**A VIST TO ST AUGUSTINE COMMUNITY LOVE PROGRAM (SACL) BETWEEN 4TH TO 11TH JANUARY**

ST. Augustine‘s community love program (SACL) is a community based organization (C.B.O) located in Nebbi district, it was started in 2004 by three young men by then namely;

1. Joshua Anyarachi
2. Ochaki Samuel
3. Chwinyaii Lawrence

It was started with the dream of accomplishing the following;

* To provide help in form of taking orphans and disadvantaged children to school.
* To provide safe water for home consumption.
* To improve on the nutrition as many children in the community were malnourished.
* To improve on the food security in the community because of the harsh drought season that normally hit that area of the country.

To achieve all these goals, they had to set up a team that was committed and devoted, in other words people who had the same dream and ambitions as theirs towards SACL.

Along the way some people who started with them either passed on or left because of other commitments i.e. many were missionary workers and their kind of work requires them to be sent in different areas to serve. But am told that they have not forgotten all about (SACL) as they have kept in touch with them all the time. Currently the team is structured like how it appears.

**MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE**

**BOARD**

CHAIRMAN - Cwinyaai Lawrence

VICE CHAIRMAN - Ockaki Samuel

TREASURER - Tabu Gilbert

SECRETARY - Anywarach Joshua

MEMBERS - Olar Ronald

 - Pastor Oludot Emmanuel

 - Pastor Pimer Richard

 - Ocuna Denis

 **HEAD OF PROGRAMMES**

PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT - Kisa Harry

FOOD PROVISION/ AGRICULTURE - Jungera Gilbert

EDUCATION - Okethi Vundha

MEDICAL CARE - Onencan William

SHELTER - Othembi Emmanuel

COMMUNITY MEMBERS

CHAIRMAN - Oromgiu Nicholas

VICE CHAIRMAN - Odiya Matyasi

SECRETARY - Ongur Theodore

TREASURER - Karombo Florence

MOBILISER - Ocoun Stephen

MEMBERS - Jungiera Donasiano

 - Ongei Bonefansio

 - Owingo Dominick

This team would make sure that they came up with ideas that would sustain (SACL). And the following measures were taken in terms of income generating activities to realize the dream.

1. Goat keeping

2. Planting of trees (Eucalyptus)

3. Growing of different food crops.

In order for this to run properly, the coordinator had to appoint program heads after observing them to know their capabilities so this group was chosen as shown on the structure paper.

(SACL) is divided in three different communities namely;

1. Nyapea Community

2. Erusssi Community

3. Paida Community

But because most of the income generating activities takes place in Erussi, I concentrated more there; I was given a tour around these projects by the acting as coordinator. This can be best explained in the roles of each of head programmes plus the video clips that I shot while I was there.

 **HEADS OF PROGRAMMES IN SACL**

Mr. Gilbert Jumiala (production food and agriculture)

Mr. Kisa Harry (Psycho social support)

Mr. Onen William (Coordinator and medical services)

Mr. Othembi Emmanuel (Shelter)

Mr. Oketh Vunda (Education)

Mr. Orom Nicholas (Chairman SACL)

 **ROLES EACH HEAD OF A PROGRAMME PLAYS IN SACL**

Production

Mr. Gilbert Jumaila the head of production was supposed to make sure that the community improves on the food security.

He also sighted some problems that he faces while carrying out his work which included;

* There’s a problem of acquiring farm inputs for example good seeds.
* Distribution of goats to households is slow because the production of the goats is still low due to the small number of goats currently SACL has.
* SACL had planned to get 3000kgs of Irish potato seeds, but because of shortage of funds, SACL was only able to get 1500kgs of Irish potato seeds.

Proposals made by Mr. Gilbert Jumiala so as to improve on production in SACL

* The need to build a store for the produce.
* Planting more trees
* He wants to introduce fish farming.
* More modified food seeds are needed.

