
NJIA PANDA YA TUMAINI



ANNUAL REVIEW 2008

Message from the Director

This has been an incredible year; jumping from extremes of pain and anguish to happiness and humility. Despite enormous external pressures; from post election mayhem to global economic recession, NPYT has managed to fulfil our mandates and expand on them, protecting vulnerable children, reuniting families and ensuring all UN provisions, especially for those who would otherwise have been denied their basic rights. Although we have had to limit some of our activities because of budgetary shortfalls, none of this cost saving has negatively impacted the day to day life of our principal beneficiaries; children.

It is with great expectations and hope we look forward to 2009 and on to the end of this first decade of this the 21st century. For Kenyans, it is a year to celebrate their son becoming President of the United States. For the world, we now realise the cost of greed and unregulated capitalism, perhaps now we can build a fairer and more caring future.



Oliver Lynton
Director

Thank you:

- Railway Children (UK) for ongoing support
- Heart of Hope (UK) imaginative fund raising
- All child sponsors for their continued support
- Kitchen Table Charities (UK) for their one off grant
- Khetia Drapers Ltd. (K) for their in-kind donations
- All of the individuals and groups who have given their time, financial and moral support to us and our children.

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“Every day is poverty day for the two billion people worldwide who have less than two dollars a day to live on. Of those, just under one billion live on just one dollar a day.” The Rt Hon Hilary Benn MP: British Secretary of State for International Development on World Poverty Day 2008

NPYT is a Kenyan registered Community Based Organisation working in the northwest of Rift Valley Province, near the Ugandan border, specifically in Trans Nzoia Districts. Beneficiaries come from all over the country, even some from across the border. Direct beneficiaries are street and other vulnerable children and their communities. Through providing rescue and outreach services, residential care, healthcare, educational opportunities; rights based projects empower otherwise marginalised people to make decisions to positively change their lives.

NPYT Vision is: A world where children enjoy all their basic rights; especially the right to be a child.

NPYT Mission: Assist children in need while developing communities enabling them to better care for their own children.

*"Anticipate charity by preventing poverty; assist the reduced fellow man, either by a considerable gift or a sum of money or by teaching him a trade or by putting him in the way of business so that he may earn an honest livelihood and not be forced to the dreadful alternative of holding out his hand for charity. This is the highest step and summit of charity's golden ladder."
Moses ben Maimon (Maimonides) 1135 - 1204*

Report:

NPYT has enjoyed a relatively peaceful year despite the post election violence that rocked Kenya from late December 2007 well into February 2008. During this politically instigated tragedy many families had to flee their homes seeking refuge in schools, churches, police stations and chief's camps. Well over 1,000 people were killed and tens of thousands displaced; many of them children. Sixty-six Internally Displaced Children (IDCs) sought refuge at our Birunda Rescue Centre (BRC) having become separated from their families. The centre also served as a refuge for women and children from the project environs who, during the height of the violence, did not dare to sleep in their homes. Although our projects were not directly under threat, some children's homes in other regions were torched and some of their children came to us. This was a terrifying time for many of these children; some had witnessed atrocities and a few had injuries of their own. The physical injuries soon healed though the trauma of what they had been through would take longer to overcome. Through planned counselling and their becoming part of a community of children most of the IDCs were able to move on though, undoubtedly memories will always be there.

This unplanned influx of children was a strain as supplies were short and prices rising. During the worst of the clashes there was no road link to Kitale and only small planes can use the airstrip; food and other commodities were limited to what was available locally. Even pay-as-you-go mobile phone scratch cards ran out, further isolating Kitale from the rest of the world. A black market developed and even Red Cross relief supplies became available at a price. As the clashes receded, NPYT was able to trace family for all of the IDC's in their care and gradually they were reunited with their families.



