

Ruben Centre

2023



QUARTER 3 REPORT

July - September

Website | <https://www.rubencentre.org/>

Preamble

In the heart of Nairobi's Mukuru Slum, the Ruben Centre's mission beats stronger than ever. As we journeyed through the third quarter of 2023, the unwavering commitment to uplift the lives of those living in extreme poverty remains our North Star. Just as we embarked on our five-year strategic plan in 2020, this year, we stand resolute in our pursuit of progress. We've steadfastly adhered to our 2023 strategies, forging ahead in fundraising, empowering our staff, expanding our programs, nurturing partnerships, managing resources judiciously, and adhering to timelines with precision. The third quarter report is not just a collection of facts and figures; it's a testament to the Ruben Centre's indomitable spirit. It showcases our achievements, unearths our challenges, and unveils a roadmap for the remainder of the year. Throughout these pages, you'll witness the remarkable dedication of our governance team, the profound impact of our financial management programs, and the unwavering commitment of our leadership to ensure our projects are not just functional but beneficial to all our stakeholders. As we unfold this report, we invite you to join us on a journey where hope, compassion, and action intertwine to transform lives. Stay tuned for the remarkable tale of the Ruben Centre's Quarter 3 endeavors.

Dive in, and let the story of change inspire you.

Message from The Director

Dear Partners and Supporters,

*I am delighted to share the **Ruben Centre's Quarter 3 Report** for July to September 2023. This quarter has been a testament to the unwavering dedication and commitment of our incredible team, our partners, and the remarkable resilience of the Mukuru community we serve.*

In the past three months, we've reached significant milestones that have propelled us further toward our mission of community empowerment. One milestone was our first fully constituted Board of Trustees meeting held on the 5th of August, where Mrs. Zipporah Mwangi, Liz Mwangi and Justus Mwenda were admitted to the board. They join Brothers Tom Kearney and Simon Peter Odongo, hopefully adding a wealth of experience and value.

This quarter saw the Ruben Centre embark on a meticulous mission of hiring a General Manager to enhance operations and assist the Director in the administration of the place. This is almost being concluded with the expectation of having the General Manager onboard at the beginning of November.

The 3rd quarter saw the Administration initiate Strategic Plan (2021-2025) mid term review. This is continuing and will be completed when the new General Manager is on the ground. Our aim is that this process will give this new GM a thorough induction into the complexities of the Centre, and also add insights and learning, for all of us as we continue the plan into its last two years.

The visit at Ruben Centre by dignitaries attending the Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi, like Ban Ki-moon, the French Minister for Development; Chrysoula Zacharopoulou and the French Ambassador to Kenya H.E Amb. Arnaud Suquet, among other dignitaries was an exceptional moment in our journey. Their unheralded visit speaks loudly about the Centre's significance within Nairobi and I personally found it affirming of all our efforts here.

*Third quarter also brought an additional affirmation when our health facilities was the second runners-up for the prestigious title of **Best Faith-Based Organization (FBO) Health** in Nairobi.*

This has come in the wake of the facility progressing towards International Standards Organization (ISO) 15189:2012 certification for national and international accreditation. I congratulate our health department staff for their tireless efforts as healthcare professionals and their unwavering commitment to quality care for our community.

We've also expanded our environmental initiatives, thanks to the support of the Rotary Club of Essendon Australia and the Rotary Club of Utawala. Kenya. The installation of this medical Waste Management Incinerator will benefit both our community and the environment. Rotary Club Essendon have also purchased a new dental chair, hopefully making the patients' dreaded trip to the dentist a little more comfortable.

Our commitment to education remains steadfast. Our partnership with Safaricom and Msingi PAK allowed learners to access curriculum-aligned content, digitally (190 tablets) which students found very stimulating.

In the quarter we also began conducting sign language classes for our staff, in an attempt to be as inclusive as possible of all people in need. Around twenty staff are attending the weekly lessons taught by one of our Special Needs teachers.

