HOMA BAY COUNTY CHILD WELFARE AND PROTECTION POLICY

Department of Youth, Talent Development, Sports, Gender Inclusivity, Culture Heritage and Social Services



2024

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Sports, Gender Inclusivity, Culture Heritage
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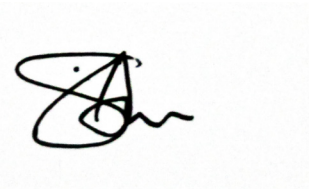
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Forward

Homa Bay County has made significant efforts to protect its children from all sorts of abuse by developing a child protection and welfare policy that will protect all children aged 0 to 18 years. This policy addresses all types of breaches and abuses, as well as mitigation strategies for dealing with them. It also provides a structure for effective coordination, resource mobilization, reinforcement, interventions, implementation, lobbying and advocacy, and monitoring and evaluation of children's challenges in Homa Bay County.

This policy was created with the international laws, treaties, national laws, and policy documents to which Kenya is a signatory in mind. This provision is enshrined in Chapter 4 of the Kenya Constitution of 2010. Along with other laws, the policy shall strengthen the existing legislative frameworks already applicable to Homa Bay County. Homa Bay County strives to create and support all initiatives and projects that defend children's rights.

The policy framework will reinforce processes and tactics to improve, accountability, coordination, monitoring, and evaluation for long-term child protection programs and initiatives, as well as collaborations for a more holistic approach to boosting child protection in the county. This policy is long-term and requires sufficient financial allocation by the county government to strengthen relationships and other stakeholders, as well as increased commitments from both state and non-state actors.



HON. SARAH MALIT
County Executive Committee Member
Gender, Youth, Sports Talent Development, Culture Heritage & Social Services.

Acknowledgement

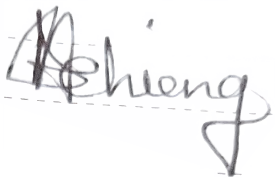
The Homa-Bay County policy 2024 on welfare and the protection of the child, has been prepared through a participatory process involving the children's technical working group that is composed of representatives of state and non-state actors in Homa Bay County. The team that developed this framework made a great effort and lots of commitment.

The county government recognizes the staff of the Department of Gender Equality and Inclusivity, Youth Affairs, Cultural Heritage and Sport, Talent Development, and Social Services, and Department of Health Services for their valuable commitment and input under the noble leadership of the county executive committee member Hon. Sarah Malit.

The process and entire production of this policy would not have been possible without the financial support of the county government of Homa Bay led by Her Excellency Governor Gladys Wanga, NGEC, USAID NURU YA MTOTO, World Vision Kenya, Compassion International Kenya, LVCT-HEALTH, CATAG, WEEM, GVRC, KELIN, NAYA, FAWEK ,PLAN-International, Breakthrough ACTION, KMET, Child Fund, Lake Region Development Program, Population Services Kenya-A-360, Inter-faith Network Homa Bay, HCDF, CYAN-KENYA and the Community representation.

We especially want to appreciate the effort of the County Assembly of Homa Bay led by the committee in charge of Gender equality and inclusivity, social services, youth affairs, sport, talent development, and cultural heritage for the endless effort towards its legislative input in the document.

It is my conviction that based on this policy, the department will be able to protect the welfare of the children and respond effectively to cases of child abuse within the county and in so doing create a safe friendly environment for all the children in the county. To those not mentioned here and who contributed in one way or the other to the production of this policy, we highly appreciate you.



Ms. Dolphine Achieng Ochere
Chief Officer,
Gender Inclusivity & Women Empowerment

Executive Summary

The Child Welfare and Protection Policy 2024 is a foundational document that outlines the Homa-Bay County Government's commitment to ensuring the safety, well-being, and rights of all children under our care and within our sphere of influence. This policy is rooted in our core values and legal obligations to protect children from harm and promote their holistic development. This policy applies to all employees, volunteers, partners, and stakeholders associated with the Homa Bay County Department of gender equality and Inclusivity, youth, sports talent development cultural heritage, and social services. It encompasses all programs, activities, and interactions involving children, regardless of their location or context.

Our foremost objective is to create a safe and secure environment for children, minimizing all forms of physical, emotional, and psychological harm. We are committed to preventing and addressing all forms of abuse, including neglect, exploitation, discrimination, and violence against children. We aim to enhance the overall well-being of children by providing access to education, healthcare, nutrition, and psychosocial support. We believe in empowering children to participate in decisions that affect them, promoting their active involvement in shaping their own lives. Our policy emphasizes the importance of training and capacity-building for staff and volunteers to recognize, respond to, and prevent child welfare and protection issues effectively.

In Homa Bay County, all decisions and actions in our development sphere will prioritize the best interests of the child. We will not tolerate discrimination against any child based on race, religion, gender, disability, or any other characteristic. Information related to child welfare and protection will be handled confidentially and shared only with authorized personnel. Accountability mechanisms will be established to ensure compliance with this policy and address any breaches promptly.

The Government of Homa Bay County will establish clear reporting procedures for staff and volunteers to report concerns or incidents related to child welfare and protection. All reports will be taken seriously, and appropriate responses will be initiated by our policies and legal requirements. We will continuously monitor and evaluate the implementation of this policy to assess its effectiveness and make necessary improvements. Regular reviews will be conducted to ensure alignment with evolving best practices and legal standards.

Our Child Welfare and Protection Policy 2023 reflects our unwavering commitment to the well-being and safety of children. By adhering to its principles and objectives, we strive to create a nurturing and protective environment where every child can thrive and reach their full potential. The Government of Homa Bay County is dedicated to upholding these principles and ensuring that children's rights are respected and protected in all our endeavors.

Acronyms and Abbreviations

ACRWC	African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of Children
ACRWC	African charter on the rights and welfare of the child.
ADHD	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
AIDS	Acquired Immuno-deficiency Syndrome
ANC	Antenatal care
ART	Anti- Retroviral Therapy
AYP	Adolescent and Young People
CAC'S	Children Advisory Committee-
CBO	Community-Based organization
CCC	Comprehensive Care Centre
CCL	Child in Conflict with the Law
CECM	County Executive Committee member
CHH	Child-Headed Households
CHO	Community Health Officers
CHPs	Community Health Promoters
CIDP	County integrated development plan
CPIMS	Child Protection Information Management System
CPS	Child protection systems
CPU	Child Protection Unit
CPVS	Child protection volunteers
CSA	Child Sexual Abuse
CSO	Civil society organization
CT	OVC- Cash Transfers for Orphans and Vulnerable Children
DCS	Directorate of Children Services
ECDE	Early Childhood Education
EID	Early Infant Diagnosis
EYE	Early year Education
FBO	Faith-Based Organization
G.O. K	Government of Kenya
GBVRC	Gender-Based Violence and Recovery Centre
HBCTRH	Homa Bay County Teaching and Referral Hospital
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICT	Information Communication and Technology
IEC	Information Education and Communication
IRCK	Inter-Religious Council of Kenya
KDHS	Kenya Demographic and Health Survey
KHIS	Kenya Health Information Survey
M.O.H	Ministry of Health
MCSK	Music Copyrights Society of Kenya
MEAL	Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
N.C. D	Non – Non-communicable diseases
N.C. K	New Constitution of Kenya 2010
N.C.C. S	National Council of Children Services
N.C.P. S	National Child Protection system
NCPWD	National Council for Persons with Disability
NFE	Non -Formal Education
NGAAF	National Government Affirmative Action Fund
NGAOs	National Government Administration officials
NGO's	Non -Governmental organization
NHIF	National Hospital Insurance Fund
NPS	National Police Services
OVC	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
P.N.C	Post Natal Care
P.W. D	Persons with Disability
P.W.S. D	Persons with severe disability
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
SC	Street Children
SCCO	Sub County Children Officer
SCD	Sickle cell disease
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SFF	Sex for Fish
SGBV	Sexual Gender-Based Violence
SLI	Sign Language Interpreters
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights
TW	Technical Working Group
UNCRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VAC	Violence against children
VTC	Vocational Training Centers
WHO	World Health Organizations
WEF	Women Enterprise Fund
YEDF	Youth Enterprise Development Fund
CHP	Community Health Promoters
CPV	Child Protection Volunteers
OPD's	Organizations of the Persons with Disability
CUC	Court Users Committee

