

STRENGTHENING VULNERABLE FAMILIES IN ELDORET



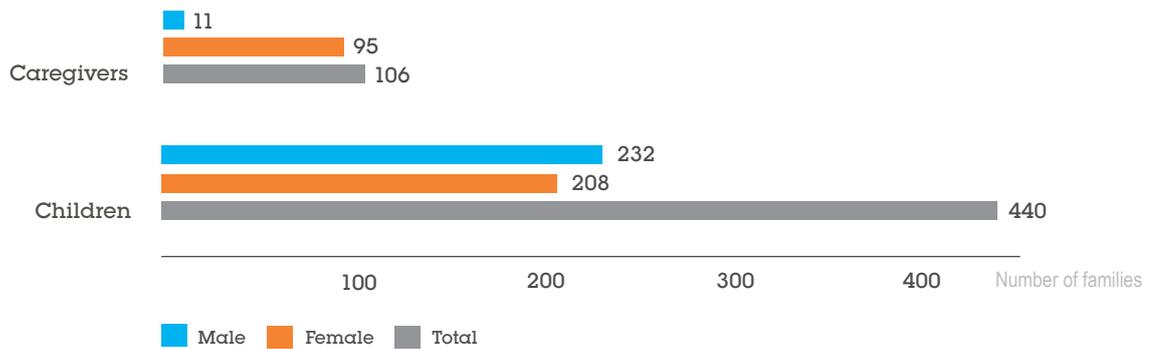
SOS
BØRNEBYERNE



FAMILY STRENGTHENING PROGRAM ELDORET

PARTICIPANTS IN THE FAMILY STRENGTHENING PROGRAM

In 2021, the program moved to two new areas called Koitoror and Pioneer. In the second half of 2021, the SOS Children's Villages Family Strengthening Program in Eldoret supported 106 households (11 headed by men and 95 by women) with a total of 440 children (232 boys and 208 girls) at risk of losing parental and family care.



Xellia Pharmaceuticals is providing funding to the local SOS Family Strengthening Program in Eldoret in a three-year partnership from 2021 to 2023. Xellia began funding the program in 2018 after supporting the SOS Medical Center for three years.

The program constantly seeks sustainable and innovative ways to prevent family separation and assists children who are at risk of losing the care of their biological family. This approach to supporting children at risk focuses on two actions: **family empowerment** and **community empowerment**.

FAMILY STRENGTHENING PROGRAM ELDORET

FAMILY EMPOWERMENT

The COVID-19 global pandemic has significantly impacted the program beneficiaries and operations. Most beneficiaries faced economic challenges resulting from the pandemic, while most planned activities that required physical interaction or travel were either stopped or postponed because of the COVID-19 restrictions. However, in the second half of 2021, the program was able to complete many of the planned activities. The activities in this reporting period include:

>> Children's forum

Children's forums in the four locations were attended by 540 children (268 boys and 272 girls) in the program and from the local community. The purpose was to ensure involvement and get the children's point of view to understand the challenges they face and to come up with ways of addressing them.

>> Income-generating activities

Items to start a business were given to 12 caregivers. During the year, the program supported two caregivers with second-hand clothes, one with assorted local snacks, three caregivers with shop items, and six caregivers with male sheep. This support means caregivers will earn extra income to provide for their families.

>> Entrepreneurship skills training

Six days of training on entrepreneurship skills for youths was given to 379 young people. The

training aimed to equip the youths with the knowledge and hands-on skills to transform their startups into small and medium-sized enterprises capable of surviving in the market and throughout the different seasons.

>> Agribusiness skills training

Five days of training at A.I.C Cheptebo Agricultural Centre was given to 15 caregivers. The caregivers were taken through poultry farming, livestock management, beekeeping, value addition, mango production, establishing kitchen gardens, pest and disease control, and establishing tree nurseries. With this support, the caregivers established kitchen gardens and have been able to put the training into practice.

>> Kitchen garden support

Vegetable seeds were given to 37 families. This support allowed 31 caregivers to provide a balanced diet for their children and family and 18

caregivers had a surplus that they could sell to earn extra income.

>> Farm support

Fertilizer was given to 15 families to boost the yield of their farm crops. Through this support, the caregivers had a good harvest, securing food for them and their family.

>> National Health Insurance

The Family Strengthening Program contributes to the country's efforts to achieve universal health coverage. Throughout the year, the program continued to sensitize the caregivers to the importance of National Health Insurance. Despite the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions, the meetings created awareness in the caregivers, reaching 550 people. Additionally, the program supported 48 families with the National Health Insurance Fund registration fee for three months. These caregivers and children will be able to access quality health services in hospitals.



End poverty in all its forms everywhere

STRENGTHENING VULNERABLE FAMILIES IN ELDORET



Agribusiness skills training for the caregivers.



Items to start a business were given to caregivers.

FAMILY STRENGTHENING PROGRAM ELDORET

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

The family strengthening team in Eldoret focuses on working with partners to develop strong social support systems for children and families to develop, grow and learn in a positive, supportive environment. The family strengthening program works with community-based organizations, local authorities, and volunteers to not just strengthen families but also to strengthen communities in looking out for their vulnerable children and families. The activities in this reporting period include:

>> Improving community structures

Basic knowledge of the Child Protection Information Management System was given to 121 stakeholders in the community for example village elders, chiefs, court users committees, child protection volunteers, and lay counselors which are usually volunteers in the non-governmental sector who fulfil a role in relieving the burden of psychologists, counsellors, and health care professionals, but who are not required by the state to have a license.