During this quarter the Ruben Grade 8 primary school students also were assisted with the initiation of tuition classes conducted by around twelve former students who were waiting to enter university. An academically struggling cohort of around one hundred and fifty students spent their school hours in tutor led small groups and we look forward to seeing enhanced National Grade 8 examination results. Grade 8 students' number over 450 of our 3,517 boys and girls.

2023 is the last year for these examinations as the government has transitioned into a new education system that now sees primary education ending at grade 6. We are hoping to end this era with a grand hiss and roar.

*The community development model of Ruben Centre of life-long learning has continued to be a powerhouse in the transformation of the lives of many in Mukuru. Our urban garden (**recent winners of an International award**) was also on show at the Annual Agricultural and Trade Show. The show was promoting training programs and it also provided a good market outlet, and I congratulate the team on their eight days of hard work and sales of over KSHS 190,000/-.*

As we look back on this quarter, it is your unwavering support that continues to nurture Ruben Centre. Yes together, we are making a meaningful impact on many people, both young and old.

Let me wind up by inviting you to explore this report, to delve into the key highlights and achievements that your support has helped us accomplish.

Warm regards,

Br. Frank O'shea,

Director,

Ruben Centre

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"In a gentle way, you can shake the world." - Mahatma Gandhi

INTRODUCTION

In the dynamic third quarter of 2023, the Ruben Centre has made significant strides across its strategic objectives. Notably, in Organization Capacity, the center has taken a monumental leap in fortifying its leadership and governance structure, guided by a reconstituted Board of Trustees. In the realm of Education, partnerships with organizations like Safaricom and Msingi PACK have empowered students with digital resources, while the Special Needs Education program continues to make a profound impact. Healthcare initiatives reach new heights, reinforced by accolades and the installation of crucial equipment. Socio-economic empowerment and vocational programs are providing essential skills and income generation, and urban farming initiatives are fostering sustainability. The Advocacy Department is actively addressing important community issues, from child safeguarding to gender-based violence. The Ruben Centre's unwavering commitment to community transformation and holistic development is evident throughout these remarkable endeavors. Your support is crucial as we continue to shape a brighter future for the Mukuru community.

SECTION A: GOVERNANCE

The journey towards transformation is not only defined by its impactful programs but also by the strength of its governance and leadership. The center is solidifying its foundation to build a brighter future for the Mukuru community. Governance tasks, strategic planning, and organizational development are the cornerstones of Ruben Centre's commitment to transparency and positive change.

Strategic Objective 5: Organization Capacity

At the Ruben Centre, effective governance is the cornerstone of our mission and the driving force behind our commitment to transforming lives in the Mukuru community. With a newly reconstituted board of trustees, we have crafted a clear vision for governance, delineated trustees' responsibilities, and set the terms of office holders. This dynamic governance structure is not just about form; it is the solid foundation upon which we build a brighter future. It ensures transparency, accountability, and the ethical operation of our organization, securing our reputation and upholding our values. As we embark on this journey, it is the compass that guides our strategic objectives and drives positive change.

Leadership and Governance

In a landmark moment for the Ruben Centre, the establishment of our governance structure has leaped forward. Led by the esteemed Br. Tom Kearney, Chairman of the Christian Brothers Ruben Centre Trust (CBRCT), and supported by finance expert Br. Simon Odongo and the unwavering dedication of Br. Frank O'shea, Secretary to the Board, we embarked on a pivotal journey.

On the 5th of August, a milestone was marked with the first meeting of the fully reconstituted CBRCT Board, where three new luminaries joined our cause. Mrs. Zipporah Mwangi, a former Ruben Centre employee and Nairobi County Executive, brings invaluable experience and influence, enabling us to attain NHIF accreditation and swift fund remittances. Ms. Liz Mwangi, with her extensive experience and technical support in donor engagement, serves as a bridge between the past and the present, enhancing our connection with our supporters. Mr. Justus Mwendwa, hailing from the WE Foundation, enriches our board's diversity with a background in project management and a shared commitment to the management of Brighton Jones funds.

