

# Njia Panda Ya Tumaini

Transforming Children's Lives

E-newsletter

Issue No. 6, October 2008

## Networking:

At last! A meaningful network of children's service providers is being formed in Trans Nzoia District, based on a model already established in neighbouring Uasin Gishu. The network brings together service providers and organisations including Charitable Homes, health and education providers, and environmental and social service providers.

The 'Trans Nzoia Children's Services Network', as it is called has held formatory meetings at which the District Children's Officer and members of the Uasin Gishu network attended along with 25 service providers. Njia Panda Ya Tumaini is one of the formatory members and indeed our very own Janet Kariuki has been elected Deputy Chairman to the interim formatory committee.



The Formatory Board; from left to right, Geoffrey Okumu - Treasurer, Mary Avosa - Secretary, Whitney Dickens - Advisor, Janet Kariuki - Deputy Chair and Festus Mukaya - Chairman

It is hoped that all stake holders will join the committee which can then network to encourage cooperation, share ideas and experiences, facilitate training and share best practices. This will enhance services in the best interest of the children whom we serve.

## Income Generation:

NPYT can now generate some meaningful income following a one-off grant from Kitchen Table Charitable Trust to buy tents and chairs which we rent out for functions. The income from this over the last quarter is Ksh78,560 which has covered much of the food needed for both of our children's homes. We expect that figure to grow as more people become aware of our endeavours.

To subscribe or unsubscribe to this newsletter please email [info@npyt.org](mailto:info@npyt.org) with the words subscribe or unsubscribe in the subject line © NPYT 2008  
[www.npyt.org](http://www.npyt.org)

## Focus on a Child:

Mary Wamboi (not her real name) was kidnapped by her maternal uncle from Kisii where she was living happily, though in poverty, with her parents. The uncle then brought her to Kitale and dumped her at the Kitale police station telling her not to say she is from Kisii. We must assume the uncle wanted to have her admitted to one of the Kitale children's homes, possibly thinking it was in her best interest. The Kenyan Children's Act 2002 clearly states that every child has the right to a family which the uncle's action clearly contravenes.



Mary has been admitted to Birunda Rescue Centre where she is being cared for as we prepare to take her home to Kisii. Though she is only 9 years old she is confident that if we get her to Kisii town, she can direct us to her home, where she so desperately wants to be.

NPYT has had several cases where children are told to lie to authorities and staff in the hope that the children will be admitted to long stay homes where care, clothing and education will be provided free of charge. This not only is against the law, but takes away vital services from children who are genuinely desperate. It also encourages a sense of impunity for parents who do not fulfil their obligations and gives the wrong message to the child that it is okay to tell lies.

In cases like this we try and have the perpetrators, in this case the uncle, to be summoned to the District Children's Dept. where they can explain their intentions and be warned against such future actions.

## Millennium Development Goals:

The MDGs agreed in a UN summit in September 2000 now look more like the Millennium Delusions. There has been little or no progress in any of the 8 goals that were to be achieved by 2015. Only 6 years down the road. The MDGs are:

- ◆ Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- ◆ Achieve universal primary education
- ◆ Promote gender equality and empower women
- ◆ Reduce child mortality
- ◆ Improve maternal health
- ◆ Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
- ◆ Ensure environmental sustainability
- ◆ Develop a Global Partnership for Development