>> Quarterly stakeholder meetings

Quarterly stakeholder meetings brought together 25 court users committee members, 18 lay volunteer counselors and seven sub-county development officers. At the beginning of the year, a joint action plan was developed. The actions planned included holding joint sensitization forums, developing a common

reporting tool and continuous capacity building forums, particularly on family preservation, economic empowerment through government opportunities, self-help groups, and child protection.

>> Parenting skills training

During the year, the family strengthening program provided two days of training on parenting skills so that lay volunteer counselors could become trainers. This is one of the ways of ensuring that caregivers take good care of the children. The areas of training included professional caregiving, secure and insecure attachment, basic attachment theories and turning pain into resilience. The lay volunteer counselors reached 516 caregivers with knowledge and skills for positive parenting.

>> Training police officers

Training on the Children’s Act and Sexual Offences Act was provided for

48 police officers from various stations throughout the county. The training focused on the juvenile justice system, gaps, achievements, and handling children in conflict with the law. The training informed the police how to handle child abuse cases and the referral mechanisms available in the justice system. The police promised to play a proactive role in supporting child protection and ensuring that justice prevails for all child abuse cases. Essentially, this training reminded the police of their mandate and duty towards child protection.

>> Training religious institutions

Training on child protection was given to 65 religious people who work directly with children in their religious communities. As duty bearers, they will support child protection awareness, prevention, reporting and response.

Training Volunteers to be Trainer of Trainers (ToTs) on career guidance and mentorship.



STRENGTHENING VULNERABLE FAMILIES IN ELDORET



Youth sensitization sessions through community events.



Caregiver meetings facilitated by social workers.

FAMILY STRENGTHENING PROGRAM ELDORET

SCHOOL SUPPORT

The Family Strengthening Program is committed to ensuring that no child misses out on an education because of poverty, discrimination, violence, family illness or exploitation. The program works with families, communities and partners to ensure that each child has access to education and training that address individual needs and circumstances and help children develop their potential. The activities in this reporting period included:

>> School fees

In the second half of 2021, 97 children from the Family Strengthening Program (49 boys and 48 girls) were supported with school fees.

>> Improving students' experiences

Kenya is in the process of changing its education system to a Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC), which is an education system that emphasizes the learner's unique talents and abilities rather than focusing wholly on academic and exam performances. To support the children in this process 83 caregivers (77 women and six men)

were trained on early childhood development, what CBC entails, their role as parents, and how they could support their children in the CBC program.

>> Developing creativity

On June 16 every year, the International Day of the African Child, governments, NGOs, international organizations and other stakeholders gather to discuss the challenges and opportunities arising from the full realization of children's rights in Africa. This year, 120 children from the Family

Strengthening Program and their caregivers took part in the celebrations with a writing and drawing competition that enhanced their creativity and talent development.

>> Learning child rights

Four schools in Family Strengthening locations were supported with 480 children's rights booklets to make children aware of their rights and reduce child abuse. With the engagement and support of teachers in these schools, sessions on children's rights will continue with the use of the booklets.



Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all



THE ANNUAL FUNDRAISER EVENT

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

Together, you collected around 18,840 USD to improve the facilities and ensure quality care and good hygiene at local daycare centers in Eldoret. This includes minor renovations, furniture, play and learning materials, construction of eco-toilets, and other sanitary and eco-friendly solutions. Your support will prevent diseases and ensures that children from the poorest homes get the support and care they need to develop their potential.



THE ANNUAL FUNDRAISING EVENT

THE VEHICLE HAS ARRIVED

Thanks to Xellia's Annual Fundraising Event 2020, the Family Strengthening Program has bought a new vehicle, which will ensure that social workers in the Family Strengthening team will be able to visit the families when needed, all year round. This vehicle will meet the needs of the Family Strengthening team and be suitable for driving on the bad roads in the area.

Regular monitoring of the families will ensure that the program remains relevant and social workers can track the families' progress.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HEARTWARMING SUPPORT, XELLIA EMPLOYEES. EVERY DONATION, WHETHER IT WAS 5 USD OR 100 USD, MAKES A DIFFERENCE!!

THE SOS MEDICAL CENTER ELDORET
MATERNITY CARE

Since the introduction of free maternity services in January 2020, there has been an increase in clients compared with when the facility charged for maternity services. In 2021, 178 mothers delivered at the facility and 14 mothers were referred because of other complications. The Medical Center is still pursuing the "Linda mama" (meaning "protect the mother") contract with the government. The program is being implemented in collaboration with the National Health Insurance Fund and offers free maternity services to all expectant mothers in Kenya. There is a great need to increase awareness in the local community of the services offered in the Maternity Wing.



In 2021, some of the key activities at the SOS Medical Center in Eldoret were:

- >> Health volunteers continuing to raise awareness in the community of the Maternity Wing.
- >> Providing curative and preventive services to clients at the medical center – 4,717 patients were seen, 2,692 patients received laboratory services, and 4,663 clients were served at the pharmacy.



Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR SUPPORT

