

Abridged Annual Report

January 2008 to December 2008 Annual Report
presented to the Board of Advisors and adopted
on 14 March 2009

P.E.N.Y.A Trust



WHAT DO WE AIM TO ACHIEVE

In caring for the OVCs and empowering the youths in the community, P.E.N.Y.A TRUST aims to provide them with education, health care, shelter, sustainable livelihoods and socio-economic empowerment. P.E.N.Y.A TRUST strives to address the challenges faced by the community due to poverty, HIV/AIDS and exploitation.

WHAT HAVE WE DONE DURING 2008?

In endeavouring to attain its objectives P.E.N.Y.A TRUST worked on several activities which include:

Needs assessment and identification

This programme has been used to identify the orphaned and vulnerable children to whom assistance should be afforded and is an integral part of our operations. It has helped us identify other deserving beneficiaries from the community whom we had not reached out to. This exercise was carried out in three regions which are Mashonaland East, Mashonaland West and Mashonaland Central.

HIV/AIDS Talk

P.E.N.Y.A TRUST was able to provide talks and discussions on HIV/AIDS amongst youths in schools and outside schools, in particular those in church. A working relationship with NAC (National AIDS Co-ordination) was established and this will help us increase our program activities in 2009 and beyond. A total of 208 youths were reached directly through this project.

Education

In 2008 a total of 19 OVCs (both girls and boys) were assisted with access to formal education. These children had all their educational requirements (stationery, textbooks and uniforms) and school fees paid for. There were also 3 OVCs getting tutoring through the P.E.N.Y.A TRUST through our outreach officers.

Sustainability Activities

PENYA continued to undertake theatre activities for fund-raising purposes although at a more reduced scale due to volunteer turnover. It was proposed to start chicken rearing projects for the caregivers of OVCs in their communities so as to increase the incomes for households and thus reduce dependence on donor support.

Workshops & training

P.E.N.Y.A TRUST attended various workshops on staff capacity building and new policies were drafted and adopted. At the end of the year there should be an improvement in P.E.N.Y.A Trust's corporate governance approach. P.E.N.Y.A TRUST will carry out more appointments and adjustments to operations and in 2009 will engage a full-time Programme Manager to help ensure the delegation of duties as well as spread responsibility of tasks amongst staff.

CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED IN 2008

We still encountered challenges in mobilising the funding necessary to undertake new activities and sustain current projects. Existing projects, such as the Dzidzo Project for educational support, could not add more beneficiaries as planned. Due to failure to get funding specifically for running costs and staff salaries there has been staff turnover and motivation was low. P.E.N.Y.A TRUST also encountered challenges in equipment and machinery acquisitions. We were not spared by hyper-inflation that wrecked in the nation as planning beyond a month's period was almost impossible.

NB. It is worth mentioning that at towards the end of 2008 funds were mobilised to give educational support to OVCs and thus increase the number of beneficiaries from 19 to 450 for 2009. However in February 2009 the use of Zimbabwean dollars was suspended and thus access to these funds was not possible. Thus a challenge of mobilising new funding in hard currency terms exists as beneficiaries are already awaiting support.

ACTIVITIES FOR 2008

Whilst some of the current activities will continue to progress P.E.N.Y.A TRUST intends to carry out the following activities that will meet its expansionary plans:

- a) Increase the number of OVCs getting educational support from 19 to 450.
- b) Start youth empowerment projects that cover skills training and small business funding.
- c) Embark on intensive HIV/AIDS programmes.
- d) Apply for a farm for organisational activities & projects.
- e) Introduce a women's Income Generating Activities to support caregivers living with OVCs.

P.E.N.Y.A TRUST will also carry out a strong Resource Mobilisation strategy to ensure resources are secured for the above projects. P.E.N.Y.A TRUST has already drafted a five year Resource Mobilisation Strategy which will be adopted and approved in 2009. We strongly believe that this strategy will help us meet our objectives and improve project sustainability over the next five years and beyond.

SUPPORT DURING 2008

P.E.N.Y.A TRUST is grateful and appreciative of the support we received from different organisations and individuals during the year. The support received varied from cash, groceries and funding for donor specific activities. We cherish and hold dear the relationships thus established and do pray that God blesses every individual and organisation that assisted us. The following extended their support to P.E.N.Y.A TRUST in 2008.

- ❖ Trustees
- ❖ Individuals who wish to remain anonymous
- ❖ Simukai Designs

- ❖ Achieve Your Goal Trust
- ❖ Family Youth Ministries