As the year progressed and Kenya settled down into an uneasy calm the projects were able to return to normal and provide the children with all their basic and human needs. Schools and roads reopened enabling the free flow of commodities and Home visits to resume. Prices of commodities were expected to fall though this was not to happen. It was planting season though many farms remained unploughed. Rural families still too afraid to return to their homes and the high price of farm inputs prevented many farms from being cultivated. For those who did plant, they planted less. By the time the government intervened to subsidise farm inputs the season was all but over. Kenya today faces severe food shortages with up to ten million facing starvation.

Project Activities have all been continuing well and indeed in many areas we far outreached our expectations.

The main activities can be outlined as follows:

1. Outreach Programme to identify new street arrivals in Kitale town and to meet with and if possible assist the youngest and most vulnerable street children.
2. Provide temporary residential care to vulnerable children.
3. Provide long term residential care to children with no functional family.
4. Provide affordable healthcare to the public in general and free healthcare to the destitute.



5. Ensure children at our projects receive formal or informal education depending on their age and abilities.
6. Liaise with police and social services to ensure children's rights are respected and care orders issued when needed.
7. Provide vocational skills training to youth who have are not academically minded or have had to terminate their schooling because of poverty or early pregnancy.

8. Work with communities to ensure a better awareness of children's rights, parental responsibility and health issues such as HIV/AIDS prevention and management.
9. Enhance the ability of our staff through access to training and attending relevant workshops.
10. Network with other organisations and government departments to ensure a harmonious approach to children's issues, share best practice and optimise the use of resources.
11. Income generation.

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." Sir Winston Churchill 1874-1965

*"If you want one year of prosperity, grow grain.
If you want ten years of prosperity, grow trees.
If you want one hundred years of prosperity, grow people."
-- Chinese Proverb*

This combination of activities make NPYT unique in the district as we provide a holistic service to children in need, offering them a viable and sustainable future while promoting and enabling individual families and communities to better care for their own children.

We bring projects into communities and communities into projects.

Results of Project Activities are as follows:

1. Outreach Programme provided services to 881 children while the projects came into contact with 9,040 beneficiaries, 3,767 new contacts.
2. Temporary residential care was provided for 299 vulnerable children.
3. Long term residential care has/is being afforded 54 children while a further 11 are benefiting through feeding or home based care programmes.
4. Healthcare and preventative immunisation programmes enjoyed 8,361 interventions, the majority of which were with women and children.
5. Remedial coaching was given to 307 children, nursery school 7, primary school 48, secondary school 8 (3 graduated). In 2007, 3 graduated and all passed.
6. 216 of our children were issued care orders while 63 parents have been cautioned, 5 are currently in the criminal justice system; 2 for defilement, 2 of whom for assault and 1 for abandonment. Our relationship with the local authorities has been greatly enhanced and the time children wait for protection minimised normally to a few hours





Project children have something to smile about

7. Vocational training had 10 students all of whom graduated. 17 graduated in 2007, all of whom passed.

8. 139 families have been made aware of their duties and obligations to their children.

At least 5,000 people have been made aware of the importance of child participation, this year's theme of the International Day of the African Child.

Youth and adults attending our clinics are advised on HIV/AIDS transmission, the importance of knowing one's status and condoms are freely available

9. Training in Counselling Traumatized Children and Parenting Difficult Children has been offered. Key staff have also attended seminars in Diversion, Child Protection and functions of the Children's Area Advisory Council.

10. NPYT is a founding member of Trans Nzoia Children's Service Network that has been established to bring together organisations working with children to share knowledge, best practice and resources. It currently has 26 member organisations.

11. NPYT now owns 1,000 plastic chairs and 4 function marquees. These we rent out to the public for functions such as weddings, meetings, etc. This activity has paid for all the food for our children since inception 6 months ago.

12. Followed up visits of children who have graduated, and left the project, revealed that a staggering 50% are employed and a further 25% are engaged in income generating activities, directly related to the training and education NPYT was able to afford them. Maintaining links with family and avoiding institutionalisation of children works in the best interest of the child and family.

THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE AFRICAN CHILD

In Soweto, South Africa, thousands of black school children took to the streets in 1976, in a march to protest the inferior quality of their education and to demand their right to be taught in their own language. Hundreds of young boys and girls were shot down; and in the two weeks of protest that followed, more than a hundred people were killed and more than a thousand were injured.

To honour the memory of those killed and the courage of all those who marched, the Day of the African Child has been celebrated on 16 June every year since 1991, when it was first initiated by the Organization of African Unity. The Day also draws attention to the lives of African children today.

Source: UNICEF

Why do children leave home?

Children leave home for a variety of reasons as can be seen in the diagrams on page 8. For children who come onto the Kitale streets, the fact that there are already other children there makes it more attractive for new children to stay. Joining an existing group or community is much easier than being alone.



We, as an organisation, have to be very much aware of the quality of care we provide. This is Africa; most people are poor, very poor, and yet their families remain functional and many of their children go to school. Perhaps they do not have shoes, or 3 meals a day but they are with their parents and family which is the dominant structure here. If something goes wrong there is no Social Services to fall back on, no unemployment benefits. It is your family that will support you.

"The value of a man resides in what he gives and not in what he is capable of receiving".

Albert Einstein 1876 - 1955

Once on the streets they join some of the most vulnerable people on earth. With little or no adult guidance they are open to all kinds of abuse and manipulation. On the streets it is considered big to sniff glue, take drugs and engage in sex. New street arrivals are relatively easy to rehabilitate and offer a future to. However, once a child has entered the street community and culture the chances of successful rehabilitation drop drastically and chances of dropping from the programme increase.



Children are regularly beaten, abused or even burned by peers, authorities or even members of the public. They come to us for help

Some children run away from otherwise functional homes because they believe that they will be picked up by a charitable organisation and live the rest of their childhood in relative luxury - your own bed, clothes, ample food and lots of time to play. Yet, by doing so they are weakening their only reliable support network.

At NPYT we have had to consider carefully what to provide for these children while respecting their rights. Education, food, beds, uniforms, time to play and love and attention.

NPYT is here as a stepping stone to a viable future not a substitute family. We have to advise the children to maintain their roots, take advantage of what we can offer without becoming alienated from their peers and culture

Case Story

For sisters Njeri and Wanja, 3 and 4 years old respectively, the events of early February 2008 would change their lives. They were both sleeping when they awoke to frantic shaking by their mother. Outside their Cherangany hut they could hear screaming and flames were visible through the cracked walls. Their mother was saying run! RUN!

The 2 sisters followed their mother out of their hut. People were running in all directions, houses on fire, some people had cuts. In the mayhem that followed they lost sight of mum and just followed the crowd



Wanja and Njeri at the NPYT project

running down the hill towards the river. It was so dark they kept tripping and falling. The group they had been following had vanished, the screaming silenced, they were alone. They spent the next few hours huddled together sitting on the ground. As dawn broke they could see a road not far below them. Hungry, tired and still shaking from their ordeal, or was it the cold, they made their way down and started walking.

The road led them to Kitale and it was on the outskirts of town that a friendly looking lady asked them where they were going and from where had they come. After explaining their plight the woman took them to the police station from where they were immediately referred to us.

Washed, clean clothes and a good meal later Njeri, the younger, started playing with the other children whereas Wanja remained withdrawn. We are lucky to have qualified counsellors on hand who managed to help Wanja through her ordeal and she also soon settled in.

