



FAITH IN COMMUNITY AIDERS

(F.I.C.A.)

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FICA IN PICTURES



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Executive Summary

Faith In Community Aiders (FICA), has its origins in the year 1997 when its founding director Reverend John Nyemba through the local hospital he was working for, was actively involved in the fight against HIV/AIDS related stigma within religious and cultural communities. As a religious and community leader himself, he focused on vulnerable orphans whose parents had died of AIDS so that they grow to have a brighter and more secure future in areas such as Harare, Chegutu and Murombedzi. His work positively affected the community he was working with to the extent that community members gathered seeking assistance from his home, leading to the initial establishment of FICA as an AIDS Service Organization (ASO) founded on Christian values and principles.

The organization, since 1997, transitioned over the years from being an AIDS Service Organization into a Development oriented organization. Vulnerable children, adolescents and youth have always been at the core of all FICA interventions. As a result, FICA transitioned from only providing HIV/AIDS related services to development related capacity building of affected vulnerable communities through empowering them to run sustainable intervention programs independently. In 2010, thirteen years after its formation, FICA was officially registered as a Private Voluntary Organization (PVO) in Zimbabwe under the registration number PVO 20/2010. The organization currently runs an orphanage in Chegutu, and implements education, psychosocial support, food security and livelihood interventions through its network of community based caregivers. Funding partners with a working history with FICA include the German Technical Cooperation Agency (GTZ), The Stephen Lewis Foundation, Mercy Corps, Child Protection Society (CPS), and other local partners not mentioned. Most importantly, the work done by FICA continues to feed into the national development agenda, made possible working in collaboration with government departments and agencies such as the National AIDS Council, Department of Social Services, District Administration, Ministry of Health and Child Care, Ministry of Education, Agricultural Extension Services amongst others.

However, FICA has not been spared from the funding challenges affecting most NGOs in Zimbabwe. The organization currently relies on leveraged resources mostly from the founding director's personal resources and well-wishers such as Lobels confectionery, committed community members and concerned partners who chip in with the few resources whenever they can manage. As of early 2017, FICA went through a rebranding process focused on ensuring that its operations remain relevant for both communities being served and potential funding partners. The organization has a new 5-year Strategic Plan

running from 2017 to 2022, has reviewed its governance procedures and has current policies in place, and also restructured its operations to be in line with its mission, new policies and strategic plan.

This document provides a snapshot of the work FICA is currently doing in pictorial form, and the gaps that need to be addressed in order to provide a more comprehensive service to project beneficiaries, and further strengthen the capacity of local communities to develop sustainable interventions to comprehensively care for the OVC being served.

As a result, FICA is continuously seeking long lasting partnerships with both local and international stakeholders who share the same vision and mission with the organization, to realize a positive transformation in the lives of current and future beneficiaries of FICA and contribute to long lasting impact that will benefit future generations in communities being served. FICA welcomes interested organizations and individuals willing to be a part of this movement of positively transforming the lives of beneficiaries being served.

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Regards,



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Figure 2: FICA Caregivers pose for a photo shoot.



Figure 1: FICA Caregivers receiving bread donated by Lobels Confectionery. The bread is for HIV positive children being cared for and their immediate families.



Figure 3: FICA Staff members participating in weekly Monday program update and planning meeting.



Figure 4: Caregivers also participate in the weekly planning and update meetings.



Figure 6: FICA Programs Coordinator, Mr. Stewart Chakanyuka with 2 vulnerable children who are also FICA program beneficiaries. These 2 children are part of a family of 7, of which 3 are HIV positive children and both parents are HIV positive residing in a 2-roomed wooden cabin in Harare.



Figure 5: Members of the FICA Support Groups participating in a feedback meeting. The support groups include those for HIV Positive Adolescents and the ones for Caregivers.

Chegutu Project Site



Figure 8: Chegutu based Orphans and Vulnerable Children who are also FICA program beneficiaries.



Figure 7: FICA works towards provision of social protection services for these OVC through its orphanage, and access to education programs including the establishment of classrooms manned by dedicated volunteers.



Figure 9: Efforts are currently being made to formally register the school with the Zimbabwean Ministry of Education



Figure 10: Program beneficiaries include children that have lost both parents to HIV and other factors, and fail to secure social protection from relatives. Some of the children are victims of child abuse and dumped due to unwanted pregnancies.



Figure 12: Dedicated staff members manning the orphanage and classes for OVC



Figure 11: Visitors and potential funding partners touring the establishment, meeting with program beneficiaries and staff members.



Figure 14: Temporary structures established after the orphanage was allocated space to establish classes for the orphans in Chegutu.



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Leadership and Management



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