



ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2016



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Message from the G.R.A.C.E. Africa Chief Executive Officer

Thanks to our donors and well-wishers, community partners, national and county government partners, collaborators in the Civil Society Organization's sector, staff and Board of Directors, 2016 witnessed significant progress towards the realization of our mission through our programs.

The year saw tremendous improvement in the sustainability of the ongoing Home Based Early Childhood Development (HBECD) program with community volunteers purchasing additional land to expand their ECD services; caregivers facilitating the installation of piped water in some households and several ECD centers; volunteers developing play and learning materials from locally available materials; and children below 5 years benefiting from integrated ECD services comprised of early learning, health care, psychosocial support, food and protection. The program has a component of community education through theatre arts, which we implement in collaboration with 2 community youth theatre groups. By the end of the year, 3,200 children and more than 1,000 caregivers and adult community members had benefited from the program.

Capacity building of small scale farmers at the Nanyuki farm and training unit was also sustained, leading to a 30% increase in its productivity.

In March 2016, the European Union gave us and two consortium partners (KANCO and Scaling Up Nutrition, Civil Society Alliance) a three-year grant to initiate a Nutrition program dubbed the *Pwani Lishe Bora* program in Mombasa County. By the end of the year, G.R.A.C.E. provided 46,991 people including children below 5 years, pregnant and lactating mothers and adolescent with nutrition and other services related to Maternal and Child Health.

We remain grateful and indebted to all of you for supporting our work, and look forward to an even more fruitful 2017.

Pascal M. Mailu

Chief Executive Officer

G.R.A.C.E. Africa

Sjoerd Visser

Board Chairman

G.R.A.C.E. Africa



Our Mission

Our work is guided by our mission, which is to build the capacity of community based organizations to implement self-determined, high impact and sustainable initiatives for better health and development.

Summary of Progress in 2016

Home Based Early Childhood Development (HBECD) Program

The program has continued to reach more children under 5 years with essential Early Childhood Development (ECD) services comprising of early childhood education, food, health services, protection and psychosocial support. Caregivers of the enrolled children, their siblings and other members of the wider communities benefit from health services during medical camps held by G.R.A.C.E. and the Ministries of Health in the two counties; caregivers and others also benefit from kitchen gardens, economic empowerment and health education.

In 2016, 458 children under 5 were enrolled in preschools and were provided with education, food, medical services, psychosocial support and protection from abuse and neglect. In December, 128 (68 girls, 60 boys) children were assessed for preparedness to transition to primary school, and they all passed. They have since joined primary schools within their localities. In addition, 258 children were assisted to acquire birth registration certificates through the office of the government registrar. The birth certificates will be instrumental in enabling the children to access other services that require the production of birth certificates in future, including enrolment to primary schools and national identity cards upon attainment of 18 years.

In addition, 3,200 children (including siblings of the enrolled children and other vulnerable children) in the two communities benefitted from structured play sessions held in community play centers established by G.R.A.C.E. in partnership with the ECD center volunteers. During the sessions, children participated in activities including football, athletics, sack races and storytelling after school and over weekends.

More than 1,000 caregivers of the enrolled children and other community members benefitted from economic empowerment through the savings and lending approach; health services (including Family Planning, HIV testing and Counselling, nutritional supplements and advice); skills and information on innovative agricultural practices; piped and safe drinking water. Piped water was also installed in 2 additional ECD centers, ensuring the provision of constant and safe drinking water to the children enrolled there. Almost half of the ECD volunteers have bought land to expand their community ECD Centers in the course of 2017.

Oregon Shakespeare Festival Theatre Project

Through this project, G.R.A.C.E. works in partnership with two community theatre youth groups to employ theatre in conducting community education on selected themes including HIV prevention, Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health (MNCH), importance of Early Childhood Development (ECD), nutrition, Gender Based Violence (GBV) and harmful cultural practices.

Through the program, 25 Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) were trained on selected topics drawn from the Community Health Strategy. Topics included: health and development in the community; community governance and leadership; basic communication skills; facilitation of community dialogue sessions; best practices for health promotion and prevention of disease; prevention of preventable diseases; Female Genital Mutilation (FGM); and Sexual And Gender Based Violence (SGBV); and best practices in referral of community members for health services.

