



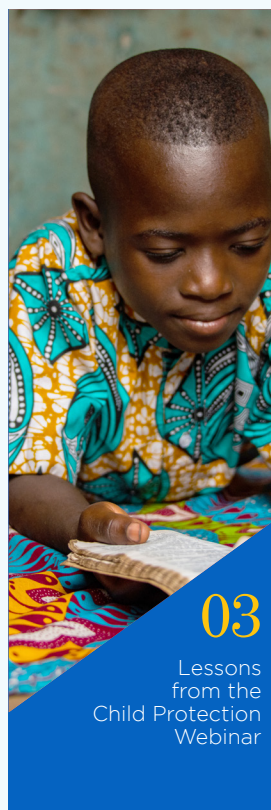
## *Child Protection Matters: Respond, Mitigate, Prevent*

“ Behold, children are a  
heritage from the Lord, the  
fruit of the womb a reward.

Psalms 127:3

”

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Releasing children from poverty  
**Compassion**  
in Jesus' name

Known, Loved, Protected

**Child Protection:  
Our Highest Priority**

**Report cases of abuse and neglect to 116.**

**#SeeItReportIt #YouHaveThePower**

Child Protection Campaign 2021

## Our Mission



Releasing Children from poverty in Jesus' name

## Our Vision



All children in poverty thriving toward their God-given potential

## Core Values



Integrity  
Discernment  
Dignity  
Stewardship  
Excellence



# In Focus

## *Lessons from The Child Protection Webinar*



*All children have needs that must be met - a right to safety, protection from harm, love and attention, be heard and recognized, and appropriate upbringing and guidance.*

**F**ortunately, many are beginning to wake up to the reality that our homes, schools, streets are not entirely safe for children. What's finally becoming clear is that child neglect is more common than we think. Even though it transcends borders and cultures and affects millions of people every year, there is no excuse.

Mr Noah Sanganyi, Director National Council for Children Service (NCCS) says,

The first and most paramount responsibility is to **take collective action** against harmful practices and social norms and empower children and youth to recognize, address and prevent acts of abuse.

It is important to note that although children's protection and healthy development depend critically on the capability of their caregivers and families to care and protect, a secure environment and access to child and family support at the community level.

*In  
2020  
alone* **172,000**

cases of child neglect, evident that neglect is prevalent in Kenya





Mrs Bernadette Loloju, CEO Anti Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Board, adds,

*“It is important for a child to be taken care of wholly. Each one of us has a role to play to achieve these outcomes for our children. Ending FGM is the responsibility of everyone, and likewise, to prevent and reduce cases of neglect, it needs to be our shared responsibility”.*

In child development programs, we need to foster more meaningful **child inclusivity, participation and child leadership**; it promotes intergenerational relationships. When children are known and heard, it increases the potential of positive outcomes and increases their commitment to making the process work.

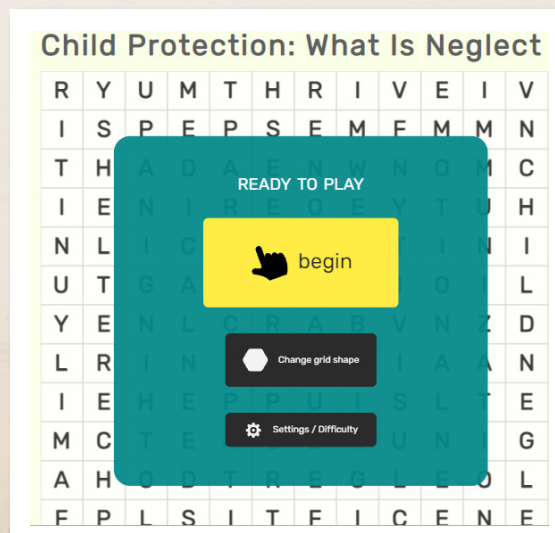
Jackqueline Kibosia, Magistrate, Madaraka Courts and Child Protection Officer, says,

*“We are no longer just having children participate, we are including them in the decision-making. We are seeking to hear their thoughts and contributions. It makes our child-focused programs more effective”.*

Lastly, family is the building block of society and the most natural environment for nurturing the young. It has become increasingly important for policies and programmers to promote, preserve and strengthen the family unit. When children and youth have access to information and education and are in an environment that is safe and promotes their well-being, they thrive.

