they needed to concentrate on their studies, Service learning support made them appreciate the importance of serving humanity, Parental engagement empowered parents to take good care of their teen children. Through this initiative, cases of teen pregnancies, crime, and other cases related to school dropout were greatly reduced, and the rate of retention and transition improved.

Although we have had a working relationship since 2007, at the dawn of 2022 we created a new frontier of partnership with Population Services Kenya. This yielded a total of 59 drug-resistant TB patients who were supported in the areas of health and livelihoods among other achievements. Again, these are people and not just numbers!

It gives me satisfaction to note that we gave scholarships to 120 bright and needy high school students. I will continue inspiring people of goodwill to continue investing in this noble initiative.

The greatest act of humanity fulfills your soul when your inner consciousness constantly affirms your actions. My body, soul, and mind are happy with the staff of U-Tena and the community that we have been serving. We welcome 2023 with little expectation and with the greatest hope of touching people's hearts in a positive way!

OUR PARTNERS

KCDF
people, giving and working together

APHRC
African Population and Health Research Center
Transforming lives in Africa through research.

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WEF
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GRiC
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people unlimited

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