Definitions of Terms

Child:	An individual who has not attained the age of eighteen (18) years.
Adolescent:	A person in the transition stage of physical and psychological development that occurs during the period from puberty to adulthood. they are aged between 10 and 19 years.
Child Abuse:	All forms of physical and/or emotional ill-treatment, sexual abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, or commercial or other exploitation resulting in actual or potential harm to the child's health, survival development, or dignity.
Child Sexual abuse	defined as compelling or luring a kid to engage in sexual behavior without their consent or that they do not completely comprehend or are not developmentally equipped for, preventing them from giving informed consent.
Child Marriage	Any formal marriage / informal union between a child under the age of 18 and an adult or another
Female Genital Mutilation	All procedures that involve partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, other injury to the female genital organs, or any harmful procedure to the female genitalia, for non-medical reasons.
Child Protection	refers to the safeguarding of children from violence, exploitation, abuse, and neglect. It involves identifying signs of potential harm, responding to allegations or suspicions of abuse, and providing support and services to protect.
Child Protection Unit	means a facility located at designated police stations and established to provide, temporarily, a safe and non-threatening environment for children.
Child Protection System	A set of laws, policies, regulations and services, capacities, monitoring, and oversight are needed across all social sectors.

01: Introduction



The County government of Homa Bay, upon the recognition that a child deserves special treatment, has adopted measures to observe, respect, protect, promote, and advance the fulfillment of the rights and welfare of children in the County. This policy defines a child as any human being under 18 years of age. The children constitute the higher percentage of the population in Homa Bay County.

This policy serves as a guide to the County government of Homa Bay to implement the Children Act 2022 alongside other National and international legal instruments defining the rights and welfare of children. The document is an important milestone for the county and a recognition that an effective and functional child protection system needs to be guided by a framework that outlines informed strategies on child protection, promotes linkages between all stakeholders and actors, and provides for coordinated interventions on child protection, more importantly, this policy will ensure that children rights are to be protected and promoted by all individuals and institutions coming into contact with children so that every child in Homa Bay county has a chance of realizing their full potential by growing in a safe, secure and stable environment. This will create synergy, ensure the elimination of overlaps among actors, and pool resources for child protection.

1.2. Scope

The County government in collaboration with the national government and non-state actors shows a strong commitment and political goodwill to implement and enforce child protection policies in their mandate, goals, and interventions. This child welfare and protection policy includes a wide range of measures and actions aimed at ensuring a comprehensive framework that supports the protection of children, their safety, well-being, and rights of children preventing child abuse and neglect, Support for vulnerable children, education and awareness.

1.3. Context

The Homa Bay County Child Welfare and Protection Policy 2024 is designed to create a protective and supportive environment for children in the county, ensuring that they grow up healthy, educated, and with their rights upheld. It represents the county's and national commitment to addressing the unique challenges faced by its children and improving their overall quality of life. The policy has put into consideration legal and policy frameworks to guide its implementation. This policy is founded on various pieces of international and local legal instruments developed to support and protect the rights of children. The following legal frameworks will guide the implementation of this policy.

1.3.1 International Legal Frameworks

- Sustainable Development Goals: Goal 2 is zero hunger; children are not malnourished. Goal 3 addresses good health and vaccination of children. Goal 4 addresses the quality education of children within the community
- African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child 2000 (ACRWC)
- United Nations Conventional on the Rights of the Child 1989. Article 19 makes it clear that children

and young people have the basic human right to dignity. This means they have the right to be protected from violence, just like everybody else.

- United Nation Declaration on Human Rights.
- ILO Minimum Age Convention 1973 (No. 138)
- ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182)

1.3.2. National Legislative Frameworks.

- Constitution of Kenya 2010 Article 53 recognizes the right of all children to be protected from abuse, neglect, harmful cultural practices, all forms of violence, inhumane treatment, punishment, and hazardous or exploitative labor. Kenya Vision 2030
- National Children Policy 2010
- National Care Reform Strategy for Children in Kenya 2022-2032
- The Children Act 2022
- Health Act 2017 No. 21 which legally requires employers to provide sufficient time and a lactation station - a private space where a mother can feed and store breast milk.
- Sexual Offences Act 2006: The Act says that a child is anyone below the age of 18 years. Having sexual intercourse with a child is illegal and any person who has sex with a child is guilty of the offense called defilement, even if the child agrees to have sex with that person.
- National Adoption and Protection Act 2020
- Basic Education Act 2013 Section 4.
- Penal code.

1.3.3 Homa Bay County Legislative Framework.

- Homa Bay County Bursary Act, 2020
- Homa Bay County SGBV policy 2023

1.4. Policy Framework

The conceptual framework for this Policy is based on the recognition of the multi-dimensional nature of children's lives. Adopting a whole child -perspective acknowledges that a child's life and circumstances affect and are affected by individual and external factors, linked to individual capacities and their relationships with their family, peers wider society, and their social and cultural environments. These factors are integral to the physical, mental, emotional, behavioral, spiritual, and moral well-being of children, and impact their intellectual capacity, sense of identity, and ability to care for themselves and avoid risky behaviors. The approach also recognizes the ecological systems theory of human development, which highlights the interrelationship between the child and Adults in which they interact. As such, the Policy considers the complexity, different stages, and evolving contexts of children's lives and seeks to capture the interconnected dimensions.

1.5. Vision

A county where all children's rights and welfare are protected and fulfilled for the realization of their full potential.

1.6. Mission

To protect, promote, and fulfill the rights and welfare of the children in Homa Bay County by ensuring compliance with policies, laws, and practices.

1.7. Goal

A conducive environment in which the safety, well-being, and child rights are protected

1.8. Rationale

Homa Bay County recognizes that implementing a child welfare and protection policy is essential to safeguard the rights of children, ensure their well-being, and promote their overall development. It is a crucial step towards building a just and equitable society for all through the reduction of child pregnancy, child marriage, child labor, child trafficking, drug, and substance abuse, HIV and AIDS, sexual and gender-based violence, child neglect, negative influence from ICT and media, child abduction, low identity and registration and mental health illness which are major issues affecting children in the County. The county has also inadequate safe spaces and Child protection

units for children in need of care and protection, abled-differently children, and non-compliance with workplace lactation room policies.