To learn more, listen to the session here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2GCfc-07DZnc&t=4211s>

In case you are interested in some fun, here is a word search puzzle to help you pick out keywords in child protection: <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/2789545/child-protection-what-is-neglect/>





# Empowering Young People Through Music



*Lavington Church is proud of helping young people to find their path and create new opportunities for themselves. The church has invested in music and encouraged young people to take advantage of all the benefits it can bring.*

**D**ifferent forms of music allow young people to express their thoughts, feelings, and ideas to the world, with or without words. It improves the personal and social development of children and young people.

It is great to see that the church music program has produced successful outcomes for children and young people. They have not only developed different music skills but also built resilience, confidence, and self-esteem.

**“**For children in Gatina who want to practise music, there is now an opportunity and space for self-expression.”

Benjamin, Music trainer-volunteer.



Lavington Church is keen on giving children access to listen and play music at the earliest available opportunity. They have seen the incredible benefit that music has on the young mind.

Music is vital to the proper, successful functioning of our society, economy and education system. It is not an add-on, pastime or ‘nice to have’; it is a fundamental building block to ensuring that talented children and young people get a fair chance at succeeding in life.



# Celebrating Elizabeth in the Survival program



*Seven months ago, Elizabeth joined the Compassion program as one of our survival mothers. She is a humble lady who attests that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and He has a purpose for every one of us. Because she has been able to promote the growth of her family, she is a role model to many women in her area.*

**S**he is a woman who believes that a family is a blessing from God and being a mother is the greatest gift from God.

She is very passionate about her children, instils good discipline in them, teaches them about God by involving them in bible studies when they are together as a family, and emphasizes studying hard in their academics. Her children have prospered, and her husband is happy and loves her so much.

He attests that Elizabeth is God's gift to him, and he adores and supports her the best way he can.

At home, they work together as a family, whether it is in farm work, sharing the word of God and singing hymns together. Elizabeth is so happy to see that her family is doing well, despite the scarcity of jobs and difficult economic situation caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. She is very optimistic that God will continue to be faithful and good to them.

At the Church, Elizabeth serves her peers as the chair of the survival program. The members love her leadership style. She feels good when her children tell her,

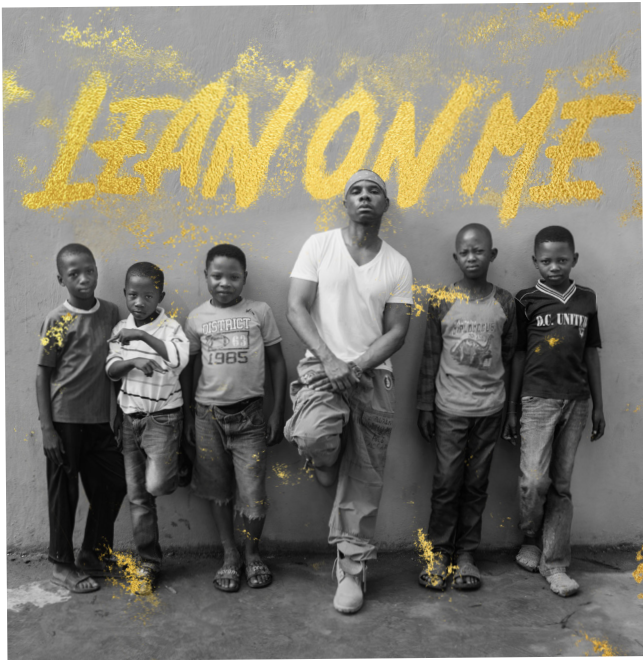
“Mama, you are the best gift from God.”







## Compassion Youth Choir



**F**or the past several months, Kirk Franklin has been working with youth from all 25 countries in Compassion's child development program. Through virtual auditions and rehearsals, the Compassion Youth Choir, made up of more than 120 youth, ages 11-19, worked with the artist to record the song, "Lean on Me" which was originally released in 1998.

Youth selected from Kenya are:

1. *Stacy- 13 years from Nairobi*
2. *Gerald- 13 years from Kisumu*
3. *Matilda- 15 years from Kilifi*
4. *Vincent-18 years from Mombasa*

## Business for life training

**T**he Business Start-Up training for the youth from the program was a 9-month training and mentorship program designed to help the program participants by giving them a foundation on which they could build and/or grow their businesses or have the tools to launch business ideas.

