

BARAKA CHILDREN'S HOME



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ANNUAL REPORT 2008

VISION: OUR VISION IS CARING FOR ORPHANS BY IMPROVING CHILDRENS SOCIAL WELFARE STATUS THEREFORE ENABLING THEM TO EXCEL IN LIFE

MISSION: OUR MISSION IS TO PROVIDE ORPHANED CHILDREN WITH BASIC AND SECONDARY NEEDS SUCH AS FOOD, SHELTER, CLOTHES, PARENTAL AND SPRITUAL GUIDANCE, LOVE, MEDICAL CARE, RECREATION FACILITIES, EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING

BACKGROUND & SUMMARY

The idea of a “Children’s home” originated from a Women’s self help group at Bamburi in October 2002. A group of six members proposed to start the home for orphans after encountering and observing several cases of neglected and abandoned HIV/AIDS orphans within the community. The vulnerable status of the orphans forced most of these children to live on Streets begging for food and money. It was heartbreaking to observe the destitute life of these Children exposed to unbearable abuse, Sexual and Economic exploitation, Child labour, hunger, lack of Education and Health care.

The Orphan’s predicament validated our Vision, “*Caring for Orphans by improving the social welfare status therefore enabling them excel in life*”.

Baraka Children’s home was started in January 2003. We kicked off in a Two-bedroom rented house at Bamburi Kidarajani. The vulnerable children we accommodate are identified through the Chiefs office/Community and DCO’s office (*District Children’s Officer*) that is under the Ministry of Home Affairs & National Heritage”.

Baraka Children’s home relocated to NGUU TATU on 6th January 2007. We have acquired Five (5) acres of land at Nguu-Tatu village in Mwakirunge Sub-location.

Even though our Vision is to assist Orphans, periodically we are obligated to accommodate abused and abandoned Children rescued through the DCO’ office/Police or Community. Baraka provides temporary Shelter and Protection whilst the Protection Agent pursues the Legal process and resettlement for rescued children. Baraka also supports few home based Orphans and Vulnerable children accommodate by the Community.

Our priority is to ensure that all Children have secure Shelter, Food, Health, Education and enjoy quality life.

Above all we ensure Children’s rights are protected as contained in the children’s Act Cap 586 Laws of Kenya.

OBJECTIVES

Our Key objectives to guide the Management accomplish Baraka’s **Vision** and **Mission** to guarantee quality life for the Children.

1. Supply Children with adequate Diet. A minimum of three (3) Meals daily, ensure Cooking Fuel and portable Water is supplied.
2. Establish a secure Shelter, adequate space and privacy for each child. Ensure all necessary facilities such as Kitchen, Bathrooms and Toilet are accessible. Maintain a Hygienic environment, Provide clothing, Parental and Spiritual guidance.
3. Provide quality Primary and Secondary Education for the Children, Technical and Professional Training to ensure they have sustainable Livelihood.
4. Provide Children with good Medical care and Hygienic environment.
5. Ensure Children are protected from any form of Abuse, Discrimination, Slavery, Cruelty, Protected from sexual and Economic exploitation, and from use or trafficking harmful substances
6. Furnish the Home with necessary Furniture, Educational Tools, Equipment and Recreational facilities,
7. Establish efficient Management, in Logistics, Communication and Human Resources
8. Develop sustainable Resources mobilization activities and Subsistence Farming at the home

CHILDREN ADMISSION CRETERIA & PROGRESS

The criteria for admission in Baraka is as follows:- Priority is given to Children aged Three(3) years to Seven (7) years; He/She must be a genuine Orphan and Homeless; There is no bias based on Religion, Ethnic or Political affiliation of the Child relatives. Selection based purely on the Child’s Vulnerability

The maximum number of Children to be accommodated in Baraka is Thirty (30), except there is adequate Room and Resources to accommodate more Children. Nevertheless Consent must be given by the Committee members. The chart below reflects the actual numbers of children clustered by Age groups

STATISTICS OF CHILDREN BY 31st DECEMBER 2008

CHILDREN IN CATEGORIES	TOTAL	BOYS	GIRLS
AGE 0 - 5	6	2	4
AGE 6 – 10	6	1	5
AGE 11 - 15	10	8	2
AGE 16 - ABOVE	3	3	0
TOTAL	25	14	11

Through the years 2007 to 2008 Baraka accommodated a total of Thirty (30). However five (5) of the Children rescued and sheltered at the home over one year, finally were relocated to other institutions during the year via the DCO's office. As of 31st December 2008 Baraka had custody of twenty five (25) Children. Note this number is likely to increase in 2009.