This newly reconstituted board has crafted a vision for Ruben Centre's governance, delineated trustees' responsibilities, and set the terms of office holders. The next step is to present these developments to the Christian Brothers Mother Trust, as we seek greater autonomy to enhance the efficiency of running the Centre. This journey is not just about structure; it's about the foundation upon which we build a brighter future for the Ruben Centre.

The Governance tasks for Ruben Centre Trustees. .

The trustees have been instrumental in ensuring the transparent and ethical operation of our organization. Their guidance and governance tasks have been pivotal in upholding our mission and values, securing our reputation, and nurturing a culture of accountability. During this quarter, the Ruben Centre has taken significant strides in our organizational development. We have made substantial progress in the recruitment of a General Manager, recognizing the need for strong leadership to guide our operations. We anticipate recruitment of a dedicated Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Officer at the end of the year. This will further enhance our accountability and effectiveness in program management. In addition to these human resource advancements, we have embarked on revising the Board Constitution, a crucial step towards ensuring transparent and effective governance, and this has been deposited at the Registrar at the Ministry of Lands. Furthermore, the deliberations around the revamped Organogram signify our commitment to streamlining our structure to better serve the Mukuru community. These actions underscore our dedication to achieving our strategic objectives and driving positive change.

SECTION B: ACTIVITY REPORTS

In the dynamic third quarter of 2023, the Ruben Centre has witnessed outstanding progress across its four strategic objectives. From elevating education through innovative partnerships to excelling in healthcare, socio-economic empowerment, and advocacy, each sector has thrived on unwavering commitment and community engagement. These achievements reflect the transformative power of education, mentorship, and unity as they continue to build a brighter future for the Mukuru community.

Strategic Objective 1: EDUCATION

In the dynamic third quarter of 2023, the Ruben Centre's Education Project and Special Needs Education (SNE) Project have reached new horizons, fueled by our unyielding commitment to excellence and community empowerment through education. Both projects have thrived on knowledge-sharing, mentorship, and innovative partnerships, marking significant achievements. Here, we delve into the remarkable endeavors and outcomes of these educational initiatives, embodying the transformative power of education, mentorship, and unity.

Primary & JSS Education

In the third quarter of 2023, the Ruben Centre Education Project achieved remarkable heights, driven by an unwavering commitment to excellence. A dedicated group of former students took the initiative to mentor and tutor over 430 Grade 8 learners, resulting in outstanding improvements in their upcoming KCPE exams, with many students seeing their scores rise by over 50 points. This heartwarming display of unity and determination underscores our mission to empower the next generation, exemplifying the immeasurable impact of knowledge sharing. Furthermore, our holiday program for Grade 8 students proved a remarkable success, providing targeted mentorship and highlighting our dedication to nurturing academic potential and success.

Furthermore, the Ruben Centre's commitment to education and empowerment has been exemplified by partnerships with Safaricom and Msingi PACK. Our learners have had the privilege of accessing the innovative MsingiPACK Cloud platform, which provides high-quality, curriculum-aligned content, ensuring accessibility to educational materials whenever and wherever needed. This partnership represents a significant stride in promoting quality education and aligning with Kenya's evolving educational landscape, reaffirming our commitment to empowering learners for success in an ever-changing world.

As we reflect on these remarkable achievements, the Ruben Centre remains dedicated to transforming lives through education, mentorship, and innovative collaborations. Our commitment to nurturing talents and empowering the Mukuru community stands stronger than ever, thanks to the support of our donors, partners, and stakeholders. Together, we continue to create a brighter future for all.

Special Needs Education (SNE)

During the third quarter, the Special Needs Project at The Ruben Centre continued its unwavering commitment to empowering students with special needs, their parents, and caregivers. A plethora of engaging activities and educational events took place, providing significant insights and fostering valuable relationships.