 Mr. Othembi Emmanuel (shelter)

He is assigned a duty of undertaking the issues at hand as far as shelter is concerned as highlighted below;

* Identify problems in rural needy households.
* Laying of bricks, contributing poles etc for shelter.
* He also made some proposals so as to make his work more effective.
* He says in future there is need to build houses with iron sheets for the members because the grass thatched houses are also expensive to build yet they can burn any time.
* They need more money so as to meet the demand of housing in the community.

Mr. Onen William Chan (medical care)

He is assigned the following duties as started below;

* Assesses, identifies the kind of sickness.
* Mobilizes the people in the community to get treatment.
* Sensitizes the people in the community and also encourages them to reach out for government programmes especially on malaria and HIV/AIDS.
* He also encourages the community to try and live in a clean environment i.e. by slashing

Their compounds and also drinking boiled water.

Problems that Mr.Onen William Chan normally encounters

- Health centers are normally very far from the communities.

- Some drugs of essential use are very expensive

- Lack of enough mosquito nets hence malaria being very rampant.

 Aids patients also travel very far, as far as Arua district to access the ARV’s

 Here are some of the **proposals** that were made by Mr. Onen William to effect his role in SACL.

* There is need for more clinics to be put in place so as ease on the long distances that patients incur as they move to access medical services.
* The need to improve more home care.
* The roles of Kisa Harry (Psycho- social support)
* Mr. Kisa Francis normally carries out counseling trips which are mainly aimed at the needy household that requires it at that particular time.
* They normally move in a group of six to visit these communities.
* They also hold fellows once in a while.
* Once every month Mr. Kisa encourages the community to carry out some charity work e.g. cleaning of drainage, cleaning community roads etc.
* Mr. Kisa is also assigned a duty of leading preparations of community day celebrations that happens once at the end of every year. That is if Francis can allow it at that moment in time.

Short comings for Mr. Kisa Francis as a head of psycho- social support

* Some times when the weather is bad transportation to some of these communities becomes very difficult that is they are required to foot to some of these places.
* Lack of enough finances sometimes doesn’t allow them to have community day celebrations.
* Lack of a public address system for easy mobilization of the communities.
* Some tools needed to do different work are expensive for example pangas, hoes and many others.

Because some of the terms mentioned above could be known or unknown to some people I moved on to inquire more information about them as I indicated in the video.

Fellowships;

I was told that normally they have a general gathering of all members of SACL in order to do the following;

1. To come up with new ideas
2. To review and assess the projects of SACL
3. Also to have some spiritual moments that is to get time to pray together and normally this helps them to have hope in whatever SACL is trying to achieve.

Charity work;

In addition to this all people gather as SACL members and try to indentify areas in different communities that are need to be helped, then they also agree on the date when to carry out charity work.

Community day;

I was told that once at the end of every year the members of SACL gather to celebrate the achievements made by SACL.

MR.OKETA VUNDHA ;( In charge of Education)

He is assigned a duty of identifying the neediest children in the communities in terms of school fees, scholastic materials and uniforms.

I asked how Mr. Oketa Vundha is able to identify the kids that need help and below is how he replied;

He said since most of the families in the communities are known it’s very easy to known the kids who go to school and those who don’t go. In most cases it’s the children who have lost both their parents (orphans); Reference video coverage.

Other children are bright but because of the high levels of poverty in the communities, some of the parents are unable take these kids to school hence SACL coming in to give in a helping hand.

The kind of Assistance that He normally seeks for;

He normally seeks for the following below;

* Food is the first priority for the children going to school.
* Scholastic materials that is uniforms, school bags, text and exercise books, school feed, sometimes SACL provides full portion of fees and a times they provide half, depending on the problem being faced by the children in these communities.

On the question of how to organize people to build or re-thatch a house, this is how Mr. Othembi Emmanuel who is in charge of education had to say;

* Members of SACL have always to gather and contribute some little cash in hand and in kind.
* Members have to lay bricks as a group.
* Members have to do general community work.

Who is responsible for Agriculture?