FOOD

The most essential task is to provide Children with adequate diet; three (3) Meals daily and ensure Children have clean drinking water for domestic consumption. We are glad to report that in 2008 Children always had Food and Water. This was made possible by occasional donations from well wishers, Friends and local institutions like National Bank of Kenya under the Cooperate responsibility programme. We pleased acknowledge some of our regular donors under the food sector, *Mr. Michele GIAMBELLI, Monica & Roberto TRONCI, Mr. Todd THURIER, Elena GIORDANO* and special appreciations to *Stichting BOLLEBOOS-Netherlands*. Supply of cooking fuel is a challenge, mainly due Logistics constraints and scarcity Charcoal or firewood during rainy seasons. Due to increased cost of fuel, like most Kenyans we have improvised to using Sawdust as cooking fuel to minimise our cost.

BARAKA THE HOME

At the moment Baraka provides a comfortable home with basic necessary facilities for the Children. The children have temporarily occupied the Administration block while awaiting completion of the two dormitories for Girls and Boys. Once the dormitories are complete each Child will have better space and privacy. The Management and Committee members provide children with Love, Parental and Spiritual guidance.

The management and partners continue to gradually furnish the Home with basic necessary Furniture, Educational Tools, Equipment and Recreational facilities as funding permits. Through well wishers and partners Baraka has acquired the following: - A Medium sized Fridge, Single burner Gas cookers, TV and DVD player, Mattresses, Beds and One shelf Cupboards. There is still need for additional Beds and mattresses, Dining Tables, Lockers, Study Tables, Chairs, Kitchen Cupboards, Children Sports and playing facilities also need to be purchased.

EDUCATION

Baraka in Partnership with Sponsors strives to give good Education and Training for each Child to pave way for a better future. Note, for Children Eighteen years/above Baraka undertakes responsibility to ensure they acquire a Career or Qualifications to provide them a sustainable Livelihood and be independent. By Law Children above 18 years move to a half way home while Baraka completes providing Education obligations for the Child.

David Mwamzee sat for his "O" Level (*form IV exams*) in December 2008 and passed with a **C-**. David will enrol in College as soon He gets a Sponsor. At present he has enrolled for short time Computer classes.

Mr. Paul Muriuki KANYANA sponsored part of David's secondary Education cost starting 2005 Apr-May 2008.

Raymond Kimondi completed his Carpentry Training at the Village Polytechnic in Dec-2008. Raymond occasionally gets casual Jobs to gain experience. We also plan to enrol him for Driving Classes as soon as we mobilise enough funds.

Walter Kioko is the next Candidate to sit for his **KCPE** (*Kenya Certificate of Primary Education*) in Dec-2009.

By Dec-08, a total of Fourteen (**14**) Children in Lower primary are enrolled at "*Kilimani Baptist Primary School*" this is a private local school close to the home. Although the Kenyan Government offers free Primary Education in Public Schools, the nearest school is about **5Km** (*return trip*) from the home that is "*Marimani Primary School*". There is lack of reliable public transport at Nguu-Tatu, therefore the Managing Committee agreed to enrol younger Children in the nearest private school for security reasons and shelter Children from walking 5Km daily under harsh weather conditions.

Nevertheless we have Two (**2**) Children in upper Primary enrolled at Marimani Primary School. Baraka caters for Uniforms, Books, Fees and Miscellaneous cost for Children enrolled in both Kilimani and Marimani Primary Schools. Note, despite Public schools offering free Education the miscellaneous cost cannot be avoided.

See below a list of Seven (7) Children that have acquired Education sponsorships at “*Mikaela -Logitech Academy*”, the Children love and appreciate their new School. The Education support given by Sponsors listed below is priceless; we appreciate their Kindness and Willingness to invest in Children’s Education. We hope Education sponsors will maintain their support, their commitment is crucial to guarantee quality Education for these Children. Special thanks to **Mrs.Elena GIORDANO** for undertaking to mobilise majority of Education sponsors below.

