**Kicking for Change: How Tetea Jamii Is Using Football to Foster Gender Justice in Takaungu**

In the quiet coastal village of **Takaungu, Kilifi County**, football has become more than just a game, it’s a lifeline, a safe space, and a symbol of hope. Behind this inspiring transformation is **Tetea Jamii**, an organization committed to advancing gender justice and empowering local communities through sustainable, inclusive initiatives.

**Turning the Tide on Child Abuse Through Teamwork**

Takaungu has faced deep-rooted social challenges, including **rising cases of child abuse** and limited safe spaces for young people to express themselves. Recognizing this, Tetea Jamii took an innovative step forming a **boys’ football team** to bring together vulnerable and at-risk youth in a positive, structured environment.

What started as a simple recreational idea has evolved into a powerful tool for **healing, mentorship, and transformation**. The team, currently made up of **17 boys**, is more than a group of players it’s a brotherhood that nurtures values of **teamwork, respect, and empathy**.

Through regular training sessions, the boys learn to collaborate, communicate, and support one another both on and off the field. Football has become their language of connection helping them open up about personal struggles, gain confidence, and build resilience.

**Creating Safe Spaces for Growth**

The initiative goes beyond sports. It offers a safe, judgment-free environment where boys can be guided by mentors, learn about **positive masculinity**, and challenge the social norms that often contribute to gender-based violence.

By engaging young men early, Tetea Jamii is helping to shape a generation that values equality, respect, and community care laying the foundation for **long-term gender justice** in Takaungu.

**Planting Seeds of Future Talent**

Among the 17 boys are emerging football stars with remarkable potential. Tetea Jamii sees this not just as an opportunity for recreation, but as a **pathway to empowerment and economic mobility**.

The organization is now working toward establishing a **Talent Hub** a space dedicated to nurturing young talent through mentorship, coaching, and professional training. The vision is to create a platform where youth can turn their passions into purpose and their dreams into sustainable futures.

**Changing Lives, One Goal at a Time**

Each goal scored on the Takaungu pitch represents more than a point in a game, it’s a victory against hopelessness, abuse, and inequality. It’s proof that when young people are given guidance, opportunity, and love, they can rise above their circumstances and become champions of change in their communities.

Through football, **Tetea Jamii is not just building players it’s building futures.**