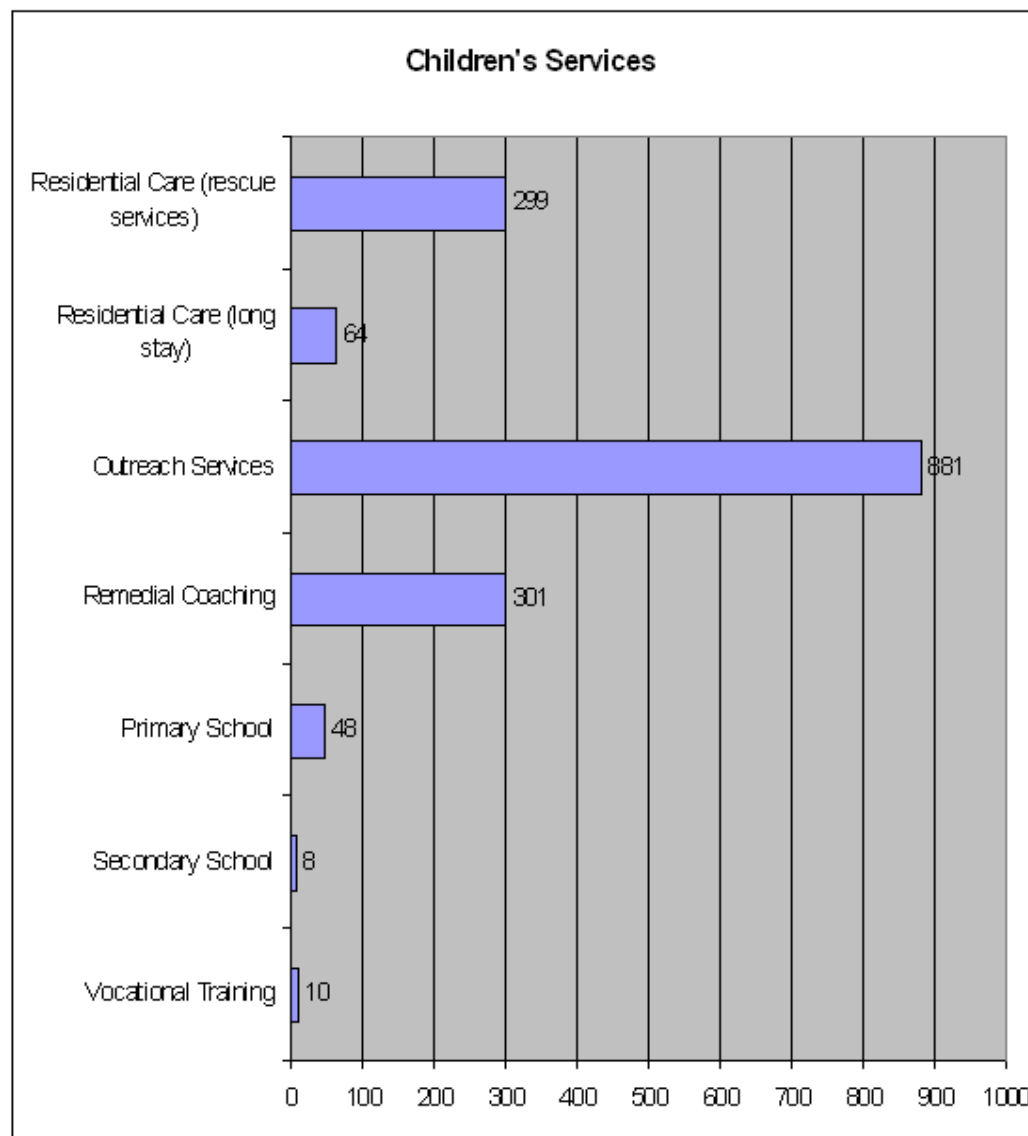
Though we tried to trace any relatives for them it was in vain. From their village many had died and the survivors were spread in IDP camps all over Kenya.

Little did we know that their mother was looking for them and had even been to the police who had lost their records and so denied any knowledge. It was not until she heard of NPYT did she come to us, tears gushed as we handed her back the 2 toddlers in early January 2009. Reunited they have gone back to their home where they are rebuilding their lives.

"Money is like manure; it's not worth a thing unless it's spread around encouraging young things to grow."
Thornton Wilder (1897 - 1975) American playwright and novelist.