	NAMES OF CHILDREN	DATE OF BIRTH	2008 AGE	SEX	NAME OF SCHOOL / INSTITUTION	SPONSOR'S DETAILS
				F / M		
1	MICHELE HILDA HAJILO	07-Apr-95	13	F	Logitech Academy	Emanuela Maria & Guido
2	LAWRENCE PAUL MUIRURI	28-May-93	15	M	Logitech Academy	Manzone Bruno & Ester
3	DENNIS HAMPHREY MAITHA	05-Jun-95	13	M	Logitech Academy	Roberto & Monica Tronci
4	THOMACINE VERONICA YUSUF	27-Aug-93	15	F	Logitech Academy	Colombo Nicola & Antonella
5	REGINA ATIENO OSAMBO	2003	5	F	Logitech Academy	Monica ALBERTINI
6	SHANICE KAMENE	30-Aug-99	9	F	Logitech Academy	Elizabeth Corado
7	JOHN RENE BISIKO	18-Apr-99	9	M	Logitech Academy	Michele GIAMBELLI & Clarice

The following Eight (8) Children presently schooling at Kilimani have a high potential to excel; they urgently need Sponsorship to enrol in Schools with better learning facilities to provide these Children with good Academic Foundation, confidence and a fair chance to compete in life, considering their underprivileged background.

CHILDREN APPEALING FOR EDUCATION SPONSORSHIP IN 2009

	NAMES OF CHILDREN	DATE OF BIRTH	2009 AGE	SEX	NAME OF CURRENT SCHOOL
				F / M	
1	KARISA CHARO	1997	12	M	Kilimani Baptist P.
2	NICOLE MBEYU CHARO	03-Aug-03	6	F	Kilimani Baptist P.
3	STEVE OMONDI OCHIENG	2005	4	M	Kilimani Baptist P.
4	MICHELE NYAGOTHIE GITONGA	14-Feb-04	5	F	Kilimani Baptist P.
5	LAMECH TSONGO MKOMA	12-Aug-04	5	M	Kilimani Baptist P.
6	DORCAS AWINO OCHIENG	2001	8	F	Kilimani Baptist P.
7	MARY AKINYI OCHIENG	1999	10	F	Kilimani Baptist P.
8	LUCY ADHIAMBO OCHIEG	2003	6	F	Kilimani Baptist P.

CHILDREN’S HEALTH CARE

Baraka Children have generally been in good Health in 2008 despite sporadic cases of Malaria, minor ailments, Wounds usually normal with active children. However four (4) siblings namely **Dorcias Awino Ochieng, Mary Akinyi Ochieng, Lucy Adhiambo Ochieng** and **Steve Omondi Ochieng** brought to us through the DCO/ Police being a case of abandonment were diagnosed with **Sickle-cell anaemia** (*a severe hereditary form of anaemia in which a mutated form of haemoglobin distorts the Red blood cell.*) months after they were placed while under our custody. Lucy and Steve are more prone to attacks related to the Medical condition. Steve is more vulnerable because when he arrived at Baraka he was severely malnourished, He was hospitalised twice before the Doctors diagnosed the Sickle-cell disease. The challenge is to constantly make sure the Children are protected from Malaria. Therefore until they turn 18 years these four siblings must continuously take Anti-Malaria prophylaxis daily. We are also obliged to supplement their diet to eliminate possibilities of Anaemia.

We specifically acknowledge **NADIA** and **FABRIZIO** new sponsors touched by little **Steve Omondi’s** medical condition, they have become regular contributors to Steve’s upkeep.

Dalmas Mwaluma is another Child diagnosed with an existing Condition of Epilepsy. Since he was put on regular prescription his condition has improved and the attacks are minimal. We also have two Children with mild cases of Asthma. All Children with identified Medical conditions are closely monitored by the Management.

So far Children’s health has been manageable irrespective of the few medical conditions already identified and addressed. Nevertheless, we are challenged to identify a Medical Insurance Scheme that can accommodate our Children.