Mr. Gilbert Jumiala is responsible for agriculture and is also responsible for all the agricultural initiatives.

Who owns the land on which the trees and other food crop that SACL grow?

Mr. Jumiala said the land is a gift from some members of SACL who give it freely, some give other land is rented from other places but for the trees it’s SACL that provides the land.

Who is Responsible for the goats?

Members of SACL decided that Mr. Oketh Vundha who is in charge of education takes care of the goats because he has wider knowledge about it and these goats majorly benefits members of SACL. There are 28 goats that have been given out. Mr. Oketh Vundha is taking care of 10 female goats, 2 male goats and 18 kids.

Where are seeds got from?

As it started earlier on SACL’s friends and partners who normally donate seeds to SACL, these seeds are equally shared among the different SACL communities, said Mr. Gilbert Jumiala.

Who provides medical care?

Mr. Onen William who is in charge of medical care answered that he and his team will always identifies the sickness, mobilize people to go for HIV/AIDS testing , encourage people in the community to go for treatment especially malaria, polio etc.

Normally when SACL members get sick, they go to nearest Health centres in the village (VHT), health centre 2 which is government funded and health centre 3 which is privately owned where patients are to pay some money.

How sponsorships are handled;

This was answered in general that if any sponsorship is received it will be disclosed by the heads of departments and then SACL members converge and plan on how to best use it and in most cases the sponsorship goes to the department that urgently needs help.

On the issue of psycho-social support;

Who is supposed to be counseled?

Mr. Kisa Francis who is in charge of psycho-social support answered that its normally the orphans, widows and people with HIV/ AIDs, that is normally the orphans are counseled on how not to loose hope since their parents died, they are told that they are loved just like some of the other kids who have parents.

People with AIDS are also counseled not to loose hope because some think they are going to die so soon, at times they abandon certain crucial things in life, others feel like committing suicide but because of the counseling given they gain some bit hope for the future.

**A word from the chairman (Oromgiu Nicholas) of SACL as I concluded the meeting with the heads of programmes.**

‘‘Welcome, this programme has lasted foe 8years, it now covers a large area and its aim is to uplift the young ones to become good elders for the future.

There was a time a visitor like you also came and we requested him to help us achieve our aims (education and health)

Lastly we pray that this programme should expand to other areas, the members are not as few as the ones you see today; only that others have been away by other issues. We request for support if possible and you should not forget St. Augustine’’.

**MEETING WITH OCHAKI SAMUEL (ORDINARY MEMBER IN PROJECTS) IN ST AUGUSTINE COMMUNITY LOVE PROJECT, LOVE PROGRAMME**

On the 7th January 2012 I met with Ochaki Samuel who is an ordinary member of SACL at his home to talk about a few things concerning st Augustine community love project.

I must say I had a great time with him, because he was so warm and jolly. He gave me a brief history of SACL.

He told me that initially there had been a programme that had been designed to do almost the same kind of work like SACL before and it was by the name of st Joseph foundation of whish Joshua Anyarwachi him self was beneficiary. It used to operate in 1990’s but because of un- foreseen circumstance to be precise so St. Joseph foundation closed down.

As time went on when hope of having something like St. Joseph foundation was fading, Mr. Ochaki together with Chwinyari Lawrence now the chairman of the board and Joshua sat down to work out ways on how they could start up anew thing for the community that would help like St. Joseph foundation used to do, hence the birth of St. Augustine’s community love project (SACL) programme in 2004.

The main objectives of starting (SACL)

Mr. Ochaki Samuel says the main agenda for starting up St Augustine community love programme (SACL) were mainly because of the points started below.

* To provide safe water for home consumption
* To help the disadvantaged children go to school in other wards to provide education for disadvantaged.
* To improve on malnutrition as many kids in the community were malnourished.
* To improve on the food security in the community because of the variance in the weather of the area.
* To provide modified seeds for example Irish potatoes, soya beans, beans, and seedlings for planting trees for example Eucalyptus.
* To improve on the housing in the community
* To give psychosocial support to the orphans.

