



Brenda Boone Tumaini Centre



A Note from the Interim Director

What an eventful year! Our year has been one of learning, one of change and also one of celebration.

We are proud of the lives we have touched. We have created awareness in the community regarding abuse on the Girl Child, its effects, and ways to prevent and protect girls. We have stood up against the wrongs that we have seen a change mindsets within the community.

We look forward to a new year where we will continue stand up for children who are unable to speak for themselves, protect those need our care, and continue to create awareness in our community.

Merry Christmas! We sincerely hope that this festive season you are blessed, with good company, time to rest, and of course time to share time with your family. May God bless you abundantly.

**Thank you,
Tanja Futter**

October marks one year anniversary for Tumaini Centre

Our one year anniversary for the Brenda Boone Hope Centre was held on Saturday, October 6, 2007.

We were so proud to not only celebrate the work we have achieved in one year, but also honor our mum, Brenda Boone, who came from the USA to celebrate with us, with her family, Becky and Meg.

During the celebrations we were able to share and reminisce about the things we had accomplished in the last year, as well as look forward to plans for the future.

It was a great event, attended by staff, girls and their guardians and community members with everyone enjoying themselves. Of course, we



Brenda Boone, Tumaini Centre sponsor, serves cake.

had lots of celebrating, with dancing and singing and presentations being made. Not even a bit of rain could dampen the spirits of those assembled for this momentous occasion.

It takes a village to raise and watch out for our children

Over the past year, we were able to celebrate many success and achievements. When a girl enters into the centre, she is surrounded with support and care in order to assist her to overcome the abuse she has faced. We have had many stories that we consider successes. This is but one:

Mary*, a seven-year-old girl, was referred to Tumaini through a teacher at her school. Mary's teacher had noted that Mary would almost always miss classes on Monday, and after every weekend, she seemed moody and not able to pay attention in class.

What Mary's teacher did not know was that every weekend Mary was taken from grand-

mother's home by her father, who sexually abused her. Mary finally confided in her teacher, who was able to find out about the Brenda Boone Hope Centre, and brought the girl to us.

After counseling with one of our trained counselors, and also receiving medical care at the centre, she was able to overcome the abuse. When she arrived, she was a quiet, sad girl, who was confused about what was happening to her. By the time she left, she had become a more confident girl, who was able to talk about her abuse. When she comes to our After Care sessions, she is truly happy—greeting her friends and feeling safe and at home.

* Not her real name.

Tumaini Centre Statistics

As of December 15, 2007, we are happy to report we have been able to assist more than 70 girls. We have assisted 25 through vocational training school, and as well have assisted over 45 girls through our rescue program.

Rescue Statistics

- 36 Shelter & Protection
- 12 Community Support Program
- 6 FGM
- 23 Defilement/Rape
- 4 Risk of Sexual Abuse
- 2 Teenage Pregnancy Crisis
- 3 Physical Abuse

Brenda Boone Tumaini Centre



Thank you!

I want to take this time to sincerely thank all the people that have been involved in the provision of care and support for the centre since its conception over a year ago.

We have had so many wonderful experiences this past year, both with our Rescue girls, as well as our Vocational Training School, and we are so proud of all of the girls who have passed through our centre.

We would especially like to thank Sipet College for their support and mentorship.

Thank you to the staff who have provided care to all of our girls. Thank you to the directors who have been essential in supporting our work.

Most of all though, I want to thank our Mum Brenda Boone who has made it possible for us to do this work. We would not be able to touch the lives that we touch without your continual love and support.

Asante Sana!

Coming back to Tumaini helps girls re-adjust to home

The Brenda Boone Tumaini Centre realized that after girls have been assisted in the centre, it is important to continue to help them transition back to living in their community as well as following up on the progress in their lives.



Girls in the after care program,

Because of this, we have an After Care program. Once a month, girls to come back to the centre, give us updates on their lives, have training sessions together, and just relax

and have fun with the other girls they know and love.

The girls continue to come every month for these sessions, and we are so happy that they are doing well in the community. After their session and lunch, the girls are assisted through toilettries distribution, as well as fare refunds to facilitate their transport to the centre. The girls all say that they would come either way, because after all, Tumaini Centre is their home.

Girls in After Care program visit Nanyuki

Our December After Care session was a very special one for us. We had our girls come for a weekend sleep over, and boy was it fun!!

The girls all arrived on Friday, and had a day at the centre, just hanging out and relaxing together. Our sleep over proved to be an interesting experience. We had almost 30 girls attending, who all crowded into beds, and talked and giggled much into the morning.

Saturday though, was our most fun day. We all piled into a bus and had a trip to Nanyuki, a nearby town. We had a wonderful time!!

We went to Bantu lodge, and all the girls and staff got to participate in activities at the site. There was a choice between horse back riding, a boat ride, or an electrical merry go round! It was a difficult decision for all of us to pick which of the three we wanted to try!



Girls take a ride on the swings

The girls were able to play on the grounds, we played jump rope, swung on the swings, and just played around, enjoying each other.

After our fun it was back to Nanyuki for a tasty lunch of chips and sausage. The staff all found that a group of 30 girls sure can eat!!

Our house mother, Isabella, shared that Saturday was by far the quietest night, with all the girls being so exhausted from their trip that they could barely stay up for a movie night!



Girls on a boat ride

It was a wonderful weekend for everyone that got to be involved.

We were so happy that we were able to share a Christmas treat with our girls, and hope to make it an annual event.



This brave girl opted to try horseback riding.

