



PRESS RELEASE

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Attn: News Editor

STREET CHILDREN THEATRE WITH A DIFFERENCE

They are called *chokora*, “those who survive on garbage”. With this terrible word the people of Nairobi abandon over 130,000 children to a fate of solitude, hunger, violence, drug and prostitution on the streets. Most of them are orphaned by HIV/AIDS and stigmatized by the society for living on the streets.

A group of young boys aged between twelve and seventeen years, who were previously living on the streets, are performing a play entitled *Nyumba Hewani*. The show depicts a tale of adventure and narrates how a group of brothers graduate through the challenges of youth into responsible and skilled adults. The performance contains comic scenes and percussions that really draw the viewers’ attention.

The boys are part of the AMREF Dagoretti Children in Need Programme. The main aim of the project is to rehabilitate and reintegrate the children back into society, their families and schools. The project provides regular home visits to the families, medical, food and legal assistance for all the children, small micro-credit initiatives, sports and educational activities.

The AMREF Dagoretti Children in Need Program has proved through its other very successful productions - the *Black Pinocchio* and the *Mapenzi Tamu* shows - that theatre is a good means of rehabilitation for children and youth in need, a strong way of expression and a good motivation for them to abandon street life.

In the *Nyumba Hewani* performance, AMREF is partnering with the Street Families Rehabilitation Trust Fund, the Four Generations and the Kuki Gallmann Foundation. **The *Nyumba Hewani* premiere show will be staged at the Bomas of Kenya on Wednesday 18th April 2007 starting at 2.00 pm.**

In attendance will be the Minister for Local Government Hon Musikari Kombo and His Excellency the Ambassador of Italy to Kenya.

For more information contact **John Muiruri**, Project Manager, Dagoretti Children in Need Project on **6994419** or **0720 327 340** or **Patricia Kwamboka** on **0733 707 785**

Thank you