CHALLENGES

Despite these huge development achievements, as a Community Based Organization (CBO), we continue to face complicated challenges most of which relate to our background viz;

1. Widespread Poverty
- Compels GCDG to source for funds for both infrastructure development and bursaries for orphans and vulnerable children (OVC);
- Leads to drop-outs at school because some students (OVC) cannot afford to pay fees;
- Limits markets for IOT products because majority lack purchasing power.

2. Traditional Attitudes
- Is a big challenge towards education of the girl child, and
- Low farm productivity because majority still practice old farming methods.

Principal addressing candidates and parents on prayer day - October 19th 2010

WAY FORWARD/FUTURE PLAN

Prioritized projects to be undertaken in future;

1. **Got Matar Institute of Technology (IOT)**
   - In addition to clothing manufacturing, woodwork and nutrition/catering, we are in the process of starting metal work (fabrication), plumbing, masonry and computer skill trainings.
   - There is also a plan to acquire a bus for hire under women centre as part of income generating activity (IGA). This is going to be a viable business in the region and easy to manage.

2. **Secondary School**
   - The school is moving towards developing girls dormitory which in turn demands the construction of at least two houses for teachers in order to closely manage the anticipated boarding students.

3. Got-Matar Cultural Troupe is scheduled to tour UK for three months from Feb. 2011 to fund raize toward the Bursary for OVC at the Secondary School.

4. The proceeds from the sales of IOT products after paying the related direct expenditure, shall contribute towards the bursary programme, reducing its donor-dependence.

Got- Matar Community Development Group Administration is composed of;

Grace Ochieng Andiki - Chairperson/Coordinator,
Morice Obiero - Secretary,
Isaac Ondili - Treasurer, and other
12 committee members.
Sospeter Otieno - IEC developer

GOT MATAR
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

ABOUT US

GOT Matar is located in East Yimbo Location, Bondo District of Siaya County in Kenya, Lying a long Lake Victoria, west of Kisumu and Bondo Towns.

Bondo District is one of the poorest Districts in Kenya. The community of Got Matar is poor. Livelihoods are based on small scale subsistence farming and fishing from Lake Victoria. The prevalence of the HIV/AIDS pandemic is high, a situation which has caused many school age children being orphans, with some of them HIV-positive and some left totally with no parental care.

The area has 10 Public Primary Schools developed through the community's efforts, are the main feeder of the new Got Matar Secondary School whose capacity is 600 students, progressively building up on the annual intake of 150 students. Before 2007, the area had no secondary school, a situation which made it very difficult for the pupils from these poor families to access secondary school education.

Only the fortunate few could afford the fees for boarding secondary schools in the district and beyond.

Got Matar Community Development Group was, therefore, formed in 2001 out of the growing concern over the leadership to spearhead Education Development in Got Matar. The Group was subsequently registered as a Community Based Organization (CBO) in January 2002 by the Ministry of Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services.

Got Matar Community Development Group, with funding from donor partners, started to build the 600-place, 3 stream, Got Matar Secondary School as from September 2006. The school is now fully operational as mixed day school. The first admission of 2007 sat their National Examination i.e. Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (K.C.S.E.) in October/November 2010.

ACHIEVEMENTS

As a Community Based Organization (CBO), Got Matar Community Development Group (GCDG) is proud to have successfully developed a Secondary School within a record time of 4 years.
In addition to the basic school infrastructure, including 12 classrooms, the school has:

Priest presiding over a prayer

Class in session

➡ A small Library.
➡ A moderate science laboratory.
➡ A computer laboratory with 20 Modern computers with a cyber space connection.
➡ Provisional administration Office.
➡ In order to enable well qualified orphans and children from very poor families to attend the school, the GCDG has managed to source Bursary funds for 173 students.

Section of computer lab.

The community intends to continue to strengthen the Secondary School. But it is also starting to focus on life after school, considering that, not all students will qualify for universities or public colleges. We have therefore in 2010 begun to create an Institute of Technology (IOT) for skill training for both school leavers and other community members.

Computer lab voltaic power

To date, the I.O.T begun courses on:
➡ Clothing manufacture.
➡ Wood-working.
➡ Nutrition, food preparation and catering.
It is also constructing a Women's Centre, to be used for counseling and training. All courses are intended to meet their running costs from fees and the sales of goods and services.

A section of Clothes making at Got Matar IOT

Prayer Day for candidates 2010

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