This policy focuses on child survival, development, participation, and protection through improved child welfare services to promote positive parenting practices, reduction of vulnerability to abuse, and ensuring the right to education. It also focuses on their health and well-being, protection from exploitation and labor; prevention of child trafficking, social development and poverty reduction; effective coordination and improved monitoring and evaluation of child-friendly services to ensure the services have the desired impact.

1.9. Guiding Policy Principles

This policy is informed and shaped by the following guiding principles:

- The Best Interest of the Child
- Non-discrimination
- Child Participation and Empowerment
- Maximum survival and development
- Equity & Equality
- Networking and Partnership
- Accountability & Transparency

02: Situation Analysis



Homa Bay County lies between latitudes 0015 South and 0052 South and between longitudes 340 East and 350 East. The County covers an estimated area of 4,267.1 km2 constituting 2,696 km2 of land area and the largest freshwater lake in Africa with a surface area of 1,227 Km2, 2,332.5 Km2 of Arable land, and 3.1 Km2 Forest Cover. According to KNBS 2019 the number of households in the county is estimated at 265,945 with an average household size of 4.5, with rural and urban populations estimated at 1,018,871 and 113,078 respectively. The county's annual population growth rate stands at 1.6% against the national average of 1.9%. This is attributed to the low use of modern contraception methods by married women, which stands at 56.8% compared with the National average of 62.5. Homa Bay County has a disability prevalence of 4.3%, the second highest in the country. This is manifested in hearing, speech, mental, physical, and self-care; thus, the need for socio-economic inclusion of the needs of abled different children Planning, Budgeting, Implementation, and Monitoring of sectors' Programs /projects for equity and equality.

Homa Bay County performs below the national average on most socio-economic indicators. The County scores 0.46 on the Human Development Index (HDI)—a composite measure of development that combines life expectancy, educational attainment, and income indicators. This is below the national average of 0.575. Poverty levels in Homa Bay County stand at 48% compared to the national poverty indicator at 45%. Poverty in the County manifests itself in other socio-economic outcomes such as poor nutrition, health, education, and lack of essential services; with, only 2 % of households accessing piped water with a majority of 16% getting from the lake.

Over 489,881 people suffer from chronic food insecurity and poor nutrition. During periods of drought, heavy rains, and/or floods, the number of the needy could double. The primary livelihood activities include medium-sized and small-scale trade, fisheries, and rain-fed small-scale farming. These practices are highly vulnerable to environmental degradation and the effects of climate change. The high population growth has equally exerted pressure on natural and ecological resources such as fisheries, forests, water, and land. This has led to the depletion of soil fertility land fragmentations and over-exploitation of fish stock. According to KNBS 2019, the estimated population of Homa Bay County is 1,131,950. The estimated population of children under five years is 155,694 representing 13.8% of the total County population.

2.1. Child Care and Protection.

The primary goal of child protection is to ensure that all children are safe and free from harm; this includes physical, emotional, psychological, and sexual abuse, neglect, exploitation, and violence. Child Rights include the right to education, the right to health, the right to parental care and love, the right to proper nutrition, the right to protection, the right to basic needs, the right to play, right to give an opinion among others.

According to the Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS) caseload for Homa Bay County 2021-2022, Child abuse cases were 3641 {female 1878, male 1763}. Neglect cases were 2459 [Female 1236, male 1223]. Reported cases for Defilement were 59 {54 girls, males 5}. Emotional abuse reported during the same period was 21 {8 female, 13 Male}. Child marriage, 29 reported {27 girls,

2 boys}. For Physical abuse, the total number of cases recorded was 58; 28 girls and 30 boys. For lost and found children, 94 cases were reported {53 girls and 41 boys}. Child trafficking as reported had 2 cases {one girl and one boy]. Abandoned children reported were 46 [22 Females and 24 males}. Child abduction had 30 cases {10 girls and 20 boys}. These pose a great threat to a child's development and welfare and call for interventions.

Children with disabilities have a right to be protected from all forms of abuse and harm that may interfere with their general growth and development. Protection rights are realized to ensure children have access to registration and identity, as well as systematic measures to guard against sexual and physical abuse, child labor, adoption, trafficking, exploitation, neglect, displacement, disasters, wars, and conflicts among others. Children experience physical, emotional, and mental abuse, which is perpetrated by adults charged with the responsibility of protecting and taking care of children. Child labor is also a major concern since it affects growth and cognitive development. Children exposed to sexual content, manipulation, and violence lack proper mechanisms of protection.

2.2. Child Survival and Health.

The country has over time experienced high cases of child mortality (52 deaths per 1000 live births) and infant mortality (39 deaths per 1000 live births). Access to health care in the county is still limited with the proportion of children 12-23 months who have been fully immunized at 76 percent against the National rate at 77 percent. Teenage pregnancy is dominant in the county recording 23% against the National rate of 15%. Gender inequality, difficulties in accessing Services, and poverty are fueling high rates of teenage pregnancies and new HIV infections in Homa Bay County (KDHS 2022).

In Homa Bay, Preventable diseases such as malaria, sexually transmitted diseases, and HIV and AIDS are still common with the county presenting an HIV prevalence rate of 16.2 percent, which is four times higher than the national prevalence rate of 4 percent as per KDHS 2022. Children below 14 years living with HIV and AIDs are 8,391 while new infections are recorded at 450 per year, with a total of 6,449 on ART rating the county at 92% viral suppression. Homa Bay records 252 mortalities per year. Besides, adolescents living with HIV are at 8,842 with new HIV infections 462 and 8,641 on ART, fortunately, 92% are currently virally suppressed, with 112 mortalities recorded per year, below 17 years orphans are 127,448 as per HIV Estimates 2022, KHIS data April 2023 EID Dashboard.

The county shall establish institutions or facilities including childcare facilities, health facilities, and educational institutions as may be necessary to ensure the progressive realization of the rights of children with disabilities by the Children Act of 2022. The county records 54% of SGBV cases against the national rate of 15% which affects the children directly. SGBV has negative physical, psychological, and socio-economic impacts on survivors, families, and communities. For instance, child survivors of SGBV may suffer physical injuries, unintended pregnancies, and sexually transmitted infections. On the same note, a child survivor of SGBV experiences psychological trauma, loss of self-esteem, and social isolation, these affect their growth and development.

Mental health is an emerging issue among the children. Globally, 1 in 6 children aged 5-16 years are likely to have a mental health problem. Children's happiness continues to decline, now, five children in a classroom of 30 are likely to have a mental health problem as per Good Childhood Reports 2022. 50% of all mental health problems start by the age of 14.

2.3. Education and Life Skill Development.

The county has sole responsibility for the coordination and management of childcare centers. As of the time of this policy development, a good number of children had been enrolled in care centers which were all privately led. Whereas the EYE center enrolment is 85,600 children against 887 centers. The primary school enrolment rate in the county is at 98 percent with about 4,800 primary school-age children out of school. On the other hand, the secondary school enrolment rate is at 58 percent, demonstrating a low transition rate from primary school to secondary school and a significant number of school dropouts in the county. Insufficient permanent classes, poor proximity to schools in rural areas, lack of learning and play materials, understaffing, diseases such as Malaria, and lack of basic needs are the mail lead to absenteeism from school and eventually school dropout.