The BFL Training was thus a boost for the participants as it allowed them to learn business skills and practices that would help them build resilience through this period. These skills will also help them manage their business ventures for future growth.

The students who went through a two-part training process already had small businesses or business ideas they were looking to start.

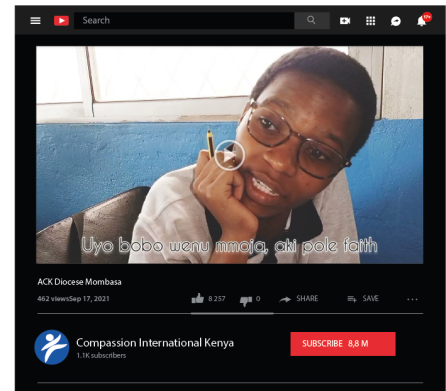
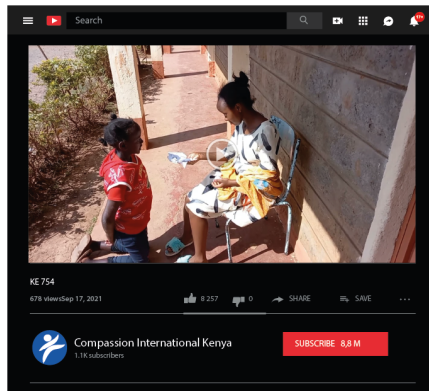
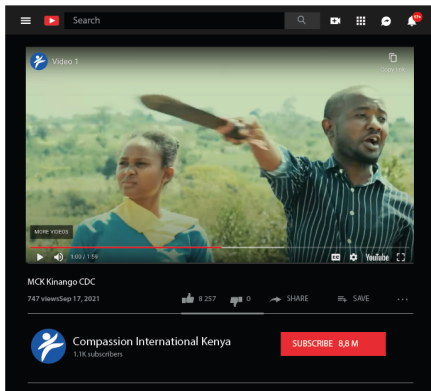


The effects of the Covid-19 pandemic continue to be a challenge, especially for micro and small business owners in many business sectors.





# Digital Youth Competition Winners



Over the last few months, Compassion in Kenya has been executing a communications campaign to raise awareness on neglect and its impact on child development. Along with this, we have engaged the youth in a digital competition aimed at amplifying the campaign.

The youth were tasked with creating a 2-minute video demonstrating neglect and its impact on child development. The following three videos were ranked the best after a week-long voting process. Check out the videos here:

Winner: <https://youtu.be/EjVz3ikPSB0> MCK Kinango

1<sup>st</sup> Runners Up: <https://youtu.be/cr6gfcK mz9I> PCEA Embulbul

2<sup>nd</sup> Runners Up: <https://youtu.be/kR3IJvwnAOM> ACK Diocese Mombasa

For the outstanding work and effort, the cash prize is as follows:

**Winner:** KSh. 40,000 | **1<sup>st</sup> Runners Up:** KSh. 20,000 | **2<sup>nd</sup> Runners Up:** KSh. 10,000

## New Staff

*Kennedy Obadia Mapesa*



**W**elcome Kennedy Obadia Mapesa, who will serve in the Supporter Engagement function. Kennedy Mapesa is single and searching and the youngest

in his family. He has two sisters and two brothers.

Before Compassion Kenya, Kennedy worked with DHL Kenya as a Sales Assistant. Kennedy also worked with Tumaini Women Kenya as an Administrative and Partnership Assistant. He has worked part-time with Africa International University, Wunders Kenya, Armour of Hope, and Compassion International.

He is born again and loves Jesus Christ as his personal saviour. He is very passionate about ministry work, especially among the youth.

He is a member of the Free Methodist Church of Kenya in Karen, where he serves as secretary to the local church council and as the deputy youth leader in the national youth office. Kennedy's hobbies include playing and watching football, reading books, writing, inspiring, travelling, watching movies and taking photos.

Kennedy graduated from Daystar University with a Bachelor's Degree in Communications majoring in Public Relations with a minor in Marketing.

Let us accord him a warm welcome.



Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.  
**(Proverbs 31:8-9)**



**FOR ANY  
FEEDBACK OR  
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