

The Edith M Ellis 1985 Charitable Trust

Just be a Child

#XDDTXWDX8H submitted on 23 April 2022

1.1 Please summarise what you are seeking from us

We are asking for £3,500 to help us deliver age appropriate books from the UK to 15 selected partners ranging from remand homes for young people, street children and refugees across Kenya.

The funds will enable us to deliver the books from Mombasa port to the partners without them incurring a transport cost. We will also use the funding to expand our literacy lessons led by our partners.

1.2 Tell us more about your project, the impact it will have on those it aims to help, and why you consider the proposed approach to be innovative

We believe that literacy leads to positive changes in people's lives. Our own Libraries and Learning Centres that we operate in the South Coast of Kenya are a prime example of how communities and individuals within them gain confidence, self-reliance and self-worth when they are armed with the right knowledge of words, arguments, reasoning and deduction.

We acknowledge our own limitation as a charity and recognise that we cannot build libraries on large scale throughout Kenya, but we can supply books to organisations that already exist. We have piloted this approach in 2019 and are encouraged by the results. Our involvement lies not only in the provision of books, which in Kenya are both rare and expensive, but also in the assistance in creating literacy classes and support networks.

Our proposed project expands on the pilot. From the applications that we receive every year we aim to select 15 partners, with whom we will work this year. Our ultimate goal is to equip young people with the literacy and communication skills to enable them express their feelings, their worries and their ideas in more productive ways. They will in turn gain an edge when applying for employment. We aim to work with young people who have committed a petty crime and are placed in remand homes. We also want to focus on street children given them a fairer chance to succeed in schools and in the long turn, in life. Our last group we would like to focus on are young people who are displaced due to tribal conflicts, land grabs, international conflicts and people displaced due to environmental reasons.

We propose the following mix of organisations: 6 remand homes; 5 street children organisations; and 4 refugee/displaced people's camps. We also propose to provide 1,000 books to each of the participating organisations. The books will reflect the ages and the abilities of the beneficiaries. The reading sessions/literacy classes will be developed with the project managers' input and utilise their established relationships. However, the teaching methods will be innovative, for Kenya at least. The reading will be taught using the approach used in the UK tapping into the different learning styles, phonetic approach, song and performance.

The progress will be measured in various ways reflecting the method utilised. For example, children will be asked to re-tell a story in their own words demonstrating how much they understood. They will be timed reading a short passage and their correct words counted. This method is called Word Count per Minute. However, we will be relying heavily on two principles as well as the official teaching approach. First is the simple provision of books. As we believe that children in particular will learn to read on their own accord if they are interested in and have access to books. Second is the peer-to-peer learning, which relies on children learning from each other. Both of those informal approaches are tried and tested in our own libraries.

We anticipate that the 10,000 books imported and distributed to the 15 selected partners will improve the literacy skills of at least 2,600 children and young people. We further anticipate that as a result we will have a direct and positive impact on the crime rate and reoffending rates, on peaceful conflict resolution and on increasing the well being of participants.

1.3 Which grant-giving categories does your project fulfil?

B - Peace-building and conflict resolution

E - Work with forced migrants, including internally displaced people

1.3b Peace-building and conflict resolution

Enabling persons from marginalised communities, difficult upbringings, offenders, and street-children to express themselves, be literate and know their own worth, will lead to better futures. It is a statistical certainty that young people from the above-described backgrounds will engage in more crime, tribal and national conflicts, conflicts. It is our aim to offer them different paths and opportunities through literacy.

1.3e Work with forced migrants, including internally displaced people

Displaced peoples lose their identity. They must assimilate. If their language is a barrier this takes longer. Many displaced people fall into depressions, crime and feel like the outcasts. We believe that if we partner up with organisations that are already helping displaced people and provide them with books the language barrier will be overcome with greater efficiency and speed.

1.4 Which country is the project based in?

Kenya (KE)

1.5 Will the project continue after initial funding has ended?

Yes

1.5b Please give details of how you plan to continue after initial funding has ended

We import books each year and we hope to continue to do so. We are also seeking funding from within Kenya and internationally. But our real strength and continuity lies in strong partnerships and positive reputation.

1.6 How will the project be monitored and evaluated?

We rely on partners' evaluation, but conduct our own reviews. We use monitoring forms capturing the different outcomes. Word count per minute reflects the progress in reading abilities. Retelling a story points to increased comprehension of the English language. But we also capture data such as school attendance, retention rates, number of re-offenders, employment successes and more. Lastly, we monitor which books and which teaching approach is the most successful, popular and used.

2.1 Expenditure

EXPENDITURE ITEM	AMOUNT	NOTES
Import of 10,000 books	£2,200	This includes collection, storage and import
Delivery of books to 15 partners	£800	transport throughout Kenya
Development of teachers	£450	Includes transport, printing, accommodation
Evaluation	£50	Includes printing, airtime, internet
TOTALS	£3,500	

2.2 Income

INCOME SOURCE	TARGET AMOUNT	AMOUNT RAISED	NOTES
---------------	---------------	---------------	-------

Learn to Love to Read	£3,500	£0	This is the amount we are seeking from EME Trust
Library and Learning Centre construction	£17,000	£12,500	We will include the 10000 books as part of the shipment
TOTALS	£20,500	£12,500	

2.3 What is the total amount (in £ sterling) your organisation is requesting from The Edith M Ellis Trust?

£3,500

2.4 Has your organisation made an application to The Edith M Ellis Trust before?

No

2.5 Please state your organisation's annual turnover (in £ sterling)

£60,290

2.6 Do you wish to upload your audited accounts or financial statement?

Yes

2.6b Upload File

<https://theedithmellischaritabletrust.org/assets/uploads/2022/04/JBAC-Accounts-2020to2021.pdf>

2.7 Please tell us where payment should be made if your application is successful

Just be a Child

30472328

204115

3.1 Your name

Lenka McAlinden

3.2 Your contact telephone number

07737500501

3.3 Your position within the organisation

Founder & CE

3.4 Your email address

lenka.mcalinden@justbeachild.com

3.5 Organisation name

Just be a Child

3.6 Please state the status of your organisation

UK charity

3.7 Please summarise what your organisation does

We build community operated Libraries and Learning Centres in Kenya made from converting the shipping containers and we support each of our LLCs with developmental activities. We work with organisations throughout Kenya and support them with the supply, delivery of books as well as with the assistance of developing reading learning programmes. Lastly, we work with larger organisations on stocking up their own libraries.

3.8 UK correspondence address for organisation

5 Lindens, Stevenage, SG1 1ST

3.9 UK telephone number

07737500501

3.10 UK charity number (if applicable)

1153532

3.11 Year established

2013

3.12 Website (if applicable)

justbeachild.org.uk

3.13 Social media accounts (if applicable)

facebook.com/justbeachild

twitter.com/justbeachild

instagram.com/justbeachildcharity

4.1 How did you hear about The Edith M Ellis Trust?

fundsforngos.org