The quarter commenced with a remarkable home-based care and therapy session for parents and caregivers, enlightening them on various types of disabilities. Notably, Peter Ayonga, a young student, showcased his prowess by achieving the 3rd position in the public speaking category at the music festival competition. A captivating trip to Mamba Village allowed learners to explore and engage with nature, from crocodiles to boat rides, while a regional ball games competition showcased the exceptional soccer talents of our students. As we fostered unity, teachers, caregivers, and therapists had the opportunity to bond during debriefing and counseling sessions. Additionally, two students proudly clinched a soccer tournament trophy during the regional ball games.

The quarter also saw educational events for parents and caregivers, emphasizing nutrition and providing them with insights on multiple disabilities and intellectual disabilities. Life skills training encouraged learners and their siblings to make informed decisions and cultivate positive relationships. A community outreach initiative sensitized the Mukuru Ruben community on the significance of educating children with disabilities. Radio talks and sign language lessons further enriched our engagement with the community and staff. These activities have not only drawn the active participation of parents but have also equipped our students, teachers, and caregivers with invaluable knowledge and skills. As we enter the next quarter, we eagerly anticipate continuing this journey of growth and empowerment at The Ruben Centre's Special Needs Project.

Strategic Objective 2: HEALTH

In the third quarter of 2023, the Ruben Health Centre stands as a beacon of healthcare excellence and community support. Our Health Facility has earned a prestigious title as the second runners-up for the esteemed Best Faith-Based Organization (FBO) Health Facility, a testament to our dedicated healthcare professionals who provide top-quality care to the Mukuru community. We proudly share this recognition with renowned institutions, reaffirming our commitment to delivering exceptional healthcare while fostering a brighter and healthier future.

In a powerful move towards community well-being and environmental health, Ruben Centre partnered with the Rotary Club of Essendon and the Rotary Club of Utawala to install a state-of-the-art Waste Management Incinerator and Dental Chair. This initiative will not only benefit our community but also contribute to a healthier environment, reinforcing our dedication to creating a positive impact on both community oral health and ecological sustainability.

Empowering the Mukuru community through knowledge and support, we organized a crucial male engagement health talk, educating over 100 men on their pivotal role in supporting their partners during challenging reproductive health times. This transformative effort breaks stigmas, empowers women, nurtures healthy relationships, and promotes community transformation. Our unwavering commitment continues with a unique sensitization workshop exclusively for men, focusing on prenatal and postnatal care, underlining the vital role of fathers and partners in ensuring the health and well-being of mothers and children.

We persist in providing holistic support, with our physio/occupational therapy team organizing a support group session for parents and caregivers of children with special needs. Led by expert therapists, the session focused on enhancing life expectancy for these children and providing vital psychological support. Sharing experiences and knowledge, the event fostered a supportive and empowering atmosphere, leaving participants with a renewed sense of hope. Our dedication shines through as we distribute essential food supplies to address immediate nutritional needs, showcasing our commitment to improving the lives of individuals with special needs and their families.

Strategic Objective 3: SEETE

In the 3rd quarter, the Ruben Centre Socio Economic Empowerment Through Education (SEETE) Project demonstrated its unwavering commitment to empowering the community. Through psychosocial support and education initiatives, we reached 120 children, ensuring their enrollment, retention, and providing essential school feeding. Notably, 16 Junior Secondary School (JSS) students received stationary support, 45 deserving children had their levies covered, 32 pupils received uniforms, and 27 got stationary, with 13 being fire accident victims who had lost everything.

Our robust training program impacted over 250 caregivers, focusing on crucial areas like coping skills, parenting, child safeguarding, mediation, business startups, financial literacy, money management, and even detergent making. We engaged with community members through monthly radio broadcasts, fostering awareness and adult literacy, with positive outcomes from consistent learners. We empowered women through vocational work, forming groups for economic improvement, and equipped youth with financial literacy, career development, and life skills. Additionally, mental health wellness was prioritized with a one-day workshop for all vocational students. The Ruben Centre Education Project has been a catalyst for positive change, ensuring holistic community development. Your support is invaluable, and together, we can continue to transform lives and create a brighter future for this deserving community.

