



BISHOP MASEREKA CHRISTIAN FOUNDATION

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ORGANIZATION'S PROFILE AND WORK

General Information:

1. **Name and address of organization:-**
 - a) **Full name of the organization:**
Bishop Masereka Christian Foundation
8 Kamuramba Road, P O Box 411, Kasese, Uganda
 - a) **Telephone No:**
Mobile: 256-772-72 51 50.
 - b) **Email:** bpzmase@infocom.co.ug, Website: www.bmcf.org
 - c) **Contact person (s) and position in the organization**
Bishop Zebedee K. Masereka, Executive Director

Organisation's profile:

1. **Background**
 - a) Registered as a Non Governmental Organisation,(NGO) with the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Kampala, Uganda. BMCF is also registered in the US as a not for profit charitable organization. The organization has a 501 (c) 3 tax exemption status.
 - b) Registration of Bishop Masereka Christian Foundation: Year **2002. In 2005 BMCF Medical Clinic was also registered.**

What BMCF stands for and does:

VISION:

To work toward a district/region that is free of HIV/AIDS and a /region where every child receives education regardless of whether they are orphans or not.

MISSION :

To educate the community about the dangers of HIV/AIDS, provide care to AIDS clients, and assist orphaned children with scholarships.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:

1. To provide education to the churches, communities, schools and families about the dangers of HIV/AIDS

2. To accelerate the fight against HIV/AIDS by fighting stigma, shame, denial, discrimination, in-action and misinformation
3. To encourage people to go for voluntary counselling and testing for HIV
4. To encourage patients to live positive and productive lives
5. To provide care and counselling to the HIV/AIDS infected and affected persons
6. To assist HIV/AIDS patients to obtain medication for opportunistic infections, and encourage them to seek further and more appropriate treatment
7. To advocate for the development of people living with HIV and AIDS supportive policies and practices with adequate resources and within an enabling environment at all levels.
8. To assist orphaned children with school fees and provide counselling to the ones who are traumatized by the loss of their dear ones
9. Mobilization of resources for the Foundation's ministry.

Core values:

Compassion and care

Support without judgment

Fight stigma

No demand for disclosure

Seek to serve with love

We do all above thorough advocacy campaigns, radio talk shows, film shows, and testimonies of PLWA.

Resources that BMCF has:

- a) Paid employees: Full time: 23. including 1 Medical Officer
- b) Volunteer staff: - We have trained over 100 volunteers as community care givers in Kasese district.
- c) BMCF has an office on plot 1-5 Stanley Street in Kasese town
- d) BMCF has a bank account in Stanbic Bank Uganda Limited, Kasese branch, P O Box 12, Kasese, Uganda.
- e) Other assets of BMCF Vehicles – 2, Computers – 7, Printers – 4, digital projector-1, digital camera-1, scan-1,
- f) A very well equipped maternity room, and laboratory
- g) A well stocked drug store for the Clinic
- h) A well functioning Medical Clinic for treatment of all kinds of ailments with a focus on HIV prevention.
- i) Other office equipments: tables, Chairs, Filing cabinets, mattresses, beds, etc.

The following statement is a detailed description of the work of Bishop Masereka Christian Foundation based in Midwestern Uganda. The work of BMCF focuses mainly on two major critical areas of human life: **education and health**. Apparently education and health are some of the **Millennium Development Goals** stipulated by the United Nations as crucial for the developing Nations of the world.

Currently BMCF is assisting about 500 HIV/AIDS orphaned children with funds for school fees so that in spite of the loss of parents the children can have education. HIV/AIDS continues to deal devastating blows on many families in Uganda just like in many other parts of the world. In Uganda one sees thousands of orphans, many child-headed families, and many families headed by elderly women and elderly men. BMCF scholarship program is a critical and important response to the serious orphans' situation prevailing in the country. The prevalence rate of HIV spread in Kasese district is about 12%, much higher than that of the Country of Uganda which is at 6%. BMCF ministry is based in Kasese town that has a population of about 50,000 residents. The district of Kasese itself has a population of over 600,000 residents. The number of orphans in Kasese district are estimated to be anywhere between 15,000 and 20,000. This is quite a large number of extremely needy young people. Addressing the needs of this large number of young people is essential for the future of Uganda and indeed for the ministry of the Church.

It costs \$100-150 to maintain a child in a primary school for one year, and costs \$150- 250 for a secondary school student's tuition fees for one year, depending on the individual schools. As for University education, the costs range from \$1500-2000 per year per student, depending on the program. Most of the students on BMCF scholarship program are secondary students. The number of primary school students is also substantial. About 54% of the students are girls, and 46% are boys. A few years ago the Government introduced universal primary education and in 2007 they introduced the universal secondary education. This policy of universal primary and universal secondary education is very good for the country, but does not take care of all the needs of every child. Our plan is to increase the number of children for assistance from 500 to 600 if get adequate funding for the scholarship program. BMCF also plans to provide students with shoes, books and school bags if funds are available.

A number of children on the BMCF scholarship program are HIV positive, and it is our plan to provide them with treatment with ARVs at BMCF Clinic like any other PLWA in the community.

Health is a major component of Bishop Masereka Christian Foundation ministry in Midwestern Uganda. It includes the program for the prevention of HIV/AIDS. We provide HIV prevention education in the community, in churches, and in schools for older students. We provide on going counselling for HIV/AIDS clients, and home based care for clients. At the moment we are assisting over 200 HIV clients with ongoing counselling via BMCF Clinic. We offer daily HIV testing in the community as part of our routine work. BMCF health program also provides service delivery in the prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV, (PMTCT). All our medical staff at the BMCF Clinic are trained in HIV/AIDS work.

The monthly attendance at the Clinic ranges from 450 to 650 people, children and adults. Malaria and HIV/AIDS are the biggest killers in many health units, including BMCF Clinic. Our plan is for the Clinic to offer very good quality service delivery in the community. Efficient and effective services do lack in many health units in the region. At the moment BMCF Clinic has very good staff persons, and we plan to build the capacity of the staff, and to equip the laboratory and the diagnostics section well beyond the average.

BMCF Clinic requires a haematology analyser, and a biochemistry analyser. The Clinic also requires a regular and consistent supply of HIV testing kits. BMCF Clinic now has a fulltime Medical Officer,(Dr. Daniel Sambili) and is preparing to start administering ARVs to the people who need it. We urgently need a reliable source of supply of the drug.

There are several supporters and prayer friends who are involved in BMCF ministry in the region, and we value their great contributions. It is our prayer that God will continue blessing this important ministry of responding to the serious impact of HIV, and fighting it with it's related stigma, shame, and discrimination in some communities.

**Bishop Zebedee K. Masereka
Executive Director, Bishop Masereka Christian Foundation.**