Statistical tables of contacts and services January to December 2008

Boys			
Age	Existing Contacts	New Contacts	Total
0-5	757	705	1,462
6-9	126	197	323
10-12	307	256	563
13-15	457	361	818
16-18	150	251	401
18+	378	310	688
Total	2,175	2,080	4,255
Girls			
Age	Existing Contacts	New Contacts	Total
0-5	832	329	1,161
6-9	115	138	253
10-12	137	134	271
13-15	496	331	827
16-18	585	187	772
18+	933	568	1,501
Total	3,098	1,687	4,785



These charts show our contacts and the type of services children accessed. In the services chart we have omitted the figures for medical attention which total over 8,361 interventions.

Financial Accounts 2008

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT, KENYA SHILLINGS

To Balance Brought forward		
Cash at bank -Njia panda ya Tumaini	694,359.30	
Cash at Bank - Liyavo project	42,343.70	
Cash in Hand Liyavo	27,184.50	
Cash at bank -Birunda ICT	22,229.60	
Cash in hand	- 3,174.00	
Total		782,943.10

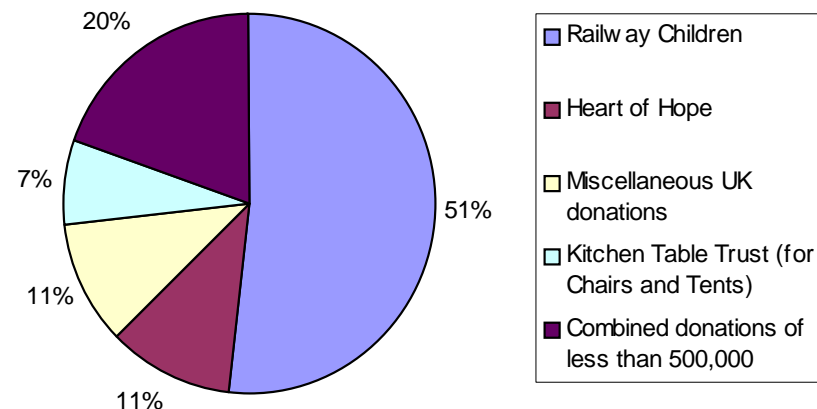
RECEIPTS DURING THE YEAR

Railway children	4,455,582.50	
Heart of Hope	927,008.10	
Child sponsorship ICT UK (final payment)	168,896.00	
Direct from US	303,803.40	
Miscellaneous UK donations	910,251.00	
Oliver Lynton	299,959.00	
Trini Morell	14,000.00	
Hope 4 Children	58,341.75	
Project Clinics	217,429.00	
Medical Missionaries Of Mary	100,000.00	
Kitchen Table Trust (for Chairs and Tents)	621,250.00	
Disposal of Pick Up (KAE 320 V)	210,000.00	
Chairs and Tents Rental	264,010.00	
Water collections	24,568.00	
Clothes Cash Donation	5,500.00	
Tin Collections/ Others	46,352.50	
Total		8,626,951.25
Grand Total		9,409,894.35

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is: what are you doing for others"?

