

# **Profile**

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**Swaziland** 

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#### **ABOUT US**

Super Buddies Club, a non-profit making organization established in 2006 and officially registered by the government of Swaziland in 2008. It educates children and youth and support groups on life skills education, HIV and AIDS, children's rights, psycho social support and gender. In doing so, it uses various platforms that include peer to peer discussion forums through school clubs, child and youth media programmes and interpersonal communication skills that include drama, music, dance and poetry. The

organization reaches out to communities and educates parents, teachers and community leaders on child protection, HIV and AIDS in relation to stigma and discrimination against infected and affected children, recognition of child rights and Gender Based Violence through community dialogues and awareness campaigns.

Super Buddies Club has an established secretariat located in the capital city of Swaziland, Mbabane and 80 school clubs located in all the four regions on the country.

#### Vision

Super Buddies Club shall strive to be the leading institution for the empowerment of children and youth through participation in a bid to promote an HIV free generation by 2020.

#### Mission

Provide children and youth participation platforms and ensure child protection through awareness campaigns, life skills and child rights education in a bid to promote an HIV free generation.

#### **Values**

- We uphold good values and abstain from untoward activities
- We do all we can to help children in need
- We model good behaviour to our peers
- We participate in community development

## **Objectives**

In all its actions, SBC shall be guided by the following objectives:-

- i. To bring children and youth together to share ideas, views and experiences on issues affecting them and to empower them with life skills.
- **ii.** To create awareness and instil positive living values among the children and the youth through abstinence and faithfulness.
- **iii.** To improve knowledge and attitudes on HIV/AIDS and other issues affecting children and youth through activities and the production of information, education and communication material (s).
- iv. To promote the culture of reaching out to help other young people in need.
- v. To advocate for children's rights in order to create a conducive environment for children and youth.
- vi. To use mass media to promote awareness of Super Buddies Club activities.
- vii. Empower children and youth with computer and internet skills

## Activities the organisation is involved with

 Peer Education sessions in schools: Super Buddies Club conduct peer education sessions in 80 schools using trained peer educators to facilitate discussions, debates and dialogues on issues that include HIV and AIDS, Child Rights and how they are violated, sexual reproductive health and rights, gender and life skills education. The peer education sessions also include children living with disability and those living with HIV. Children who are members of the clubs are also engaged in interpersonal communication skills that include drama, poetry, music and dance. They use these skills to educate their peers and communities on issues affecting them through community awareness and education campaigns.

- Youth educational magazine: The organization produces an educational children and youth magazine in a comic format using young people as actors. The magazine provides a social communication and platform to engage children and youth as well as teachers and parents. It covers wide ranging social issues ranging from dealing with peer pressure, child abuse, HIV and AIDS, sexuality and others. It is produced with active participation of young people and distributed for free at selected schools and communities.
- Radio programmes: The organization launched the first radio programme for children in Swaziland in February 2009. Young people are able to produce a magazine and serial radio drama programmes that educate young people on issues that include HIV and AIDS and open a platform for them to discuss problems that children encounter related to sexuality, the problem of early sexual debut, sexual abuse, engaging in risky sexual behaviors and other relevant topics.
- Awareness campaign on violence against children and youth Violence
  against children and youth continues to make healines in Swaziland.
  Recognising the need for timely response on this violent act against children and
  youth, Super Buddies Club conducts awareness campaigns on violence against
  children and youth to sensitise parents and community members on the violation
  of children rightsto protection.
- Advocacy for youth friendly sexual reproductive services Super Buddies Club has embarked on an advocacy programme for youth friendly sexual reproductive services in hospitals and clinics. Through this programme Super Buddies Club is supporting the Sexual Reproductive Health Unit a department under the Ministry of Health to strengthen Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health Services (ASRH services) by establishing Youth Friendly corners and training both male and female nurses in health facilities on youth related issues, increasing scale and intensity of mobile sexual reproductive health/HIV clinics to schools and communities, and establishing referral networks between schools, clinics and organizations that offer youth friendly services.
- Giving to the needy As an organisation targetting the most vulnerable group, children and youth, through support from individuals and donors, support orphans and vulnerable children and youth with educational needs that include

school uniform and school fees. Through fundraising efforts by members, some of the children are also supported with food hampers. The organisation is currently raising funds for a project that will equip young people with skills to start their own income generating projects and with the income meets some of the needs that Super Buddies Club is unable to meet.

#### **Direct beneficiaries**

The primary beneficiaries of the project are children and youth in the age group 5 to 25 years in and out-of-school.

- 80 active school clubs and 22 community clubs
- Over 60 000 copies of the magazine are distributed per year for free to children in schools and communities where Super Buddies Clubs are active, in outreach events like road shows and dialogues. (subject to availability of funds for printing)
- Over 200 000 children and youth are reached every week through the radio programmes
- Over 3 000 active members of Super Buddies Club meet every week during their schools and community club meetings and are empowered on life skills.
- Over 3 000 have benefited from Super Buddies Club coordinated dialogues, debates and outreach programs

# Number of people actively involved

- National Coordinator: Coordinates all Super Buddies Club activities with staff support.
- Administration Assistant: Assist in coordinating programmes.
- **Field Officers:** 2 field offers have been engaged full time and they visit schools and community clubs on a regular basis.
- M & E officer Involved in monitoring of Super Buddies programs
- 20 Youth mentors Train and mentor peer educators to effectively facilitate club sessions in schools and communities
- **Peer Educators** Facilitate club meetings
- 100 School based trained peer educators facilitate peer education sessions in schools and communities and other activities that include debates and dialogues on identified issues.
- 12 children radio producers are engaged in recording weekly magazine programmes.

## Collaborating partners

Ministry of Education and Training Sexual Reproduction Unit National Children Coordinating Unit Save the Children PSI Khulisa Umntfwana Media Institute of Southern Africa

# Regional HIV Coordinating Committees The Family Life Association

# **Funding partners**

Bristol-Myers Squib AusAID Global Fund for Children

# **Board of Trustees**

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