SACL had to start up some income generating activities as pointed out below.

* SACL started up a goat keeping project.
* They brought some land so that they could do some commercial farming.

They thought it good to keep goats, because they are easy to look after. Each time the goat gives birth the off springs would be distributed to members of (SACL) in the community who would in turn give one off spring back to the SACL.

They also bought some land for doing commercial farming so as to get some income that would be used to buy scholastic materials plus pay school fees for the disadvantaged.

Some Achievements made by SACL so far;

- With some help from SACL’s friends and partners, three water sources have been built.

18 households got improved seeds for Irish potatoes and when they are planted they get some yields from them.

* Some 28 families have benefited from the goat’s project hence improving on the incomes of the households.
* 1000 trees of Eucalyptus were planted later on the timber got from the Eucalyptus trees some is sold to raise income in the community and also send disadvantaged children to school and also the remainder is used for firewood or to make better roofs for the grass thatched houses most of the people in the communities live in.
* SACL is supporting one child to get driving lessons in a driving school.
* About 30 children are being supported in primary schools in Nebbi district.
* SACL is also supporting14 children in secondary schools in Nebbi district

Mr. .Ochaki also noted some key challenges SACL is facing

* High expectations from the community yet SACL’s resources are limited
* Over dependence on the SACL is also a problem
* Transport is also a problem since many of these communities are far from each other; it’s in most cases costly to reach out to them.
* Funding is still very low as this limits the smoothing running of the programmes.
* HIV/AIDS is also still rampant in these communities hence increase in orphans.
* For the infected people in the community there is lack of ARVS, which shortens the life of the infected people.
* Lack of an office where to base SACL’s working materials for example paper work, computers and many others.

These are some of the key challenges that SACL is facing as told by Mr. Ochaki Samuel.

Mr. Ochaki Samuel as an advisor and ordinary member on the board of SACL added that he had plans of doing some of the following things below.

* Write a concept paper for SACL which would give a good picture of what takes place in SACL plus showing where the funds come from and where they are going.
* Some of the members who were with SACL have left due to some other responsibilities as most of them where missionary workers hence designated to work in other areas as told by their supervisors in missionary organizations.
* Apparently they plan on constitionalizing the organization, so as to lay clearly down the laws and rules that will govern (SACL).

Concerning the Board Elected;

The board was elected and after every two years elections take place.

The electorate;

The electorates that are people who elect the board are members of SACL.

 Qualifications of some one to be elected as a board member;

Some one to be qualified as a board member he or she must be hard working and devoted.

**Interaction with some orphans who are being taken care of by (SACL).**

1. **MOSES KOMAKECH**

At the age of 17 years Moses had become an orphan after loosing both his parents to the dangerous epidemic syndrome (HIV/AIDS), with the help of SACL Moses told me that it has been able to cater for his school fees from S1 to S6. He got know of SACL through a friend Jonah who is also a beneficiary. Moses is so grateful to Angela who lives in USA for always being there for him. He wants to be a lawyer if at all there is a sponsor who is willing to pay for his school fees so that he goes up to university so that he can accomplish his dream of becoming a lawyer.

Moses also cited some of the challenges which he has faced while staying with SACL.

* Lack of enough basic needs for example clothes, shoes and others
* Lack of fuel to keep the lamps on
* Feeding is also a problem as he doesn’t eat a well balanced diet
1. **WAYU SAVIOR**

Savior is also another orphan living in the Nyapea community. He lost his parents at the age of 16; both his parents were victims of AIDS disease. Initially his family used to live in Kampala (Uganda’s capital city) where his father had a well paying job but because of his father’s illness the company for which he worked for was forced to lay him off his Job later they transferred to their country home in Nebbi, where both his parents passed away and left him helpless and hopeless, he studied till S5 and resorted to living on the streets of Paida but later on Lawrence Chinyaii the chairman board SACL convinced Wayu to leave the streets on which he obliged and later he was introduced to SACL Nyapea.

