

BENTER TEENAGE MOTHERS' COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION-BUSIA



ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

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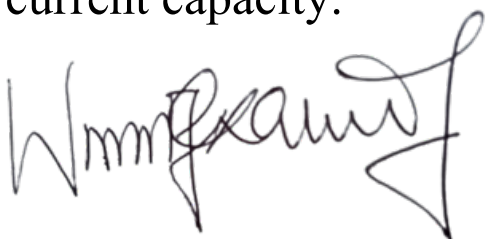
Executive Summary

Benter Teenage Mothers' Community-Based Organization (BTM CBO) was founded in early 2024 with the sole purpose of fighting teenage pregnancy and supporting teenage mothers within Busia County. Our work focuses on restoring hope, dignity, and opportunity to young mothers aged between **13 and 19 years**, enabling them to pursue the dreams they held before motherhood.

Teenage motherhood often comes with stigma, emotional trauma, interrupted education, poverty, and social exclusion. At BTM CBO, we believe that these challenges require **love, understanding, compassion, and structured support**. Through counseling, education support, skills development, and provision of essential supplies, we create a safe and empowering environment for teenage mothers and their children.

At the time of our registration and official recognition by the Government of Kenya, our programs served **fewer than 25 teenage mothers**, mainly from **Matayos Sub-County**. Since then, the organization has experienced significant growth, attracting teenage mothers from **all sub-counties within Busia County**. Over the last six months, enrollment increased rapidly, largely due to referrals from beneficiaries themselves—an indication of growing trust and reduced stigma.

Despite this growth, limited resources have forced the organization to turn away some teenage mothers, particularly those from distant areas or those whose needs exceed our current capacity.



Lucas Juma Masakhalia
(Executive Administrator)

Organizational Profile

Benter Teenage Mothers' Community-Based Organization was founded in early 2024 to respond to the growing crisis of teenage pregnancy in Busia County. Our approach is holistic, addressing emotional well-being, education, economic empowerment, and basic survival skills. Our target group are teenage mothers aged 13–19 years and their children

Mission, Vision, Goal, and Core Values

Our Mission

To unlock the potential of young girls, especially teenage mothers.

Our Vision

To be an organization that champions the fight against poverty, upholds human dignity, and promotes equity and equality.

Our Goal

To spread love, inspire hope, provide care, heal past wounds, and restore dignity among teenage mothers.

Our Core Values

- **Accountability:** We manage resources responsibly and welcome evaluation to ensure effectiveness.
- **Transparency:** We operate with honesty and openness in all our actions.
- **Integrity:** We consistently uphold and act according to our principles and values.

4. Programs and Activities Implemented in 2024

Since our official establishment, BTM CBO has implemented several impactful programs reaching teenage mothers across Busia County.

4.1 Basic Essentials Support Program

BTM CBO supported **141 teenage mothers and their babies** by providing essential supplies every three months. These included:

- Sanitary towels for mothers
- Nutritional porridge flour
- Laundry soap
- Baby diapers

This program aimed to reduce vulnerability and improve the health and dignity of both mothers and children.

4.2 Counseling and Psychosocial Support

A total of **127 teenage mothers** received emotional support through:

- Group counseling sessions
- Individual counseling sessions

Professional counselors were engaged, supported by trained volunteers from within the organization. This program addressed trauma, stigma, depression, and emotional distress associated with teenage motherhood.

4.3 Skills Acquisition and Vocational Training

Through the Skills Acquisition Program, **19 teenage mothers** were enrolled in vocational institutions to acquire practical skills, including:

- Hairdressing and beauty therapy
- Garment making and tailoring
- Cosmetology
- Fashion and design

These skills equip teenage mothers with opportunities for employment and self-reliance.

4.4 School Retention and Education Support Program

BTM CBO supported **26 teenage mothers** to continue or resume their education. Beneficiaries were placed under:

- **Full Scholarship**
- **Partial Scholarship**

The program ensures that teenage mothers do not permanently drop out of school due to pregnancy or motherhood.

5. Partnerships and Support

BTM CBO acknowledges and appreciates the invaluable support received from various partners and well-wishers:

- 1 Members of the BTM CBO Board
- 2 Individual donors from Canada, particularly members of:
 - The Quebec Foreign Mission Society
 - The Decarie Filipino Community
- 3 Mass stipend payments from **The Sacred Heart House of Prayer (United Kingdom)**
- 4 Individual well-wishers from Kenya
- 5 Volunteer members of BTM CBO
- 6 Filipino Women Group in Canada
- 7 Government of Kenya – State Department of Social Development (registration and certification)

6. Challenges Faced

- Rapid increase in the number of teenage mothers seeking support
- Limited financial and material resources
- Inability to reach teenage mothers from distant locations
- Insufficient funding to expand programs and staffing
- Low donor engagement through the organization's website so far

Despite these challenges, the organization remains committed and optimistic.

7. Digital Presence and Accountability

BTM CBO established a website to:

- Share organizational activities and impact
- Promote transparency and accountability
- Engage potential donors and partners globally

While donor mobilization through the website has not yet been successful, the platform remains a key tool for growth and outreach.

8. Strategic Priorities and Plans for 2025

Subject to availability of resources, BTM CBO plans to:

- Engage a permanent counselor/psychologist
- Increase individual counseling sessions
- Partner with the Ministry of Health (Kenya) to conduct health education sessions on:
 - Reproductive health
 - Sexually transmitted diseases
 - Child nutrition and care
- Conduct teenage pregnancy prevention campaigns in primary and secondary schools
- Increase frequency of essential supplies distribution
- Provide bicycles to teenage mothers who live far from school
- Improve welfare, motivation, and appreciation of volunteers

Conclusion

Our engagement with teenage mothers throughout 2024 confirms that teenage pregnancy remains a serious social issue in Busia County, threatening education, health, family stability, and economic development. The burden of parenting continues to fall disproportionately on young mothers, while broader societal responsibility remains limited.

BTM CBO remains hopeful and committed to expanding its reach, strengthening its programs, and advocating for a future where teenage girls are protected, supported, and empowered.