CHILDREN’S RIGHTS

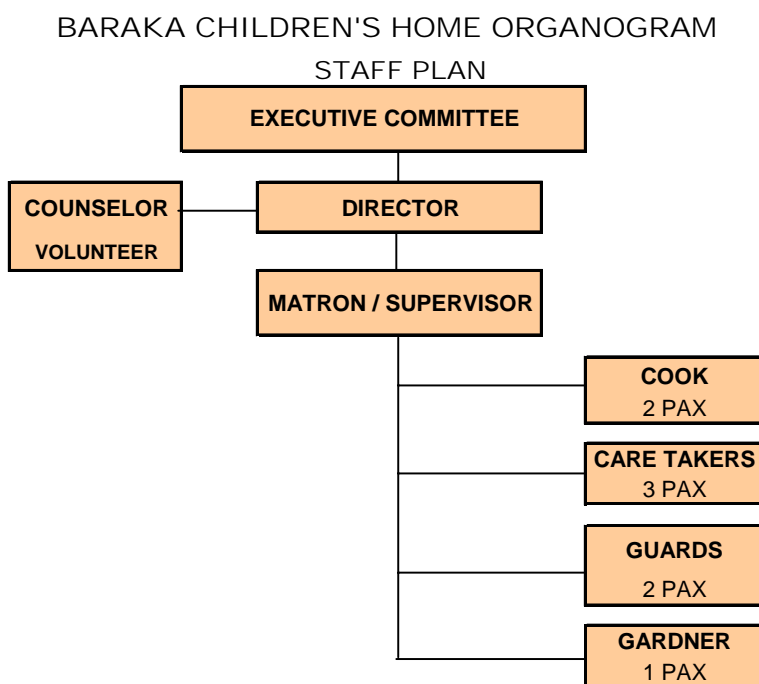
The Management is responsible to ensure Baraka children are protected from any form of Abuse, Discrimination, Slavery and Cruelty, Protected from Sexual and Economic exploitation and from use or trafficking harmful substances. Progressively the management educates Children on their Rights, counsel’s children against indulging in harmful Behaviour or Substances and ensure each Child is protected and respected. Baraka Children have freedom to express their Opinions, Complaints without fear; to report to the Managing committee/Director or Staff any abusive or irregular behaviour they witness or are exposed to by Adults or older children. Occasional meeting held at the home between Children and Management is an open forum for Children to express concerns and grievances.

In August 2008 **Michele Hilda Hajilo** and **Thomacine Yusuf** were invited to Nairobi for 5 days to attend a National Conference organised by **GCN (Girl Child Network)**. The purpose of the conference was to sensitise the Girl Child on her rights and familiarisation with Children’s Act.

In June 2008 Baraka Children joined children from other Schools and institutions at the Mombasa municipal stadium to celebrate the “*Day of the African Child*”. The event organised by DCO highlighted Rights of a Child as key theme.

MANAGEMENT & HUMAN RESOURCES

Baraka has a functional Management. The required operational staff is still lacking in numbers due to financial constraints and poor infrastructure. Baraka's future Staff plan is to employ at least Ten (10) persons to assist in running the home when constructions of Dormitories is complete; this includes a *Director, Matron/Supervisor, Two Cooks, Three Caretakers, Two Guards and One Gardener*. Occasionally we may accept Volunteers to assist in specified areas of need with an approval of the Committee. The executive Committee makes Policies and Monitors Management of the home. The Director ensures Policies and Activities are implemented according to Plan/Budget, She also undertakes the responsibility of Mobilising resources to sustain the home and external Communication with Partners.



RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

The plan is for Baraka to develop Resources mobilisation and Sustainable income generating activities in the near future to reduce donor dependency.

- Purchase three (1-3) Hybrid diary cows for Milk, to Consume/Sale
- Establish Poultry farming for the Children to Consume/Sale
- Maintain subsistence farming for Vegetables
- Construct an "*Education Complex*" to run as Center for Vocational Trainings to benefit the Community at minimal fee.

CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES

Baraka is located about 7Km from “**Bamburi**” this being the nearest Village that has all necessary Social amenities such as Schools, Clinics, Shops etc. Logistics still remains a major challenge. Baraka desperately needs a Vehicle preferably a Van. The lack of reliable transport makes it difficult to enrol remaining Children in better equipped schools.

With the current Global Economic recession, resource mobilization has been a challenge both locally and internationally, the negative impact is increasing cost of essential goods and services.

Maintaining qualified staff is a challenge especially due to the remoteness of our location. The poor infrastructure makes Baraka unattractive to potential Employees.