Presently Wayu, being naturally gifted with the talent of broadcasting he found himself a part time Job at Paida fm a community based station though he is not paid; he was recommended to the station by Joshua Anyarwachi. Wayu promises that if he gets a sponsor he is willing to go back to school till university so that he can find a better job and later help SACL in return.

1. **MUNGURYEK KERMU FRED**

In 2005 Munyuryeke Fred lost his father and few years later he lost his mother both died of AIDS. His parents had paid for him to study up to primary seven at that point in life he was hopeless he couldn’t continue with education but thank God a good friend of his introduced him to SACL which paid him school fees up to S6 and beyond that he couldn’t go on because of SACL’s financial constraints.

Apparently he has no job he is appealing to any sponsor to help him go back to school so that he can continue with his education. He wants to become a lawyer too.

1. **JACHAN MIKE**

He was an orphan since in 2003; Jachan seemed not to have a future but thanks to God for bringing Joshua who took on him at SACL. Jachan did not only stop being an orphan, he had an accident which almost took his life, and both his feet were badly damaged. This basically hurt his education and both his legs needed to be operated and thanks to SACL who took on the bills of the operation, he was operated in 2007 and now he is recovering from the operation. He has been able to complete his primary seven.

Jachan wants to become a mechanic or driver for this case he wants to join a technical school. So he is appealing to any Good Samaritan out there to make his dream come true.

1. **BRYAN WOTIMOY**

He is 18years, went to Nyaravu primary school and lives in Nyaravu Sub County, both his parents died. He was introduced to SACL by a friend. He lived in Erussi community for six years later he was transferred to Paida to study in a bible school where his dream was to become a pastor and for that reason he had to transfer to Paida because of the proximity of the bible school to his home.

1. **EMMA**

He is also another orphan under the care of SACL; he has been with SACL for over 10 years. Currently he is helping Joshua with a few things for example he is sent to different places by him. Emma stopped in S4 but it’s his wish to continue schooling if a chance is comes up.

**The beginning of women’s group** was purely the idea of Joshua Anyarachi, due to some of the reasons highlighted below.

Many women had borrowed money from micro finances within the villages, that had been lending them and they in turn expected a high interest rate from them and hence many would fail to pay back and this resulted into confiscation of their properties.

Families were breaking down due to many of their husbands deserting them because they never wanted to be part of the debts incurred by these women.

Most men in these communities are so reluctant to take care of their children even providing necessities like sanitary pads, so it becomes the work of these women to provide for them.

Because of the extreme poverty in these communities, many women resorted to prostitution as a way of raising some kind of income to help their families.

More to this, there was rampant rape in the communities caused by idleness, influence of drugs like marijuana by young men, alcoholism, and this resulted in the increase of HIV, unwanted pregnancies and an increase in the number of school drop outs.

So it’s for some of these reasons that Joshua felt that he should preach to these women to form groups which they obliged to, and indeed the groups were started. He was able to contribute a specific amount of money to each group that these women had formed, it was little but it has helped make a big difference in these women’s groups as testified in the video clips.

So it was because of the over exploitation of the small village banks (micro finances) majorly, coupled with other problems mentioned above that led to Joshua start these women groups. As small as a dream may have appeared, it’s been much of a successful one that Joshua had to merge these groups with St. Augustine Community Love Programme (SACL).

**AVISIT TO WOMEN’S GROUP**

I was able to visit seven women groups namely:

* Puluma Akado women’s group (Parombo sub county)
* Anyugi dikir ber women’s group (Akworo sub county)
* Mer en etego women’s group (Parombo sub county)
* Opoyo wiwa women’s group (Parombo sub county)
* Ajengira ibang yesu ndima women’s group (Parombo sub county)
* Minya women’s group (Wodi) (Atego sub county)
* Murusi women’s group (Akworo sub county)

This is what I got from these groups.