2.4. Leisure, Recreation and Play.

The County Government of Homa Bay shall appoint and designate specific areas in estates and villages as public child play and recreational facilities, and sports fields which shall be accessible to all children, including children with disabilities by the Children's Act of 2022. The County Government shall authorize, regulate, and put in place safety measures for any private entity developing areas for children's leisure in the County. This policy shall be implemented as stipulated in the Children's Act of 2022, section 14.

2.5. Resources

The Constitution of Kenya 2010 outlines children's right to free and compulsory basic education, including quality education services, and access to educational institutions and facilities for all children, to the extent that is compatible with the needs of the child. Furthermore, Part Seven of the Children's Act of 2022, recognizes state and non-state actors' role in the percentage allocation of resources required for the welfare of the children. The Kenya Vision 2030 blueprint also has the goal of enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of education services; transparency and accountability as a way of increasing children's access to education. Although the best setting for a child is in a family, there is a need to provide care and protection for children as stipulated in the Children's Act of 2022. The County Government Department of Youth, Sports and Talent Development, Gender Inclusivity, Cultural Heritage, and Social Services will work closely with stakeholders to ensure that the rights and welfare of children are protected according to the law.

03: Policy Statement and Interventions



The County Government and all stakeholders are committed to the optimal development and recognition that all children are integral to the sustainable development of the county regardless of age, sex, race, ability, religion, or origin. Not only because of their anticipated contributions as adults of tomorrow but as active citizens today. This necessitates a cultural shift in how people view and treat children. It requires a commitment that must be embraced by all.

3.1. Policy Objective 1: Child Care and Protection

To ensure that all children have equal rights and are protected from any harm that may interfere with their growth and development.

3.1.1. Policy Statement for Child Care and Protection

The County Government of Homa Bay and all stakeholders commit themselves to:

- promoting positive parenting practices and socio-economic strengthening.
- Strengthening measures to prepare for, mitigate, respond to, and recover from emergencies and disasters.
- Ensuring the provision of child-friendly facilities and services managed by both state and non-state institutions.
- capacity-building staff, volunteers, and community members to detect, prevent, and respond effectively to all child abuse cases

3.1.2. Policy Interventions for Child Care and Protection

- Advocacy and awareness creation on child rights
- Establishment of temporary shelter for children who have undergone abuse.
- Establish child protection systems across all service provision points.
- Establish and strengthen social inclusion programs that target vulnerable families such as cash transfers
- Promote and strengthen a safe educational environment.
- Promote norms and values that promote nonviolent, positive, and gender-equitable relationships with and for children
- Effective implementation of programs on child welfare and rights
- Proper coordination mechanism that prevents and responds to violence and abuses against children.

3.2. Policy Objective 2: Child Survival and Health

To ensure that all children have a right to be born healthy, nurtured, and grow in a conducive and secure environment.

3.2.1. Policy Statement for child survival and health:

The County Government of Homa Bay and all stakeholders commit themselves to:

- Reducing preventable death during prenatal,

postnatal, and early childhood.

- Providing comprehensive integrated mental, physical, and social health services to children.
- Reducing Sexual Gender Based Violence, Teen Pregnancies, and New HIV infections among children.
- Reducing morbidity occasioned by illness, injuries, and disabilities.

3.2.2. Policy Interventions for child survival and health

- Promoting access to Antenatal care services and exclusive breastfeeding.
- To initiate and strengthen the use of modern technologies in health service delivery.
- SBC.

3.3. Policy Objective 3: Education and Life Skills Development

To enhance holistic child development through access to EYE services and any recreational activities for the well-being of the child.

3.3.1. Policy Statement for education and life skills development

The County Government of Homa Bay and all stakeholders commit themselves to:

- To improve enrolment, retention, and transition of children in schools.
- To enhance and strengthen already existing mechanisms supporting vulnerable families to provide for the basic and educational needs of their children

3.3.2. Policy interventions for education and life Skills development

- Strengthen the private and public partnership to increase sustained retention in education.
- In collaboration with other stakeholders, sensitize parents/guardians on positive parenting and livelihood skills to achieve economic independence.
- Initiate mentorship and life skills programs for boys and girls including Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights education in schools. (age-appropriate sexuality education)
- Promotion of appropriate and child-friendly physical education (games, sports) and other types of recreational as well as cultural and scientific activities in schools, community centers, and other institutions.
- Provision for free feeding programs for the needy and vulnerable children in schools
- Provision of alternative quality Non-Formal Education (NFE) within the education policy framework for children unable to access formal education.

3.4. Policy Objective 4: Resource Allocation and Advocacy

To facilitate the effective and safe use of information, and resources to measure, advocate for, and monitor children's protection on a large scale.

3.4.1. Policy Statement for resource allocation and advocacy

The County Government of Homa Bay and all stakeholders commit themselves to ensuring enough resources are provided to support programs that promote child survival and health, education, development, childcare, and protection.

3.4.2. Policy interventions for resource allocation and Advocacy

- Promote the resource allocation designated for children's issues in all departments and development sectors.
- Enhance the provision, development, and operationalization of support systems and specialized services for children.
- Ensure a coordinated approach to planning and a percentage allocation of resources annually for Child Protection.
- Create an endowment fund for child development and welfare.

04: Policy Implementation



The Homa Bay County Child Welfare and Protection policy shall be implemented through a collaborative approach of both state and non-state actors to achieve its effectiveness. The CECM in charge of Gender equality and inclusivity, sports talent development, youth affairs, cultural heritage, and social services shall ensure the signing of MOUs between non-state actors implementing child welfare programs and the County Government.

A fully operational coordination and accountability mechanism is key for the effective implementation of the policy. This guide provides details of how the different state and non-state actors and structures should work together to ensure multi-sectoral and interagency collaboration. The Directorate of Social Services through the county Department of Gender Equality and Inclusivity, Sports Talent Development, Youth Affairs, Cultural Heritage, and Social Services shall take the lead in coordinating child protection work at all levels. The policy shall be implemented by the following actors:

- National Government Line Ministries, departments and agencies
- County Government of Homa Bay
- The Community
- Children
- Parents, caregivers, guardians
- Non-State Actors: Public Private Partnerships, Civil Society Organizations.

Actor	Roles
National Government	• Coordinate and manage all children's activities • Provide technical support in the formulation, implementation, and review of the Child welfare and protection policy • oversee CPMIS data management and share with relevant stakeholders • provide general supervision for children's rights and welfare at the County level; • Regulate and supervise childcare facilities managed by the County Government; • Prevent and respond to child abuse and report to the relevant authorities; • Advocate for the implementation of children's rights • Implement social inclusion programs for vulnerable households e.g. Inua Jamii Program
County Government	• Shall allocate a budget and avail resources for the implementation of this policy • To support in coordination of all the stakeholders and manage all children's activities within the county • Provide or facilitate the provision of all devolved functions of all children's welfare and protection issues • Provide or facilitate the provision of child-friendly facilities. • Support investment in alternative or non-formal education programs that reach out to school children; • Create mechanisms and opportunities for the participation of children in affairs that affect their growth and development. • The county government executive in consultation with the county assembly will develop relevant guidelines for the better carrying out of the functions specified in this policy • Establish welfare schemes to provide or facilitate the provision of childcare facilities and programs for all children • Design and implement programs that promote intergenerational dialogue and societal values for the children. • Harmonize the existing national and county legislation and policies to come up with programs targeting child protection and welfare. • Ensure a conducive learning environment in all EYE centers and TVET • Ensure access to quality education and skills development in EYE centers and TVET • Involve children in peacebuilding, conflict resolution prevention and prevention, and reconciliation initiatives. • Involve the children in identification and response to emergencies (Disaster risk reduction) • Identify, formulate, and implement programs on child protection • The county directorate of social services together with key line ministries shall develop a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework to track implementation of the policy. • The CECM in charge of Youth, Sports, Gender, Inclusivity Talent Development, Cultural Heritage, and Social Services shall report Three (3) months after the end of every financial year to the county assembly on the implementation of the policy.