Martin Luther King Jr. 1929 - 1968

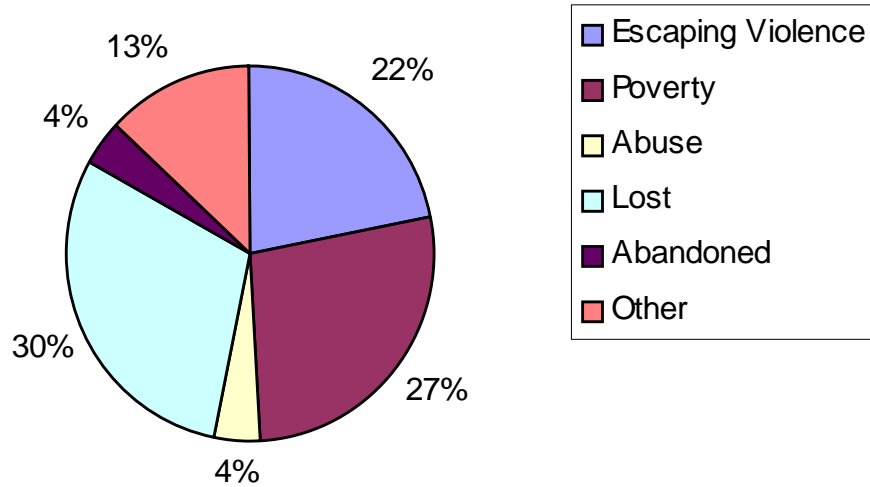
Sources of Income 2008



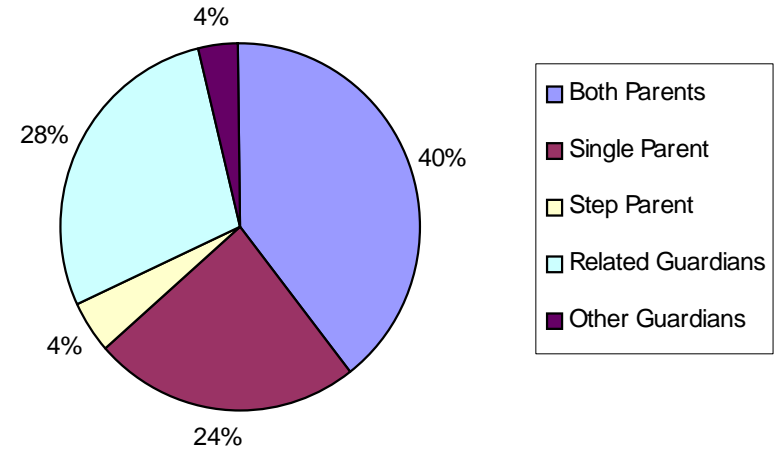
PAYMENTS DURING THE YEAR

By Njia Panda Ya Tumaini	1,808,223.65	
By Birunda Rescue Centre	2,933,384.00	
By Liyavo Village Community Project	3,571,632.60	
By One Off (Tents and Chairs)	711,735.00	
By Chairs and Tents Expenses	63,506.00	
Total		9,088,481.25
Balance		321,413.10
By Balance Carried Forward		
Cash at bank -Njia Panda Ya Tumaini	279,647.95	
Cash at bank -Birunda ICT	20,629.60	
Cash At Bank Liyavo	- 9,447.65	
Cash in hand	12,552.00	
Cash in hand- Liyavo	18,031.20	
Total		321,413.10

Why Children Leave Home



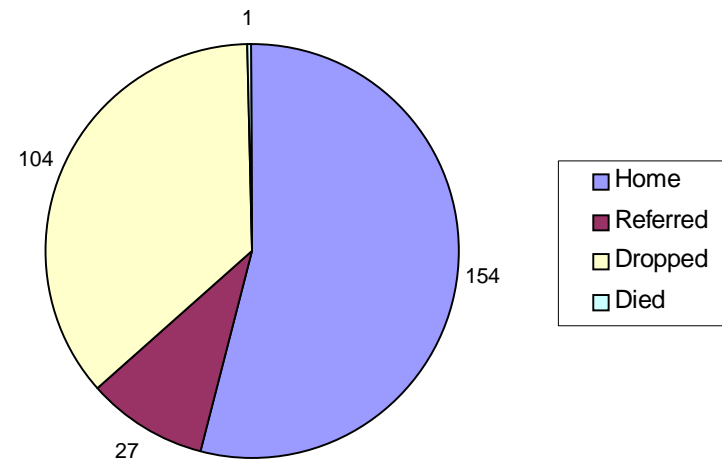
From Who Children Leave



These tables illustrate why and from whom children left their homes and ended up in need of care. Escaping violence refers to IDC while abuse covers both physical and sexual abuse at home. Other refers to reasons that are less than 1% all added together.