1. **PULUMA AKADO WOMEN’S GROUP (PAROMBO SUB COUNTY)**

**INTRODUCTION**

Chair person - Onyai Alice

Vice - Tansila Acibu Ayera

Secretary - Nyinga Paska

Treasurer - Gipatho Luwiza

Mobiliser - Oweka Mary

They started in February 2011 and were given 40,000 by Joshua after which each member would be required to contribute 600/= per week so as to develop the fund.

After three months, they started giving loans among themselves with little interest. They also borrow money anytime when a problem arises.

They also do some business example buying maize, beans, groundnuts, any many more, and later sell the produce said the (vice chair person).

 **Challenges**

-The lack of enough funds to facilitate them to acquire grinding mills which helps them in production process.

-Lack of enough capital to start up new opportunities and to improve on the existing ones.

-They lack capacity building in other words there is need for more sensitization.

-Lack of funds to facilitate them in agricultural activities.

- There is a lot of illiteracy in the community which is the leading cause of poverty and suffering.

-There is need for uniforms for easy identification in form of T-shirts.

 **Way forward**

We humbly request Joshua’s friends to and if possible assist him to solve the above problems.

1. **AYUGU DIKIRI BER WOMEN’S GROUP**

The group started 27th November 2010 with Joshua donating shillings 20,000. Every group member contributed shs 200 every Saturday of the week as a saving .Currently the group has saved Shs 508,000 being used for running purposes to the members only yielding 10% a month. The total cash currently in operation is shs 864,000

 **EXECUTIVES:**

CHAIR PERSON : AKUMU GRACE

VICE CHAIR PERSON : ALBE THINA BIDONG

GENERAL SECRETARY : ASIIMWE JAMES

VICE SECRETARY : AWEKONIMONGO AGNES

TREASURER : LETHIU JOYCE

MOBILISING SECRETARY : 1- OUCHA GRACE

 2- UDAGA MUNGURIEK

 **PENAL ACTS OF THE GROUP**

**A. GROUP LOCATION**

* Ayugi Village
* Kitung Parish
* Akworo sub county
* Nebbi district

**B. ACTIVITIES (FUTURE PLAN) OF THE GROUP**

* Contribution of 200/= as a fund will be required by each member.
* Loaning systems.
* Fighting illiteracy among the women.
* Bringing the non members to unity.
* Boosting agriculture in the village.
* Promotion of girl child education.
* Maintaining sanitation and hygiene in the village.

**C. MEETINGS WITH SAVINGS**

* Groups meet on Saturday every week.
* Groups meet at 2:00pm.
* Group members saves 200/= each at every meetings.
* Groups meet under a tree at the trading centre.

**D. CRITERIA FOR LOAN DISBURSMENT**

* It is only the group members to be given loan.
* The members must borrow according to the amount she or he has saved.
* The members must return the loan after one month.
* The borrower must return the loan with an interest of 10%.

**E. SITUATIONS WERE FINES APPLY**

 **OFFENCES FINES (SHS**)

1. Coming late to attend meetings 100

2. Non attendance to meetings 200

3. Shouting at the time of savings 200

4. Miss- behavior during meetings 200

5. Failure to follow the groups rules 200

**PROBLEMS FACED BY AYUGU DIKIRI BER WOMEN GROUP.**

- Lack of administrative office and its facilities.

- Lack of capacity building and sanitization.

- Lack of capital to run the group efficiently.

- Difficulties in communication i.e. lack of mobile phones.

- Transport problems.

- Lack of grinding mills.

- Lack of identification uniforms to the group members.

- Lack of clean water to our school children.

- Adult literacy education.

- Lack of enough utensils e.g. sauce pans.

- Uniforms should be bear a badge designed for easy recognition.

- Tractors if possible should be brought to the group since many of them dig and may also help for hiring hence boasting the group.

- There must be mobile phones for easy communication.