County Assembly	• Enacts legislation and approves regulations relating to County programs and projects. • Approve relevant guidelines for the better carrying out of the functions specified in this policy.
Children	• Meaningful participation of children will; • Support child protection by reporting cases. • Respect the rights of other children and adults. • Respect their parents, superiors, and elders at all times and assist them in case of need provided that the child's best interest shall remain paramount. • Participate in activities that promote and protect their rights and well-being • Protect the environment and surrounding • Preserve family cohesion, social and national solidarity
Parents, Guardians, and caregivers	• Providing basic needs for the children. • Providing guidance and counseling to the children. • Providing positive role models to the children • Providing a conducive environment that promotes positive values and holistic development of children. • Providing protection and care for all children under their care and reporting incidences of child abuse and neglect • Providing access to equal opportunities for the children, regardless of their gender. • Providing specialized care for children with special needs. • Socializing and equipping their children with relevant life skills. • Offering room for children's participation at all levels of decision-making on matters affecting their growth and development. • Assisting children to realize their goals and develop their full potential. • Obtain birth certificates for children within their care. • Should not abet justice for children
Community	• The community includes parents, teachers, religious leaders, community leaders, schools, neighbors, relatives, and the general public. Their role in child protection and welfare includes; • Mobilize local resources for child protection and welfare • Identify, refer, and report violence and exploitation against children. • Discourage retrogressive harmful cultural practices to protect children. • Create an enabling environment for meaningful child participation • Encouraging children to take an interest and participate in contributing towards matters affecting their communities and their country. • Ensuring children are supervised by a responsible adult at all times. • Create awareness on child protection and dissemination of the policy (community responsive under-reporting)

CSOs and Private Sector.	• The private sector and CSOs shall assist in; • Ensuring the safety of the children in their operations. • Advocate for resources and driving innovation to support children's programs and affairs through corporate social responsibility. • Promoting children's rights through advocacy. • Complementing the County Government in the provision of children's basic services. • Reporting on the milestones made in the promotion of children's welfare within Homa Bay County to both the National and County Governments. • Advocate for capacity building of government officers, children, and their welfare and the communities. • Ensuring oversight and implementation of the child protection policy.

4.1. Coordination Framework

The Policy shall adopt a coordinated approach that ensures the design and implementation of child welfare and protection programs strategies towards the prevention, protection, response mechanisms and monitoring and evaluation.

The Policy envisages the creation of an accountability and implementation platform from Community to County levels in an effort to strengthen child welfare and protection programs in the County.

The Policy framework is underpinned on the following.

- Efficiency and effectiveness in resource utilization (financial, human resources etc.) towards child welfare and protection interventions.
- Enhance data management and usage for decision making on service delivery, resource mobilization and advocacy.
- Leaders' accountability and responsibility on legal reforms, advocacy and programming at both National and County levels.
- Partners' involvement through a Multi Sectorial Approach.

Child Welfare and Protection being a cross cutting issue envisages a well-coordinated working of all sector players in a multi-sectorial framework, this is legally espoused in the Constitution

2010 Article 6(2), the National and County Government are distinct and interdependent

and shall conduct their mutual relations on the basis of consultation and co-operation.

The Coordination at the National level just like at the County level shall be through County Children Advisory Committees (CACs) that brings together all the actors (both state and non-

state) intervening in the sector.

The purpose of consultation framework is to provide a mechanism of consultation,

co-ordination and cooperation between the National government and County government

on issues of child welfare and promotion of the rights children.

The coordination of this policy shall be through the Homa Bay County Children Advisory Committees (CACs) as follows: -

1. County Children Advisory Committee
2. Sub-County Children Advisory Committee
3. Ward Children Advisory Committee
4. Court Users Committee

Further the county government shall ensure that the committees cascade their programs to village levels to help in strengthening the surveillance and monitoring for enhanced child welfare and protection.

4.1.1. County Children Advisory Committee

The roles of the committee shall be to plan, coordinate, and determine priority areas for intervention to enhance child rights and welfare in the County.

4.1.2. Sub-County Children Advisory Committee

The Sub-County Advisory Committee shall report to the County Children Advisory Committee on the recommendations for the implementation of child welfare programs in the sub-county.

4.1.3. The Ward Children Advisory Committee

The county assembly shall interrogate the existing legal structures to create a Ward Children Advisory Committee that shall report to the sub-County Children Advisory Committee on the recommendations for the implementation of child welfare programs in the ward. Membership shall be a replica of the Sub-County Advisory Committee, however, with different functions as stated in the Children's Act 2022.

4.1.4. Court Users Committee

To have an accountable, coordinated, efficient, effective, and consultative approach in the delivery of justice, this Committee will work to improve access to justice and service delivery by all actors in the justice system and particular children. The roles of this committee are stipulated in Section 6 and membership in Section 8.1 of Court Users Committee Guidelines 2019

05: Cross-Cutting / Emerging Issues In Children



Children in Homa Bay County are prone to various forms of threats and risks. These affect both their physical, spiritual emotional, and mental well-being. This policy recognizes crosscutting and emerging issues affecting children and they will be streamlined in its implementation. They include:

1. **Climate change** which includes floods, drought, famine, etc. is the greatest threat facing the world's children and young people. Climate change poses major threats to their health, nutrition, education, and future. Children are less able to survive extreme weather events and are more susceptible to toxic chemicals, temperature changes, and diseases.
2. **Child trafficking and abduction.** Child abduction and trafficking are serious issues in Homa Bay and Kenya at large, children are sometimes kidnapped or forcibly taken away and relocated typically for forced labor or sexual exploitation while child trafficking involves recruitment into illegal activities, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of children through illegal means for exploitation, induced forced labor. it's important to address these problems to protect children and ensure their wellbeing.
3. **Children in need of special care.** Children living and working on the streets are highly vulnerable to abuse, exploitation, drug and substance use, and crime, and lack access to everyday essential services such as health and education. Their situation is made more difficult as a result of social perceptions of street children. Street children are frequently targeted by the police, beaten, held, and charged without due process. Government policies, institutions, and communities may exclude or marginalize children on the street, and deny their basic human rights.
4. **Violence extremism.** Children who are at risk of radicalization may have low self-esteem, or be victims of bullying or discrimination. Extremists might lure them and tell them they can be part of something special, later brainwashing them into cutting themselves off from their friends and family.
5. **Child online protection.** It involves the use of information and communication technology as a means to sexually abuse and/or sexually exploit children (Interagency Working Group, 2016, p. 23 and 28). Manifests Cyber bullying, causes several emotional issues that affect social and academic performance as well as overall mental health ranging from self-harm to suicide, anxiety, addiction, low self-esteem, self-harm, eating disorders, PTSD, self-image, depression, nightmares, flashbacks, attachment problems are some of the effects.
6. **Harmful cultural practices** like child marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM) within the country are discriminatory practices committed regularly over such long periods that societies begin to consider them acceptable.
7. **Religious extremism and exploitation.** Religion is a key socialization agent in a child's holistic development. There is an emerging religious practice in Homa Bay that exploits children such as denial of health services and education, to the extreme suicide, and other religious leaders abusing their positions for selfish gains such

as demanding sex in return for exorcisms or exchange for blessings., night vigils and religious camps that take children away from home at night or left unattended. This policy will ensure that the religion and religious leaders do not violate the rights of children as prescribed in section 15 of the Kenyan constitution on Religion and religious education.