HDSTP

In the 3rd quarter, the Ruben Centre HDSTP Project witnessed tremendous progress and achievements. We engaged 150 trainees across various vocational courses, empowering them with essential skills. Notably, 34 students are preparing for the NITA exam, and 24 are already gaining hands-on experience in different salons in Nairobi. Our training programs extended to business management, self-awareness, and counseling, enhancing the capacity of our students. We also strengthened our production unit, with 10 NITA graduates working in daily production, contributing to our success at the Nairobi Trade Fair.

We've embraced digital learning to equip our students with advanced skills, ensuring their holistic development. Furthermore, we repaired and maintained 34 training machines, creating a conducive learning environment. In the beauty and hairdressing segment, 34 students received basic equipment and products, enabling them to embark on their learning journey. Production materials for uniforms, sweaters, and other items were acquired, leading to the creation of over 1,200 products, a testament to our commitment to skill development and economic growth. Our engagement with special orders and the production of items like curtains and uniforms for the orchestra band highlighted our versatility.

Sales and income generation in the 3rd quarter were noteworthy, with significant revenue from uniform sales, exhibition events, and student fees. This success underpins our mission to empower and transform lives through vocational training. Faith Wanjiru, one of our exceptional students, emerged as the best at the Trade Fair, showcasing the impact of our training.

Community Empowerment through Urban Farming

In the 3rd quarter, the Ruben Centre celebrated a significant milestone in our urban farming initiative, which exemplifies the remarkable power of community collaboration. Our dedicated team has been working closely with inspiring mothers from the Mukuru community, whose children attend our special needs unit. Together, we have empowered these mothers with the skills and knowledge of sustainable urban farming.

We are delighted to share the fruits (and vegetables) of their hard work, as they recently harvested their first batch of home-grown produce from the container gardens right here at Ruben Centre. Each mother has become a proud steward of her own garden, ensuring its growth and sustainability. This initiative aligns seamlessly with the Sustainable Development Goals, focusing on "Zero Hunger" and "Sustainable Cities and Communities." By promoting urban farming and fostering community engagement, we are contributing to a future where everyone has access to nutritious food, and our cities thrive in harmony with nature.

The invaluable support from partners such as The Buddhist Global Relief (BGR), Edmund Rice Foundation Australia (ERFA), and The GIZ innovation fund has been instrumental in advancing this vital agenda. With your continued support, we can further our mission to empower communities and create a brighter, more sustainable future for all. Thank you for being a part of this journey towards a healthier and more prosperous community.

Strategic Objective 4: ADVOCACY

Ruben Centre's Advocacy Department has made remarkable strides in addressing crucial themes such as child safeguarding, adolescent sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), and sexual gender-based violence (SGBV) in the Mukuru community. Additionally, governance challenges related to housing conflicts have been tackled through our Peace Project. Leveraging the dynamic Ruben FM Tournament, mental health and psycho social and other strategic approaches. We raised awareness and conducted mediation trainings, providing participants with a platform for sharing invaluable feedback to improve our future interventions.

The 6th edition of the Ruben FM Tournament concluded with great enthusiasm, showcasing the exceptional dedication and talent of our male and female football teams. Winners were celebrated with well-deserved trophies and cash prizes, and this event wasn't just about competition; it was an opportunity to conduct advocacy within Mukuru. With over 5,000 passionate fans, mainly composed of youths, the Ruben FM Tournament created a fantastic platform for disseminating critical messages on child safeguarding, SRHR, and SGBV. Beyond the excitement of football, the event aimed to nurture and develop the youth's talents, offering them pathways to improve their livelihoods and unlock their potential.

