



a **YOUTH:WORK** program

## THE CHALLENGE

As a result of the social effects of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, millions of HIV-affected children are highly vulnerable, as they are more likely to be victims of abuse, live in institutional care or on the street, and engage in hazardous and/or exploitive labor<sup>1</sup>. Youth living with HIV/AIDS or those affected by HIV/AIDS face exceptional challenges as they try to build their futures. Nearly 10% of Tanzanian youth under the age of 18 are orphans and/or vulnerable children (OVC) and lack opportunities to gain the necessary education and job training for their transition to a successful adulthood. They often miss out on educational opportunities due to lack of funds to cover school expenses or their responsibilities to assist with domestic duties or income-generating activities. Completing their education or receiving formal training can provide vulnerable youth and their families an escape route out of poverty.

## THE INITIATIVE

To respond to these challenges, the International Youth Foundation (IYF) is implementing the *Tanzania Youth Scholars* (TYS) program, an initiative that offers orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) ages 14 to 24 the opportunity through scholarships to attend secondary school or vocational training and prepare themselves for viable futures through self or salaried employment. With funding from U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) Tanzania Mission, TYS was awarded through IYF's *Youth:Work* Leader with Associates global agreement with USAID. The five-year program, launched in May 2011, also builds the capacity of Tanzanian organizations to manage scholarship programs and to train and track vulnerable youth more effectively.

Through strong partnerships with local Tanzanian organizations including Camfed and Vocational Education Training Authority (VETA), the TYS program develops and implements high-quality, results-oriented, and sustainable livelihood initiatives that build upon best practices to address the needs of Tanzania's OVC.

## STRATEGY

The program has three integrated components:

- **Deliver holistic youth programming:** TYS is designed to provide OVC a wide range of training and support services to enable them to lead a healthy, productive life. In addition to technical vocational training or secondary education, participants receive training in life skills, reproductive health and entrepreneurship as well as psychosocial support and internship opportunities.
- **Build Local Capacity:** TYS builds the capacity of Tanzanian organizations to meet the educational and employability needs of Tanzania's most vulnerable youth while responding to the demands of the local labor market.
- **Maximize Impact through Partnerships:** IYF and its implementing partners work in close collaboration with local government authorities, community leaders, teacher mentors, and parents/guardians as well as other USAID-implementing partners to maximize the support provided to OVC and create local buy-in for the program.

## EXPECTED OUTCOMES

By the end of the program, the following outcomes are expected to be achieved:

- Up to 1,800 OVC ages 14 to 24 will have gained access to quality vocational training and secondary education opportunities through scholarships and other support.

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<sup>1</sup> Guidance for orphans and Vulnerable Children Programming. The U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. July 2012

(continued)

- Local implementing partner organizations will have improved their capacity to deliver high quality, market-relevant employability training and education support to OVC.
- Partnerships with both public and private sectors will have contributed to increased job opportunities for graduated youth and access to start-up capital and other support to young entrepreneurs.
- Communities and local authorities will have increased their support for OVC to successfully access educational or vocational opportunities.

## GET INVOLVED

Leveraging in-kind support and financial resources by building public private partnerships is critical to our ability to improve the lives and prospects of Tanzania's most vulnerable children. We invite you to join us in meeting the needs of youth and contributing to the success of the TYS program.

Ways you can help...

- Hire a highly trained TYS participant for an internship or employment at your company.
- Donate vocational training equipment or materials to maximize youth's practical skill development.
- Provide discounted health services such as volunteer testing and counseling.
- Donate scholastic materials or personal hygiene items in bulk for TYS participants boarding at vocational and educational institutes.
- Conduct capacity building workshops for TYS implementing partners, in areas such as, but not limited to, child protection, psychosocial support, or monitoring & evaluation.
- Share your experience and expertise by being a guest speaker at a TYS-supported school or vocational center.
- Provide start-up capital or be a mentor to a young entrepreneur.

The TYS team is ready to discuss these options or other ways you or your organization can contribute to improving the prospects of Tanzania's vulnerable youth.

## CONTACTS

*Sarah Shebele, Program Director, Dar es Salaam*

Email: [s.shebele@iyfnet.org](mailto:s.shebele@iyfnet.org)

*Matthew Breman, Director, Africa Programs, Baltimore*

Email: [m.breman@iyfnet.org](mailto:m.breman@iyfnet.org)

### PARTNERS



### LOCAL PARTNERS

