

## **SMILE CHILD ORGANIZATION**

### **ABOUT US**

We are a children's rights, welfare, and development organization based in Kenya with a vision to expand our reach across Africa. We acknowledge that no child chooses where they would like to be born and it is, therefore, our responsibility to ensure a safe bringing of children independent of their family background.

We focus on all areas of abuse and neglect including physical, sexual, psychological, verbal, emotional, and mental abuse.

We have a vibrant team of over 225 youth volunteers who donate their resources, skills, and time to improving the lives of children.

### **MISSION**

Changing the world one smile at a time.

### **VISION**

To have a world full of happy and healthy children who grow up to be productive adults free of childhood trauma.

### **WHAT WE'RE DOING AND HOW YOU CAN HELP:**

#### **Advocacy**

We create awareness of child abuse and its implications in adulthood. We engage parents, children, teachers, and the community in awareness forums where we educate and also listen to their perceptions.

#### **Empowerment**

As an organization, we seek to end all forms of child abuse within our communities. We are passionate about empowering adolescents with both physical and verbal self-defense skills to teach them to stand up for themselves in compromising situations. Additionally, we offer trauma healing support to victims of abuse. We offer these sessions in primary and secondary schools as well as in community forums.

#### **Donations**

We mobilize and offer in kind and monetary donations to extremely poor families and also to child rescue centers. Our donations include foodstuffs, clothing, and all school requirements.

#### **Capacity Building**

We are a vibrant team of youth volunteers invested in building our knowledge and skills for employability and personal development. We conduct youth empowerment conferences where we learn both soft and hard skills. We involve all youths in our communities.

#### **Counseling and Psychology**

We enjoy visiting with children in rescue centers. During the visits, our team of psychologists spends time with children, establishing a rapport with them and conducting subsequent visits for psychological support to the children they identify to be in need.

## **RESEARCH**

In the quest to create a safer world for our children. We are invested in conducting research on identifying gaps in parenting, children's mental health, and talent development. Our goal is to influence policies that will improve the lives of children. We are currently conducting research on risk analysis on what dangers children face in their upbringing.

## **OUR LEADERSHIP**



**Mary Mwihaki Njogu**

**Founder**

Mwihaki is a certified Research Associate and has taken part in numerous research projects on children's welfare with local and international organizations. She is zealous about protecting children from child abuse and neglect. She is an Empowerment Self Defense (ESD) Instructor and teaches

adolescents and women how to defend themselves verbally, and physically while offering trauma healing to victims of abuse.

She is an international collaborator at Pillar Foundation US. She graduated with a bachelor's Degree in Commerce majoring in Finance from Kenyatta University. She values talent development and is the Miss World Kenya 2 nd Runners Up 2021/22. Her interest in journalism has given her a platform to be a television presenter and corporate events moderator.



**Donfelix Ochieng'**  
**Researcher/Writer**

Ogayo Donfelix Ochieng'.

### **Research and Partnerships Lead**

Donfelix conducts research, provides instructional content regarding community policies, and works with corporate partners to discover co-creation opportunities. His skills in the government and non-profit sectors and data analysis and visualization help him identify trends, indicators, and policies that impact organizations and communities.

He was a Data, Research, and Policy consultant for KEMRI, MOH, and AFIDEP. His success comes from his passion for helping businesses and organizations realize their goals and his research, data analysis, and policy formulation expertise. He has a Bsc. in Health Records & Informatics from Kenyatta University's School of Public Health and a Certificate in Knowledge Management from Austria.



**Magdaline Njeri**

**Social Media Manager**

Magdaline is a procurement and logistics officer by profession, currently working for an international NGO as a research consultant with a specialty in adolescents sexual reproductive health. She studied Procurement and Logistics management from Chuka University. Additionally, she is a furnished apartment, and online entrepreneur keen on living a purposeful life committed to making a difference by changing the world, one smile at a time. Outside her work life, she is a fitness enthusiast, adrenaline junkie and self-taught chef.



**Stacy Anyango**

**Communications Lead**

Stacy pursued a bachelor's degree in Business Management and specialized in Human Resource Management and is currently an ambitious entry level human resource administration and management professional with a passion in music and community development. She collaborates in planning, creating and marketing communications within the organization.



**Oscar Mwale**

**Planning and Coordination Lead**

Oscar is a graduate of NIBS Technical College with a diploma in Tourism Travel and Business Management. He is passionate about adventures, reading novels, and travelling. He is an entrepreneur. He coordinates the organizations physical activities and plans logistics for the same.

## PHOTO GALLERY



**Smile Child Organization T-shirt Branding and Mission Statement**



**End of year donations to a children's home. We donate basic needs to cater for their daily consumption.**



**We are passionate about children's mental health. During our visit, we make it intentional for each member to bond with a child and giving them a listening ear and support.**



Mentorship is a primary focus of our organization. We ensure that every child in the rescue centers we visit feels heard, loved and supported.



We celebrated our 4<sup>th</sup> year anniversary with our family of children. We call them family because we conduct frequent visits to the same rescue centers to establish meaningful connections.



**Our team building activity at Oloolu Nature Trail with our group of volunteers. We created lasting memories and bonds as a family.**



**Our volunteers offer a thanksgiving prayer after a successful outreach to a child rescue center.**



**Our organization's annual party. We are intentional about establishing strong family bonds while serving humanity. We use such platforms to brainstorm on future plans, evaluate our progress and celebrate achievements.**



**Donations to street families after sharing a meal with them.**



**Game time! We have one rule..."to ignite the inner child in us" on all our visits.**



**Think! Think! Think! It's time for the children to think on how to solve puzzles as they take part in fun and games.**



**We love getting our hands dirty. Our volunteer preparing some firewood to cook meals.**



**Transporting firewood to the kitchen for meal preparation.**



**Our team of volunteers during one of our visits.**



**We enjoy each other's company and take advantage of every opportunity to be together.**



**Closing circles after our visits to children rescue centers are the best, yet hardest for it's time to say goodbye.**