In collaboration with our partner, Civil Peace Service (CPS), our Advocacy Department organized a comprehensive training session on the Alternative Justice System (AJS). Led by seasoned lawyer and Peace Building Advisor, Jolly Kathambi, this initiative strengthened Mukuru's community mediation mechanisms for addressing communal challenges. Furthermore, a distinguished group of 10 community elders was enrolled in a specialized AJS course conducted by the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, solidifying our commitment to fostering peaceful resolutions and addressing crucial social issues.

Moreover, we engaged the vibrant youth of Mukuru kwa Reuben in puppetry and participatory education theatre (PET), harnessing their creative skills to convey transformative messages and promote unity within the community. Through the enchanting world of puppetry, our aim is to spark meaningful conversations, enlighten young minds, and inspire lasting social impacts on key issues and topics. These diverse and integrated activities reflect our unwavering commitment to nurturing holistic development for the people of Mukuru.

Feature Stories:

Ruben at the “Centre” of the African Climate Agenda!

Ban Ki-moon, 8th Secretary General United Nations, and current Chair of the Supervisory Board of Global Center on Adaptation, the French Government Minister for Development Chrysoula Zacharopoulou, French Ambassador to Kenya H.E. Amb. Arnaud Suquet, all paid a visit to Ruben Centre on 4th September 2023. It was a delightful surprise on Monday morning for us here at Ruben Centre to hear police sirens, and out of the blue (well, dust really), none other than the 8th UN Secretary-General rushed in. He was in Kenya for the three-day Africa Climate Summit, which began on September 4th.

The inaugural Africa Climate Summit, championed by H.E. President William Ruto, aims to address the increasing exposure to climate change and its associated costs, both globally and particularly in Africa. With the expectation of escalating climate crises in terms of frequency and intensity, urgent action is required to mitigate these challenges. The Summit will serve as a platform to inform, frame, and influence commitments, pledges, and outcomes, ultimately leading to the development of the Nairobi Declaration. The summit comes at a time of increasing alarm in the global community, as 2023 has produced a taste of the horrors to come as our earth heats up. Another report by Oxfam, titled

"Climate Financing Shadow Report 2023" noted that developing countries are three years overdue on the commitment to mobilize \$100 billion (Sh14.5 trillion) per year, hindering climate talks. "Contributions must become more transparent, building on clear commitments that allow for accountability. There needs to be a new global public finance goal specifically for addressing loss and damages," the report said.

The former UN Secretary-General and the France's Minister for Development were inspecting slums in Nairobi, in search of encouraging signs of development and progress in the fight against environmental degradation and the appalling living conditions of millions of people in Africa. Ruben Centre is in the heart of Mukuru slums, and their choice of stopping over was a clear statement about our presence and its contribution to the fight against slum habitats and people's survival without essential services of health, education, security, and jobs.



I sat in on the briefing chaired by Professor Patrick Verkooijen, Chief Executive Officer of 'The Global Center on Adaptation,' a response to climate change set up by Ban Ki-moon in The Hague in 2018 with the mandate to 'accelerate adaptation by elevating the political visibility of adaptation and focusing on concrete solutions.

It certainly enlivened my day as I listened to the French Minister explain, "How when things happen in Africa, they impact other parts of the world, especially in Europe." Surprisingly, she never explicitly mentioned two modern-day trends, namely the increased number of coups and the massive movement of refugees from Africa to Europe. Since 1952, there have been over 102 successful coups in African countries, with former French colonies leading the charge, beginning with Mali, Guinea, and Chad (2021), Burkina Faso (2022), and this year Gabon. Of course, this history of political failure points directly to France's colonial failures and ongoing exploitation of African material and human resources, leaving a continent impoverished and aid-dependent. The issue of over one million mostly North African people attempting hazardous boat crossings to Europe since 2010 also didn't get a mention, yet it is something trending only in the North and will be accelerated by climate change.



Ban Ki-moon & Br. Frank having a side conversation.