8. **Diseases.** This includes communicable and non-communicable diseases. For example, Covid 19 has left so many children orphaned and vulnerable. Sickle cell diseases are equally on the rise in the county.
9. **Triple threat.** HIV/AIDS, teenage pregnancy, and SGBV are emerging and children are affected in Homa Bay county. Children under care at times cannot access their drugs particularly those in school. Young girls giving birth at a young age as a result of defilement and boys becoming fathers at an early age are on the rise in Homa Bay County.

5.1. Implementation Approaches

The availability of reliable and consistent information is essential for planning, and making decisions about the support that should be provided to children, as well as for providing focus for the different sectors and stakeholders involved in the implementation of the Children Policy. The Implementation matrix) indicated in the chapter below are interlocked to achieve the same strategic goal of this Policy. As a result of this, they are all intended to achieve the same goal.

To this end, the Policy will adopt a robust and holistic implementation of the Plan, which also requires adequate funding for outputs and their respective activities in the estimated Policy. The M&E will then serve as an important stage for the implementation of the Policy as it will provide the County Government and stakeholders with the means for learning from child protection experience, improving service delivery, planning, and allocating resources to child protection and welfare sectors and demonstrating results as part of accountability to key stakeholders.

The strategic approaches for implementing this Policy include: -

Collecting data every quarter by the Department of County Social Services in partnership with the Children's Department including organizations for persons with disabilities (OPDs) to contribute positively to the successful implementation of the Policy

Provision of opportunities to learn from the actual and present options for adjustment and improved implementation.

Delegation of some responsibilities to the (a) County Children Advisory Committee, (b) Sub-County Children Advisory Committee, (c) Ward Children Advisory Committee, and (4) Village Area Children Advisory Committee

Empowering families, child protection volunteers (CPVs), CHPs, community members grassroots child protection organizations, professionals, and the general public to have participatory, monitoring and evaluation to empower families and communities for the sustainability of the Policy and programs

Mobilization of adequate resources from different sources through structured and targeted fundraising and putting strategies to re-enface budget allocated for the child protection policy.

Systemize the implementation of activities through the adoption of operational guidelines and manuals

Formulation and use of a comprehensive M, E & L system including technology for reporting (harmonize CPMIS). Leveraging on and influencing partners and strengthened linkages with both the state, non-state, and development partners grow sustainable financing for gender equality Preparing operational plans and annual plans as a way of actualizing this Policy.

5.2. MEAL Implementation Mechanisms

The evaluation process will utilize diverse approaches using both qualitative and quantitative methods. A dedicated M&E tool will be set up within the County Department of Gender and Social Services to oversight and strengthen timely mechanisms for data collection, storage, and analysis of all financial, programmatic, and operational activities.

Training and Sensitization of departments and offices on the M&E tool and an evaluation exercise be done annually on the impact of the strategies.

To determine organizational and programmatic status and also establish the need for reviews in light of a changing internal and/or external operating environment monitoring, follow and control systems will be set up comprising of progress reports, review meetings and reports, and financial reports. The conveners will receive and review progress reports indicating overall progress made on the plan from the committees.

The Policy will adopt a three-tier monitoring plan:

Performance monitoring: To track the progress of activities against the targets, allocate resources, and implement timeframes.

Compliance monitoring: To track compliance with the set laws, policies, procedures, and Standards in implementing the Consortium's work.

Participatory Learning Review and Reflections/ Learning Evaluation will be done to assess the extent to which the policy objectives are met and the impact made. As such, the strategic plan will be evaluated based on the logical framework and the theory of change. Criteria for the evaluation and related projects and programs will be based on the timeliness, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability of the Consortium's interventions.

A midterm review of the policy will be undertaken in MID-2028 to examine achievements over the first five years against expected results. It will facilitate a review of strategies, outcomes, and indicators to inform evidence-based adjustments. An end-term evaluation will be conducted to determine the overall impact and outcomes against set goals and results of the Policy. This evaluation will feed into the review of the Policy.

5.3 MEAL Roles and Responsibilities

It is envisaged that the County's Department of Gender and Social Services and Children Directorate National which is in charge of Children will facilitate the M&E process and hence shall develop a Programme, supervision, and control mechanism which will be established at the county level to assess progress made. To this end, all county government departments will have elaborate information management systems to generate detailed data for regular situational analysis of families. The Social services and children directorate, national will be the responsibility of all members and staff of the Association. However, the ultimate role of ensuring the success of the M&E of the Association lies with the Chief Executive member and Chief Officer of the Department.

For sustainability and optimal impact, the Gender Department will work closely with the Secretariat and head of thematic groups. The CECM Gender, Chief Officers, and the directorates will also monitor the Policy directly, and ensure that the programs and services offered contribute to Homa Bay County's vision, mission and reflect the priorities of the County and also monitor the day-to-day delivery of the programs and services of the Policy to maintain or improve quality through the M&E and the different head of the various departments (directorates/ sectors)

5.4 Risk Management

The Gender Department has identified the following risks as a threat to the realization of its goals and put up considerations to address them and any other emerging risks.

	Risk element	Implication	Response
1.	Violations of girls and boys rights	loss of lives and dignity of children	Promotion of the protection and response to violence coordination of actors and access to justice for the survivors
2.	Triple threat	New HIV infections, GBV and Teenage Pregnancies, school dropout and child marriage	Clear strategic interventions and linkages including referral and follow-ups
3.	Inadequate funding to empower child networks and platforms to increase Child protection	Sustainability and ownership threat	Pursue diversity in resource mobilization and management Fundraising plan
4.	Gaps in Supporting Child Online Protection Opportunities	Both internal and external conflicts	Put in place a secure information management system that ensures child safety
5.	Inadequate data and evidence to intensify research, knowledge management, and advocacy	Missed opportunities	Research and knowledge management and advocacy on Child Protection and welfare Push for policy and law implementations and reviews
6.	Lack of political goodwill from political leadership		
7.	Intersex marginalization		
8.	Harmful cultural practices		

IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX

	Strategy	Activities	Verifiable indicators	Partners
OBJECTIVE 1: To reduce preventable death during prenatal, perinatal, postnatal, and early childhood.				
	Provision of Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) on the importance of Ante-Natal Care (ANC), safe child delivery, exclusive breastfeeding, routine immunization, Post- Natal Care (PNC), complementary feeding strategies, HIV prevention, preventive Zinc supplementation in children, Deworming, Vitamin A supplementation. adolescent health, safe drinking water, environmental hygiene, and sanitation.	Capacity building (sensitization and training) of local administration, religious leaders, community leaders, child protection volunteers, CHVs, civil society organizations, and education sectors on child protection laws, prevention, response, and referral Refresher training to health service providers. Carry out Rapid Response Initiatives both in schools and communities targeting children. Provision of ART to ANC-known positive mothers and follow-ups. Sensitization on HIV Prevention Targeting Adolescents. Sensitization and provision of clean and safe drinking water. Distribution of disinfectants to hard-reach and at-risk populations. Routine ANC visits follow up. Early screening and diagnosis of Sickle cell anemias (SCD) among infants and children. Provision of affordable care, treatment, and support for SCD warriors Health Insurance.	% increase of fully immunized 12-23 months old. # of health Service providers trained. # of functional health clubs strengthened in educational institutions. % reduction in HIV new infections. % increase in HIV/AIDS suppression rate. % increase in number of people accessing clean and safe drinking. # of mothers/ caregivers trained on Kangaroo mother care techniques. # of SCD warriors receiving affordable, comprehensive treatment and care	The county government of Homa Bay, Education, Directorate of Children services, department of National Council for Persons with Disabilities, Office of the Director for Public Prosecution Ministry of Health, National Police Service Department State Department of gender social services department non-state actors.

	Strategy	Activities	Verifiable indicators	Partners
	Access to life-saving interventions such as skilled delivery at birth, postnatal care, and exclusive breastfeeding.	Training of healthcare providers on skilled delivery. Establish and equip newborn units. Training of primary care staff about breastfeeding and techniques for breastfeeding support. Recruit more healthcare providers to enhance the healthcare providers-patient ratio.	# of healthcare providers trained in skilled delivery. # of newborn units established. # of primary care staff about breastfeeding and techniques for breastfeeding support. # of healthcare providers recruited.	The county government of Homa Bay, Education, Directorate of Children services, department of National Council for Persons with Disability, Office of the Director for Public Prosecution Ministry of Health, National Police Service Department State Department of Gender Social Services Department Non-state actors.
	Upscaling the use of modern technologies in health service delivery.	Upscale telemedicine healthcare services to children and adolescents. Training the mothers/caregivers on Kangaroo mother care techniques.	# of Health facilities accessing telemedicine healthcare services. # of mothers/ caregivers trained on Kangaroo mother care techniques.	The county government of Homa Bay, Education, Directorate of Children services, department of National Council for Persons with Disability, Office of tDirectortor for Public Prosecution Ministry of Health, National Police Service Department State Department of Gender Social Services Department Non-state actors.
Outcome for Objective 1.	**1. Increased % of fully immunized 12-23 months old.** **2. Enhanced capacity and skills of health Service providers.** **3. functional health clubs in educational institutions.** **4. Reduction in HIV new infections.** **5. increased HIV/AIDS suppression rate.** **6. Increased number of people accessing clean and safe drinking water.**			

	Strategy	Activities	Verifiable indicators	Partners
Outcome for Objective 2.	1. Skilled Healthcare Service providers. 2. Increased and accessible number of units. 3. Enhanced Healthcare-to-patient ratio.			
Outcome for Objective 3.	1. Enhanced accessibility and uptake of telemedicine healthcare services within the county. 2. Parents/caregivers appreciate and practice Kangaroo mother care techniques.			

Strategy	Activities	Verifiable indicators	Means of verification	Partners
Objective 1: To improve enrolments, Retention, and Transition to enhance access to basic and education needs of children				
1. To strengthen the private and public partnership	Capacity building (sensitization and training) of school BoMs, PAs, community gatekeepers sponsors of schools, child protection volunteers, and civil society organizations on the 4As of education. Organize community education dialogue meetings to track the progress of enrolment, transition, and retention in schools. Carry out county annual risk assessment and analysis to inform the response initiative in SGBV prevention measures	# of the sensitization meetings conducted # of SGBV cases reported # of functional health clubs strengthened in the educational institutions Annual County SGBV baseline report # of legal rights sessions held # of identified cases # Population at risk # of hot spot areas identified # of groups linked to financial support systems (YEDF, WEF, Uwezo fund, NGAAF, Microfinance institutions, NGOs, table banking, and other saving schemes)	Minutes of the meeting Reports of the capacity-building activity Minutes/ reports and activities functional health clubs, Annual County GBV baseline report Reports/ attendance list GBV risk assessment report List of groups Linked Activity reports Financial reports	County government Judiciary Education Department Children's Department National Council for Persons with Disability Office of the director for public prosecution Ministry of Health Police service department State department of gender Social Services Department Non-state actors
	4. Use of media in awareness creation on benefits of education			
	5. Empower community socio-economic groups through diversified livelihood programs			

	Strategy	Activities	Verifiable indicators	Means of verification	Partners
	b) Programs and initiatives for GBV prevention.	Develop workplace policy and code of regulation on sexual harassment Advise County staff of their rights, obligations, and responsibilities under the policy.	Proportion of institutions with existing workplace policy and code of regulation on sexual harassment Proportion of staff with signed and filed copies of sexual harassment policy existing in employee's files.	Proportion of institutions with existing workplace policy and code of regulation on sexual harassment Sensitization reports Sensitization/ training reports on sexual harassment Community Sensitization/ training reports on SGBV awareness Functional SGBV TWG at the community level (County Sub-county and ward level)	County government Judiciary Education Department Children's Department National Council for Persons with Disability Office of the director for public prosecution Ministry of Health Police service department State department of gender Social Services Department Non-state actors
		Carry out capacity building for their staff on the policy administration.	# of staff sensitized on their rights, obligations, and responsibilities on GBV policy		

	Strategy	Activities	Verifiable indicators	Means of verification	Partners
		Lobby employers to develop sexual harassment policies as required by law	# of sensitization/ training done on sexual harassment		
		Develop and strengthen economic and psychosocial initiatives within the sectors	# of employees sensitized on sexual harassment policy # of the target groups reached in the community		
			# of GBV cases reported		
		Strengthening existing community structures and institutions on GBV awareness creation i.e. CHVs, CBOs, DPOs, paralegals, Village heads and clan elders, VCOs, Caregivers	# of functional SGBV TWG at the community level (County Sub-county and ward level)		
Objective 1: To ensure enough resources are provided to support programs that promote child survival health, education, development, child care, and child protection					
	1. Strengthening and coordination for resource mobilization	1. Mapping of relevant stakeholders. 2. stakeholder engagement 3. Advocacy 4. Identification of programs for purposes of resource allocation 5. forming a technical working group.	Minutes of meetings Attendance list Photos Reports		Department of gender Other stakeholders Department of gender and social services Stakeholders