**3. MER EN ETEGO WOMEN’S GROUP**

 Brief History

It was formed on 5th June 2011 with about 56 members and later extended to all 8 villages namely;

1. Babu 52
2. Jupukidi 74
3. Lubinga 85
4. Palongo 80
5. Owenjo 95
6. Thilal 83
7. Aloe 123
8. Jupundenge 103

 695 members

* All are under OSSI West parish Parombo Sub County.
* Outside support.
* They were supported by Member of Parliament Hon. Joshua 165000 to strengthen the group.
* The group all contributed share of membership fee shs 695,000.

 Therefore 165,000

 Membership fee **+** 695,000

 Shs 860,000

So they are sharing shs 860,000 as a revolving loan among the registered member.

 Current account is showing about shs 1,477,250

 Other sources of income include;

1. Cultivated cotton which they pick and sell.
2. Saving 1000 per week which started 1st December 2011.

Challenges

* Lack of clean water (about 2040 households)
* Lack of office building (hall) and stationeries.
* Limited capital (fund).
* Lack of identification as a group.
* Lack of improved seeds for example maize, beans.
* Lack of capacity building.

 Proposal

- Functional adult literacy to be instituted to eradicate illiteracy.

- Some clean water sources be provided for the community.

- Identification tags for example uniforms, caps, and many others are provided.

- Members be given capacity building on financial management.

- Improved seedlings provided.

- More funds are expected from Joshua to cater for limited fund.

  **INTRODUCTION**

Chair person - Ayerango Jackline Ayenyo

Vice Chair person - Ongera Joyce

Secretary - Obeiundu Mildred

Treasurer - Ringe Olda

Mobiliser - Done by the chairperson

Member - Dhugira Joyce

 - Ringa Older

**Attributions made by some members of the group**

* Akumu Justine she does agriculture
* Lillian Acaye she has little money but she wants to do business.
* Oringe Olda she is a widow working tirelessly is there some help that can be offered?.
* Ongera Joyce “The rain is not reliable; this also affects the environment what can be done?”
* Magdalena Okotcha “Paying for kids in secondary schools, if they sell crops they sell them cheaply so what can be done to improve the market.”
* Helen Onega “Health centers is very far we wish it could be built near by”.
* Jackline Ayela “Orphans are very many we are taking care of them’’ they are asking for more help to look after them’’.
* Ochanda Peter “Over flooding of the river sometimes stops their kids from going to school or the market”.
* Oyungi Angelo “Water is a problem if they can build us more bore holes”.
1. **OPOYO WIWA WOMEN’S GROUP**

**PADEL NORTH, PATAKA WEST, PAROMBO SUBCOUNTY.**

* Prayer
* Introduction
* Chair person - Jeska Orwinya
* Treasurer - Akumu Paska
* Advisor - Roseline Ayomirwoth
* Secretary - Roseline Akumu
* Vice Secretary - Olul Joyce
* Coordinator - Oriencan Julius
* Mobiliser - Mosendi Lillian
* Advisor (Committee member) - Atto Esta
* Committee member - Atidu Jodeline

Background of the group

* The group started due to some financial problems.
* The group had a few contribution of money as a collection.
* The Honorable came and a few request were made then he assisted the group with about shs80,000 and it has grown up to about shs 405,000 while the honorable promised them a few things where the money may be used properly.
* The group consists of all categories of people regardless of religion, tribe and many others.

 Problems

The greatest problem now in the village is water problem. The nearest safe water for home consumption is about 3kms from the village.

 Request by the group

* Dairy cattle to sell milk.
* Boreholes for drilling water.
* Some more money to help us borrow and pay school fees.
* Adult education that is few women are educated, if Joshua’s friends could help facilitate and stand.
* Trees planting especially fruits for sale and feeding.
* Some improved seeds for example groundnuts, beans,
* Ox ploughs used especially for digging.
* Hired apparatus for occasions that could bring in money for the groups.