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Training for a bright future

The girls studying in the Vocational Training School had an eventful year. They were our very first group of girls, and so have learned with us as we worked through our very first year at the centre.



Tailoring students show off their practice designs.

We started with 24 girls in our school, with them choosing to major in either tailoring or knitting. Our girls focused on their major for the first part of the year, and made major progress in the courses and training.

Mid year, the girls also began to be trained in Computer Studies through Sipet College, a local computer college who works in collaboration with Tumaini Centre to provide the girls with basic computer program training.



The girls learn how to make samosas in home

The girls also began to be trained in a home management course, where they were taught the basics of preparing menus and food, taking care and cleaning of a home, basic child care and other skills. Overall our year was a great success with the girls learning so many different skills and being prepared to plan for their future. We hope that the girls will be able to sustain themselves and be empowered to take care of others in their communities with the skills they have learned.

Chickens making eggs and profits at Tumaini Centre

Our income generating activities continue to be an area of which Tumaini can be proud. We are continuing to find ways to be able to sustain the work that we do, so we will be able to continue to care for girls within our community.

We are still raising chickens for egg laying. Our egg sales are still going well, with many times having orders waiting for the chickens to lay, the market is so good!

We have also are working to provide uniforms to a RI project, for orphans and vulnerable children in the community.

Our newest venture, though, is a catering income generating activity, which is headed by our home management instructor, and is going well. We are able to cook for parties, weddings and other functions.

We happy that we have developed these projects, and are continuing to strive to create new income generating activities.

We are hoping with this focus on raising funds in order to support our work and special projects for the centre.

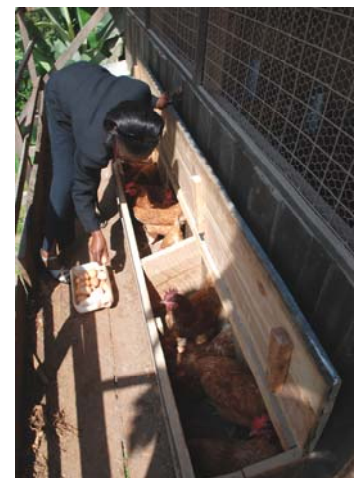
Legal challenges persist At Tumaini Centre

At Tumaini Centre, we strive to obtain justice for our girls who have been abused. We support them through the filling of forms and statements with the police and also assist them with representation and support during court cases. Though we are able to support girls through their legal cases, we often do face challenges with the Kenyan legal system.

Court cases, once started, are often take many months, or even years to complete. This can discourage many families due to long wait times, postponed hearing and other such obstacles. A hearing can be scheduled and postponed repeatedly, leading family members to believe that they are not being served by the system. Also, many families face challenges with raising fare to come to court cases month after month.

The cost of engaging a lawyer for a case of sexual abuse is approximately Ksh 50,000/=. This fee is prohibitively high and may make the plaintive feel they are unable to engage a lawyer. Brenda Boone Tumaini Centre has agreements with local lawyers to provide legal services at a greatly subsidized price, and so we are able to assist some girls.

We are grateful for their services, but are still not able to engage a lawyer for each case due to financial constraints. The benefits of a lawyer includes having an expert in legal matters to monitor the case and pursue justice on behalf of the victims.



Lydia Mwenda checks collects eggs at Tumaini Centre.

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Tumaini presents its first vocational training graduating class

Our very first graduation of the Vocational Training School was held on December 7, 2007. Our first graduating class was of 18 girls, 12 from tailoring, and 6 from knitting. We were so happy that our initial class has done so well.

We had a great ceremony, attended by the girls families, guardians, and loved ones.

We were blessed to have Mr. Ngige, the director of Sipet College, as well as RI CEO,

Mr. Chidi Ogonna, and Program Director, Mrs. Mercy Chidi, come to present the girls with their certificates and awards.

We were proud to award the top five girls in their classes casual positions at our centre to help sustain them after graduation.

Sipet College accredits RI Vocational Training School at no cost to RI. Which allows us to pass these savings on to the girls.



Graduation celebration at Tumaini Centre.

Centre provides support, guidance to young mom

Linda*, was a pregnant girl who was who was referred by RI Dispensary. She had been brought by her parents who were attempting to force her to have an abortion so she could continue with school, and mistook our centre for one that provided such services. Linda and her parents were counseled about

the effects of an abortion, and other options available for her. They agreed that Linda would come to Tumaini Centre to have her baby and then return home to go back to school, while her baby was supported at RI New Start Centre (NSC) for two years. Linda came to our centre and was provided with medical care and treatment, as well as counseling to inform her of all options for her future. We were happy that she gave birth to a

beautiful BIG baby boy, Emmanuel*, and both were healthy post delivery. After bonding and breastfeeding for two months, Linda and her mother decided that they would prefer to take the baby home to be cared for by the mother instead of him going to NSC. We were so happy to deliver them both home together. Linda has returned with Emmanuel during our After Care sessions.
*Names were changed.

Vision

To become an outstanding safe haven and a refuge for oppressed and vulnerable girls by providing them with love, security, skills and sustenance to give them a future and hope.

Mission

- To provide a safe and loving home for girls who have undergone or are at constant risk of experiencing sexual, physical and emotional abuse which includes but is not limited to:
 - Sexual Abuse
 - Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)
 - Forced Marriage
 - Child Labor
- To promote recovery of physical, emotional and psycho-social health.
- To protect and promote the rights and interests of the girl child.
- To empower the girl child for emotional, social and economic independence.



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