	Strategy	Activities	Verifiable indicators	Responsible Persons
OBJECTIVE 1: To reduce all forms of Violence Against Children				
	Strengthening advocacy systems within Homa Bay	Meeting with opinion leaders/decision makers/duty bearers	Attendance list Photos No. of meetings held	County government (lead role) and line ministries, national government line ministries, Judiciary, ODPP, non-state actors, religious leaders
		Awareness creation at the community level on children's rights	No. of sessions held Attendance list Photos	
		Strengthen children and adolescent groups	No. of adolescent groups strengthened No. of children reached Attendance list	
		Include all children in the decision-making process e.g. children's assembly	No. of children assembly sessions held	
		Recruit Child Protection Volunteers in every location and provide them with a monthly stipend	No. of Child Protection Volunteers recruited per location and on a monthly stipend	
	Effective implementation of laws, policies, and programs on child welfare and rights	Rescue abused children and place them in safe protective units Psychosocial support for abused children Creation of awareness of the existing laws that safeguard and protect children's rights Prosecution of child perpetrators to the full extent of the law	No. of children rescued from abuse NO. of children on psychosocial support The existence of one psychologist per ward No. of awareness sessions held Photos and attendance list No. of perpetrators convicted in a court of law	
		Strengthen school re-entry policy to include teen mothers	NO. Of teen mothers re-enrolled	

	Strategy	Activities	Verifiable indicators	Responsible Persons
		Train HCPS and YFPS	No HCPs, YFPs trained, and no. of training conducted	
		Periodic review on the impact of capacity building on CHVs	Quarterly impact review.	
	Establish and strengthen social inclusion programs that target vulnerable families.	Initiate cash transfers in the county for Vulnerable families	No. of vulnerable families targeted. A cash transfer program in place	
		Mentorship program for all children	No. of mentorship program sessions held No. of children mentored. No. of dignity packs distributed during mentorship programs No. of children targeted with the dignity pack	
		Establish disability-friendly institutions	No institutions with ramps No. of adapted toilets Sign language interpreters in institutions Disability-friendly lighting systems	
OUTCOME	**All children in Homa Bay are safe and free from any form of Violence in Homa Bay County**			
OBJECTIVE 2	**To promote positive parenting practices**			
		Sensitizing parents on positive parenting skills and alternative discipline like giving of tasks and involvement of a third party	Number of parents reached with positive parenting skills No. of sessions held per location. Improved child behavior among Homa Bay children.	County government (lead role) and line ministries, national government line ministries, non-state actors, religious leaders

	Strategy	Activities	Verifiable indicators	Responsible Persons
		Life skills mentorship for children	Number of children reached with life skill mentorship, No. of sessions held per location. Improved child behavior among Homa Bay children.	County government (lead role) and line ministries, national government line ministries, non-state actors, religious leaders
	Strengthen socio-economic activities for the parents			
	Establish socioeconomic forums for parents	Training on income-generating activities	No. Of training sessions held No. Of parents reached	County government (lead role) and line ministries, State Department of Children Services and line ministries, Non-state Actors.
		Support parents with table banking skills through sensitizations and capacity building	No. Of parents reached No. of groups formed	
		Provide parents with Tools of the trade Provide parents with farm inputs/ startup capital	No. Of Tools of Trade issued. No. Of parents targeted Amount of farm inputs issued	
OUTCOME	**Improved Community livelihood within Homa Bay. Ensure reduction of families at risk of separation**			
OBJECTIVE 3	**To establish child-friendly facilities and services (4 pillars; Health, Child care and Nurturing, Advocacy, and Education**			
	Establish shelter for children who have undergone abuses	Construction of children's rescue Centers in every sub-county	Child rescue centers per sub-county	
		Establish and equip CPU in all police stations, police cells, and prisons in the county.	CPUs in every polling station/ correctional unit.	
		Guidance and counseling of children	No. of children reached. Several guidance and counseling sessions were held.	

	Strategy	Activities	Verifiable indicators	Responsible Persons
		Rehabilitate, improve, or establish public recreational facilities for children (playgrounds, sports, talent centers) for children and youth in all the wards	No. of child-friendly recreational facilities rehabilitated/ established/improved per ward	
		Establish and equip public baby care centers per sub-county to promote early childhood development and nurturing care	No. of public baby care centers established and equipped per sub-county.	
		Training CHP's on early childhood development and nurturing care	No. of CHPs trained in early childhood development and nurturing care	
		Establish and Equip baby-friendly corners in workplaces, prisons, churches, and schools to promote exclusive breastfeeding.	No. of baby-friendly corners established and equipped in workplaces, prisons, churches, and schools	
		Employ caregivers/ social workers to man baby-friendly corners	No. of caregivers/social workers employed.	
		Promote healthy food consumption through feeding programs in EYE centers	Feeding programs in place in all EYE centers	
		Conduct mentorship programs for adolescents and AYPs in the community donated	No. of adolescents and AYPs targeted with mentorship programs	
OUTCOME	Child-friendly services established			

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The Children Act (2001), s 10(1)

Article 260 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010

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36	CAROLINE MBOYA	COMMUNITY	COMMUNITY
37	EDWIN NYANJA	PROGRAM OFFICER	KELIN
38	PATRICK AWINO	COORDINATOR CHILDREN SERVICES	NATIONAL
39	PHYLLIS OCHIENG	ADMINISTRATOR	USAID PATH
40	DR. CHARLES ORORA	PROGRAM COORDINATOR	POPULATION SERVICES KENYA
41	ERICK OTENG	LEGAL PERSON	COUNTY ATTORNEY
42	MARY OCHIENG	PROGRAM OFFICER	CHILDFUND

S/N	Names	Designation	Organization
43	JOSPHER AKINYI	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FACILITATOR	ACTION AID KENYA
44	JOHN KABAKA	CHILDREN OFFICER	NDHIWA
45	HELLEN ATIENO	CIVIC EDUCATOR	URAIA TRUST
46	CRINOLYNE KERIAGO	PROJECT OFFICER	PS KENYA
47	MAGDALENE OWINO	DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENDER	HOMA BAY COUNTY GOVERNMENT
48	GRACE OYUGI	COORDINATOR	HBCWAGBV
49	EVA OJWANG	PROGRAM COORDINATOR	FAWEK
50	LAWRENCE MAGWARE	COMMUNICATION OFFICER	HOMA BAY COUNTY GOVERNMENT
51	BENEDICT OCHIENG	FIELD OFFICER	EACOR
52	SUSAN WABANDA	DREAMS COORDINATOR	USAID PATH-NURU YA MTOTO
53	DAVID OMUNE	DEPUTY DIRECTOR PROGRAMS	THE MANGOE TREE
54	DANIEL ADERA	HEAD OF EDUCATION POLICY	MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
55	SAMWEL OMONDI	COUNTY COORDINATOR	KENYA RED CROSS HOMA BAY BRANCH
56	MERCY KWAMBOKA	YOUTH ADVOCATE	YACH
57	JOSEPHINE CHEBII	CRS PROGRAM COORDINATOR	CRS
58	FAITH ABALA	M&E OFFICER	NAYA
59	JECINTER OGANDO	YOUTH CHAMPION	NAYA
60	MILTON AMASAKA	CPV	CHILDREN SERVICES
61	BASRA HASAN	PROGRAM COORDINATOR	CATAG

HOMABAY COUNTY CHILD WELFARE AND PROTECTION POLICY

Department of Youth, Talent Development, Sports, Gender Inclusivity, Culture Heritage and Social Services

Designed By: Brian Alili