The Lack of essential Tools and Equipment like Computers, Printers/copier, Internet services and Accounting Software adds to our administrative challenges of reaching out to our friends, sponsors and especially timely reporting to our Partners.

ACHIEVEMENTS

We Installed Piped Water and Electricity, Seven (7) Children are enrolled in better equipped Schools. Construction of the Boys dormitory is approximately 70% completed. Constructed Two Rooms of the Administration block temporarily occupied as Dormitories by the Children. We have constructed a temporary Kitchen and Store with Iron-sheets. Through collaborations with Partners, Supporters and Friends, the Management was able to provide essentials needs for Thirty (30) Children in 2008, mainly Food, Clothing, Education, Health, Protection, Shelter and Parental supervision.

PRIORITY NEEDS

The Baraka website has details of all priority needs for 2009. Below is a summarised list,

- Water Storage Tanks (15000 litres)
- Dining Table & Chairs
- Children’s playing facilities & Books
- COW-SHED Construction
- Desk Top Computers
- Printer / Scanner/ Photocopier
- Telephone Landline
- Vehicle 4X4 VAN (Mini Bus)
- Security Wall.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Finance reports for specific sponsors have been submitted to respective Partners after expensing or implementation of activities. We show consideration for Sponsor’s Specifications if given prior to implementation or expensing of activities. Ideally we submit reports for each Donation received. Currently Baraka is consolidating financial transactions of previous years to date to enable us compile final reports for an external Audit. In the spirit of transparency and accountability we intend to share the Audited reports with our key sponsors when the process is done.

PARTNERS & SPONSORS

Through the years the Committee Members have been the financial backbone of Baraka. We wish to commend contributions from our longest and consistent supporters since 2004, **Mr.Michelle Giambelli** and **Mr.Todd THURIER**. The two Gentlemen and their families have unwaveringly supported Baraka. Michelle is also a Trustee for Baraka.

In the course of 2007 we saw a slight increase in Philanthropist Tourist and well-wishers prior to parliamentary elections in Dec-07. Unfortunately the trend declined in 2008. Nevertheless we appreciate the support by various sponsors listed below and others donors previous to 2008.

One remarkable sponsor in 2008 was **Stitching Bolleboos** led by **Henk Marrink** Bolleboos committed to supplement Baraka with essential Food items for 12 months until May-2009. We are also pleased to confirm Bolleboos through **Noorderpoort** offered to complete construction of the “Boys Dormitory” taking up the final phase of construction after Michele. If the construction process is uninterrupted we are confident to finalise the Boys dormitory before Dec-2009

As earlier mentioned in 2008 some Sponsors committed to sponsor seven (7) Children enrol in *Mikaela Academy*, the School is well equipped and guarantees quality education.

We take this opportunity to appreciate all our Friends, Well-wishers, Sponsors and Partners for their kindness to Baraka since 2003. Every token, every Gift and each visit to Baraka was Precious, only God can reward you for your kindness.