Ban Ki-moon spoke of the crisis of debt crippling African nations, uttering, "Kenya can never hope to develop while weighed down by its Ksh.8.2 trillion debt and by 2022, equivalent to about 68% of GDP, and something totally unsustainable." Later, he confided in me that since his first visit to Kenya seventeen years ago, he has seen no signs of progress in terms of living conditions for Kenyans. "Extremely concerning," he whispered.

As the French delegation was leaving and passing by the health centre, the Minister got very animated and, brushing aside attempts by her security to keep her on track to her car, asked for a quick look. It turns out she has a big medical background and was quickly quizzing our laboratory staff about their technical capabilities. She asked, "Have you received funds from the Euro 1.5 billion grant to improve health in Africa?" I could only sigh and say, "Never heard of it!" She only got more animated when she saw the shipping container decorated with the French flag and the history of the last French Ambassador to Kenya's visit. I mentioned to the French Ambassador how two of his predecessors have visited and donated funds for projects. "Much better than our Australian counterparts," I added with a hint of satisfaction. While racing to their cars, I was able to issue an invitation to French Ambassador Arnaud Suquet to have him back for a detailed visit. In no time, they were all gone, and slum life continued as it unfortunately has for half a century, but hopefully not for a similar number of years ahead. Hope Springs Eternal!





By: Br. Frank O'Shea

Edits: GB

'Unlocking Potential': Building Strong Minds and Bright Futures for Mukuru's Youth

Mukuru Salama youth hub (MSYH) is a youth gathering space created to provide the youth of Mukuru a safe space to express themselves freely and make social connections in line with Ruben Centre's objective to promote mental well-being and social development of the youth through a comprehensive range of activities. Recognizing the pressing need to address mental health concerns, the hub has established various initiatives to foster a supportive and nurturing environment for the youth.

Central to our efforts are the Tujibonge sessions, group therapy gatherings led by experienced psychologists (Grace Nyambura). These sessions encourage open dialogue, enabling the youth to share their experiences and build a sense of mutual support and understanding. Some of the needy youth from this sessions have been engaged in human developmental and skills training program formally vocational training center also undergo weekly social and mental health literacy session. This is aimed at achieving holistic development of the youth.

The Salama Youth Hub also emphasizes the significance of recreational activities such as Zumba, yoga, and themed film nights, which serve as avenues for the youths to learn and relate with issues affecting youth globally. Also provides

a platform to relax, exercise, and express themselves creatively. Additionally, indoor games and art therapy provide platforms for social interaction and artistic expression, fostering a sense of self-discovery among participants.

Furthermore, I (psychologist) facilitate individual therapy sessions which arises from the group activities where the youth gain insight on mental health aspects. One on one sessions offer a confidential space for the youth to address their personal struggles and seek professional guidance. The hub's empathetic approach ensures that each individual receives tailored support to enable them navigate their mental and social journeys.

In an effort to promote community-wide awareness and destigmatize mental health issues, I actively engage in radio shows hosted by Ruben FM. By disseminating accurate information and listener's feedback, I am able to cultivate a culture of understanding, support, inclusive and compassionate society.

In dire need to address the struggling economic situation of the youth in Mukuru and the general unemployment crisis in the country, the hub has adopted a model that facilitates Livelihood activities. This holistic approach to mental health has led to impacting of money making skills to the youth thus elevating their financial ability and their in boosting their mental and social wellbeing.

Through these diverse and integrated activities, Ruben Centre remains steadfast in its commitment to nurturing and achieving holistic development for the people of Mukuru.