Our Priorities orders

* Drilling borehole water
* Additional cash or capital in the group
* Dairy cattle for milk
* Ox – plough for digging
* Properties for hire for occasions
* Improved seeds for growing
* Tree planting especially fruits
* Adult education facilities.
1. **AJENGIRA IBANG YESU NDIMA WOMEN’S GROUP**
2. Chair person -Ngamita Jeska
3. Vice chair person - Cipatho Oliver
4. Treasurer - Leotisa Ocida
5. Vice Secretary - Anican Grace
6. Secretary - Kwio Cwiny
7. Committee member - Akumu Roselyn

 Background

The group started on 5th October 2010 with 35,000/= given by Honorable Joshua.

Each member gave 500/= as registration which totaled to 33,000/= and the all total became 68,000/=

The money is distributed among group members and interest rate is 10%. The money accumulated to 242,300/=

The groups always meet every first Tuesday of every month.

Achievements of the group

It can now lend some little money to its members as capital and bring back some little interest after a certain period of time.

Members are now practicing agriculture.

Problems

We lack bore holes, we use river water which is not clean

The money is little especially when people are borrowing.

Sarafina Otwoda said that there major problem is that the health center is very far.

Akumu Roselyn said that they have young kids who go to nursery schools but the schools are very far, they kindly request if they can get nursery schools built near by.

They need adult literacy centers.

Oliver Gipatha said they want to get seeds for maize, beans, Soybeans and Simsim

As a group they lack an office where they can put chairs, tables and office materials.

Julian Adokrach said that they want to get to get a grinding machine for their produce.

Dawin Dubuto said that they lack tools to do farming for example pangas, hoes, slashers, e.t.c

They want a uniform to identify themselves.

They want to buy utensils for example saucepans, kettles, cups, and plates.

**6. MINYA WOMEN’S GROUP (WODI) PAMINYA**

**PAMINYA LOWER ATEGO SUBCOUNTY.**

* PRAYER
* INTRODUCTION OF THE EXECUITIVE MEMBERS

1. Chair person - Amia Lillian

2. Vice Chair person - Akumu Agnes

3. Secretary - Nyamer Farida

4. Vice Secretary -Awacang Irene

5. Mobilizes -Amony Christine

6. Treasurer -Pacuriema Gilda.

The group started in 2011 on the 29th October 2010; it started with shs50, 000

and registration was shs500.

1. **MURUSI WOMEN’S GROUP (AKWORO SUB COUNTY)**

Views from the group

-They want a bore hole.

-The number of people who need loans is increasing yet the money for loaning is not enough.

-They wish they can introduce an adult literacy center because most people are illiterate.

-Most of them cannot afford to take their children to school.

-Communication is a major problem. If only some board members can be given mobile phones for the smooth running of the work.

-They are lacking garden tools e.g. hoes and pangas, since most of them are peasants.

-They don’t have market for their cotton.

-Health facility is needed because the healthy centers are few.

-They need schools to educate their children.

-They need seeds for example cotton seeds.

-They wish they could get some sewing machines so that they can generate some income.

-They wish they could bring in exotic breed of domestic animals such as goats and cows to get high breed.

-Capacity building is also so as to be guided on how their project can be run.

They have been working with Joshua. They thought that he was going to send some representatives to work upon them.

Following the average amount of money that Joshua gave to them they wish it could be increased.

They use some of this money to send their children to hospitals.

One of the activities done by these ladies is that they make ropes, and others sell fire wood form which they earn a living.

Some of them are elderly and most of them are taking care of orphans and yet they are vulnerable.

They thank Joshua for helping them; most of them are now able to take their children and orphans to school and to look after them.

They ask if they can be provided by nut grinding machines.

**In conclusion**, according to my opinion I realized that almost all these groups have the same interest and are facing the same problems. Almost they all need boreholes for safe water, nut grinding machines, some more capital, Educating their children that is more schools should be set up and health centers. If all these are provided, this can lead to high levels of development in the area.

 **REPORT MADE BY: HANNINGTON KAKOOZA SUNDAY.**