Subsequently, 22 theatre performances were conducted by the youth groups on the topics mentioned above. Target community audiences included religious gatherings, public meetings, parent meetings in schools, and children in community learning institutions. Twenty-nine story-telling sessions were also conducted (15 in the community ECD centers and 14 for children during the play and recreation sessions held in the community safe spaces). These activities reached a total of 3,550 community members.

The Community Health Volunteers also made 16 visits to the community ECD centers, during which they educated 630 children on oral health; personal hygiene; hand washing skills before and after meals, after visiting the toilet; and washing of fruits before eating. During the 2016 commemoration of the Day of the African Child, 2,500 community members were educated on the adverse effects of community conflicts on child welfare through performances by theatre youth groups.

Naisula Education Scholarship Project

The project assists older orphans to access primary, secondary, college and university education by providing them with tuition, fees and daily subsistence. By the end of 2016, two of three students, supported by a single donor, were in their final year before University graduation, while the third had already graduated.

Nanyuki demonstration farm and training center

The Njaa Marufuku Kenya program, which was implemented for 2 years in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, ended successfully with G.R.A.C.E. exceeding the set targets.

During the year, the Nanyuki farm experienced a 30% increase in productivity, with the production of dairy milk growing from 10 litres per day in 2015 to 15 litres in 2016. Two additional calves were produced during the year.

The community groups that were trained on making yoghurt, cheese and making ornaments using beads in 2015 are doing well and selling the products. However, they experienced challenges during the dry season between June and August when their cows and goats could not produce surplus milk. They continue to receive technical support supervision from Ministry of Agriculture officers.

The Pwani Lishe Bora Maternal, Child Health and Nutrition Program

The program is implemented in Mombasa County in partnership with KANCO, the Scaling Up Nutrition Civil Society Alliance (SUN CSA).

By the end of 2016, 46,991 people, including children below five years, lactating mothers above two weeks of lactation, women of reproductive age and adolescents, were provided

with deworming services and nutrition education. G.R.A.C.E. also helped 30 mothers employed at the Export Processing Zone (EPZ) factories in Changamwe sub-county to form a mother to mother support group, through which they receive continuous education from G.R.A.C.E. and the Mombasa County Nutrition officers on exclusive breastfeeding, expressing, preserving and administering breast milk, and good practices in child care.

Thirty-five community members were also trained as Trainers of Trainers (ToTs) on the Savings and Internal Lending Communities (SILC) approach. Subsequently they will be supported to mobilize, train and support 5,000 people in the county to establish and manage community savings and lending groups in an effort to improve their household incomes so as to afford and access nutrition, maternal and child health services with minimum or no external support in the long run.

G.R.A.C.E. also worked with other civil society organizations and the Mombasa county government to finalize the development of the Mombasa County Nutrition Action Plan (CNAP), which was officially launched in November 2016. The CNAP provides a clear road map for the prioritization, implementation and coordination of nutrition programs in the county between 2016 and 2018.

All the achievements would not have been possible without generous contributions from the Hurlbut Johnson Charitable Trusts, the Oregon Shakespeare Festival's Daedalus Project, the European Union and numerous individual donors who donate to G.R.A.C.E. Africa's work through G.R.A.C.E. USA.

G.R.A.C.E. AFRICA
 RECEIPTS AND PAYMENT ACCOUNT
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DEC 2016

	G.R.A.C.E. USA	Naisula	EU	Total
	USD	USD	USD	USD
Balance b/f	-	1,896	-	1,896
Income	70,440	3,600	63,137	137,177
Other income	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>70,440</u>	<u>5,496</u>	<u>63,137</u>	<u>139,073</u>
Expenses				
Personnel costs	12,760	-	29,000	41,760
Travel costs	3,675	-	2,546	6,221
Supplies	3,847	-	1,348	5,195
Program costs	46,491	5,496	22,352	74,339
Administrative expenses	<u>3,667</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,891</u>	<u>11,558</u>
Total expenses	70,440	5,496	63,137	139,073
Surplus / (Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>