Written by;

Grace Nyambura Muhota,

Psychologist- Mukuru Salama Youth Hub

Finance

Ruben Centre Quarter 3 Financial Summary

Our financial outlook for this quarter remains promising. Here's a brief summary:

Ruben Centre Qt 3 Profit & Loss Statements

	JAN - MAR 23	APR - JUN 23	JUL - SEP 23	TOTAL
INCOME				
Gifts and donations income	0.00	490,092.00	0.00	490,092.00
Grants	19,558,626.06	37,470,783.56	30,102,220.07	87,131,629.69
Local/ internal income	4,834,663.12	5,072,640.24	4,161,335.65	14,068,639.01
Waves trust	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL INCOME	24,393,289.18	43,033,515.80	34,263,555.72	101,690,360.70
EXPENSE				
0001 Direct Project Cost. 2023	8,574,688.00	12,170,515.58	18,113,659.50	38,858,863.08
0002. Overheads	4,574,909.44	4,225,061.61	4,904,875.97	13,704,847.02
0003 Personnel Costs	12,830,522.58	13,984,231.99	14,429,771.68	41,244,526.25
TOTAL EXPENSE	25,980,120.02	30,379,809.18	37,448,307.15	93,808,236.35
PROFIT FOR THE YEAR	-1,586,830.84	12,653,706.62	-3,184,751.43	7,882,124.35

3rd Qt. Income Statements

Income	Amount
Grants	
<i>Brighton Jones Scholarship funds</i>	7,200,190.03
<i>Edmund Rice Foundation Australi</i>	670.62
<i>General Funds</i>	1,862,221.62
<i>Giz Office Nairobi</i>	697,564.80
<i>Global Development incubator</i>	2,287,763.87
<i>Misean Cara</i>	17,082,846.00
<i>Partners For Equity</i>	961,963.13
<i>Uniliver Co Ltd</i>	9,000.00
Total Grants	30,102,220.07
Local / Internal Income	
<i>AVS scholarship funds</i>	7,000.00
<i>Babycare fee</i>	24,500.00
<i>Clinic Income</i>	2,574,207.00
<i>Conference & Catering</i>	66,941.00
<i>Production fee</i>	242,902.65
<i>Rental Income</i>	171,000.00
<i>Ruben Fm</i>	168,000.00
<i>Ruben primary school</i>	40,000.00
<i>scholarships</i>	837,935.00
<i>Special needs</i>	23,850.00
<i>Vocational Fees</i>	5,000.00
Total Local / Internal Income	4,161,335.65
Total Income	34,263,555.72

- *Financial Summary Details*

Ruben Centre 2023 Financial Projection

	ACTUAL	Qtr 4 Projection	2024 Qt 1 Projection
	Jan - Sep 23	Budget	Jan -March 2024
Income			
<i>Gifts and Donations Income</i>	490,092.00		
<i>Grants</i>	87,131,629.69	15,080,114.00	-
<i>Local / Internal Income</i>	14,068,639.01	4,000,000.00	4,000,000.00
Total Income	101,690,360.70	19,080,114.00	4,000,000.00
Expense			
<i>0001 Direct Project Cost.2023</i>	38,858,863.08	9,652,674.91	7,000,000.00

<i>0002. Overheads</i>	13,704,847.02	4,051,821.83	3,822,485.75
<i>0003 Personnel Costs</i>	41,244,526.25	12,487,266.91	14,697,147.00
Total Expense	93,808,236.35	26,191,763.65	25,519,632.75
Profit for the Year	7,882,124.35	-7,111,649.65	-21,519,632.75

Projection Overview

Financial Objectives

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the Ruben Centre's Quarter 3 was marked by recognition, sustainable initiatives, quality education, and community empowerment. Our achievements are a testament to the dedication of our team and the invaluable support of our partners and supporters. We look forward to continued progress in the coming months as we strive to empower the Mukuru community and create a brighter future for all. Join the Ruben Centre's inspiring journey to uplift lives and shape futures in Nairobi's Mukuru Slum. Our unwavering commitment to quality initiatives for a brighter future is making a real impact. With an empowered governance structure, esteemed partners, and dedicated staff, we're transforming the Mukuru community and beyond. Together, we can create a sustainable, inclusive, and prosperous Mukuru. Support us in this transformative mission, and be the change that empowers lives and shapes futures. Your contribution matters. Act now!