Thank you

TREPHONIA NGINA NZIOKA
DIRECTOR

ANNEX 1

BARAKA CHILDREN'S HOME LIST OF DONORS JANUARY - DECEMBER 2008

	NAME OF DONORS & EDUCATION SPONSORS	DONOR CODE	EAR-MARKED FOR	DONATIONS RECEIVED		TOTAL INCOME
				INKIND KSH	CASH KSH	
1	MICHELE GIAMBELLI (<i>JOHN BISKIO</i>)	DPMG08-001	CONSTRUCTION / EDUCATION / GENERAL	0	589,283	589,283
2	STITCHING BOLLEBOOS	DNSB08-002	FOOD INKIND/ Xmass	246,000	23,000	269,000
3	Roberto & Monica TRONCI (<i>DENNIS</i>)	DPMR08-013	EDUCATION / OTHER	117,130	66,848	183,978
4	Todd THURIER	DPTT08-007	NON CONSTRUCTION	0	119,409	119,409
5	Manzone Bruno & Ester (<i>LAWRENCE</i>)	DPEB08-005	* EDUCATION	72,726	0	72,726
6	Colombo.N. & Antonella (<i>THOMACINE</i>)	DPAN08-004	* EDUCATION	67,199	0	67,199
7	Elizabeth Corado (<i>SHANICE KAMENE</i>)	DPEC08-008	* EDUCATION	63,300	0	63,300
8	Emanuela Maria & Guido (<i>M.HILDA</i>)	DPEG08-012	* EDUCATION	49,994	0	49,994
9	ELENA GIORDANO	DPEG08-003	NON CONSTRUCTION	0	40,300	40,300
10	ALBERTINI MONICA (<i>REGINA ATIENO</i>)	DPAM08-024	EDUCATION	30,297	7,564	37,861
11	PATRICK DIPPER	DPPD08-006	NON CONSTRUCTION	0	30,825	30,825
12	BERSANO EMANUELA MARIA	DPBM08-027	* EDUCATION	0	12,748	12,748
13	MURIUKI KANYANA (<i>David Mwachee</i>)	DPMK08-002	EDUCATION	0	10,500	10,500
14	NADIA & FABRIZIO	DPNF08-022	STEVE OMONDI	0	9,580	9,580
15	COLOMBINI MARA MADDALENA	DPCM08-026	* EDUCATION	0	9,389	9,389
16	MARY GORRETI NDUKU	DPMN08-011	0	0	5,000	5,000
17	TOURIST/ VISITORS/ WELLWISHERS	DTV08-999	** FOOD INKIND	100,000	0	100,000
18	HINDU UNION	DRHU08-003	** EDUCATION /FOOD	5,300	0	5,300
19	CAROLINE MUOTI NZIOKA	DPCN08-023	GENERAL	0	3,000	3,000
20	KENYA GOVERNMENT	DGKE08-001	** FOOD INKIND	30,000	0	30,000
21	TREPHONIA NGINA NZIOKA	DPTN08-014	SALARIES / FOOD	360,000	150,000	510,000
	TOTAL INCOME			1,141,946	1,077,446	2,219,392

* Donor Sponsoring Child's Education

** Occasional Donations

ANNEX 11

A list of all Baraka Children by 31st December 2008

	NAME OF CHILD	ADMISSION DATE	AGE AT ADMISSION	DATE OF BIRTH	SEX F / M	CHILD'S AGES IN 2008
1	MICHELE HILDA HAJILO	28-Feb-03	8	7-Apr-95	F	13
2	LAWRENCE PAUL MUIRURI	06-Jan-03	10	28-May-93	M	15
3	DENNIS HAMPHREY MAITHA	18-Feb-03	8	5-Jun-95	M	13
4	THOMACINE VERONICA YUSUF	17-Jul-06	13	27-Aug-93	F	15
5	JOHN RENE BISIKO	28-Feb-03	3	18-Apr-99	M	9
6	REGINA ATIENO OSAMBO	03-Apr-07	4	2003	F	5
7	DORCAS AWINO OCHIENG	06-Aug-07	6	2001	F	7
8	MARY AKINYI OCHIENG	06-Aug-07	8	1999	F	9
9	LUCY ADHIAMBO OCHIEG	06-Aug-07	5	2003	F	5
10	STEVE OMONDI OCHIENG	06-Aug-07	3	2005	M	3
11	MARTIN JUMA OTIENO	26-Dec-06	14	4-Feb-94	M	14
12	NOELLA MISHI MKOMA	11-Feb-07	9	21-Sep-98	F	10
13	ANGELLA JAMILA MKOMA	11-Feb-06	8	6-Sep-99	F	9
14	LAMECH TSONGO MKOMA	11-Feb-06	2	12-Aug-04	M	4
15	BRIAN BONAYA SIMON	18-Feb-03	9	25-Sep-93	M	15
16	DALMAS MWALUMA .M.	15-Mar-07		?	M	14
17	BONIFACE MWAMBURI .M.	15-Mar-07		?	M	12
18	WALTER KIOKO MWAMZEE	03-Mar-03	12	14-Feb-91	M	17
19	DAVID KYALO MWAMZEE	03-Mar-03	13	25-May-90	M	18
20	RAYMOND KIMONDIO MWAMZEE	03-Mar-03	14	18-Aug-89	M	19
21	KAHINDI CHARO	05-Feb-08	14	1994	M	14
22	KARISA CHARO	12-Jun-08	11	1997	M	11
23	NICOLE MBEYU CHARO	01-Jun-08	5	30-Aug-03	F	5
24	MICHELE NYAGOTHIE GITONGA	01-Nov-08	4	14-Feb-04	F	4
25	SHANICE KAMENE			30-Aug-99	F	9