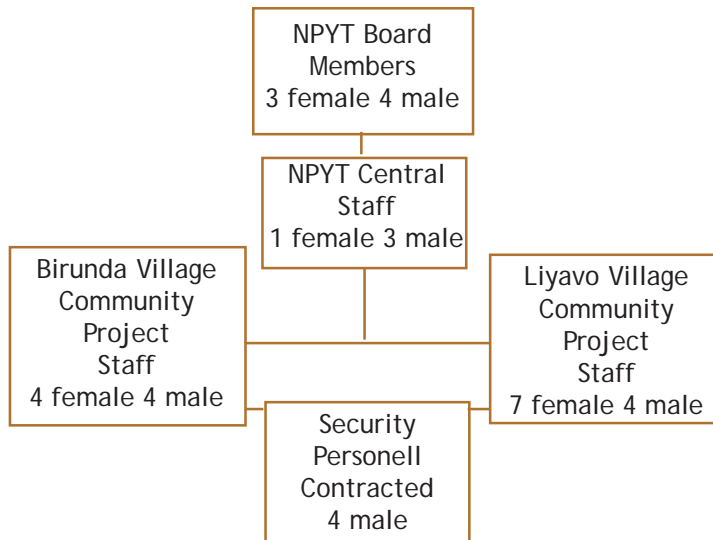
In the second table single parent is a parent who has not remarried, related guardians include uncle, aunt, grandparents, etc. Other guardians are non related guardians i.e. children's homes, juvenile remand or where the child may have been a house girl or cow hand. In the departures table Home means that the child was taken home, referred is to a long stay residential home, dropped is children who ran away from the programme and unfortunately one died. That is the reality when working with HIV positive children. Although 34% of the children dropped out of the programme that is not surprising when one takes into account that some of them are hooked on sniffing glue while others have unrealistic expectations.

Departures from Residential Care



Organisational Structure:

NPYT has a fully functioning Board comprised of professionals from related (e.g. medical and NGO fields) and from some unrelated fields. The Board have overall responsibility and direct the Director. The Director and his Deputy oversee the running of the organisation and ensure reports and other donor requirements are met in a timely fashion. The individual projects are run by Project Managers with advice from NPYT. The Managers ensure the smooth running of their projects and are in charge of their staff. The Board meet at least twice a year though thus far it has been quarterly and Director, Deputy, NPYT staff and Project Managers meet weekly to share information, exchange ideas and form the basis for policy



NB. Only permanent staff are represented

"What is the use of living if it be not to strive for noble causes and to make this muddled world a better place for those who will live in it after we are gone?"

Sir Winston Churchill 1874 - 1965

Towards 2010:



Due to expected financial limitations it is unlikely that NPYT will expand it's operations for the time being, instead our focus will be on consolidating current projects while continuing to enhance the awareness and ability of staff and the public in general. This will allow us to take stock, evaluate our successes and failures and start on a sound footing when the current economic climate improves.

NPYT has several pending projects which include the completion and furnishing of BRC's second dormitory which will enable more children to be housed and enable those who need a longer transitional period to do so without overcrowding existing facilities. Also pending is the full implementations of the Liyavo Vocational Training Unit which focuses on offering youth who fell through the formal education system opportunities to train that they would otherwise be denied. A one off grant system for families to start income generating activities and step out of the poverty trap has also had very positive trials with 5 out of 6 succeeding. This is also awaiting implementation.

The new Trans Nzoia Children's Service Network needs to be strengthened and to encourage more organisations to join so it can become a key player in protecting children in Kenya; uniting organisations that in the past had almost exclusively concentrated on their own work.

Rental of marquees and chairs will be increased with the addition of specialised bridal and cake tents which will open up the wedding market and hopefully enable us to further subsidise the projects.

Financial stability is crucial to offer our children a secure environment in which to grow. To this end several smaller potential donors have been approached though so far we have only received a few responses. Follow up contact will be made to try and encourage positive results. In the past NPYT has relied on 2 major donors and when 1 pulled out at the end of 2007 the effect was huge. In the future with several smaller donors any one pulling out will be of much less consequence.