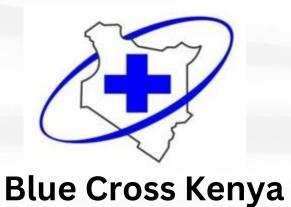
DEVELOPING A SUSTAINABLE, SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR CHILDREN TO GROW & LEARN FREE FROM

**ALCOHOL INFLUENCE** 

By: Donpaul Odhiambo





#### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT**

The findings and insights shared here-in reflect the independent work generated by Blue Cross Kenya's program aimed at preventing alcohol abuse among vulnerable children.

I also confirm that I have not received any funding, sponsorship, or support from the alcohol industry or related organizations.

Blue Cross Kenya remains committed to transparency, integrity, and objectivity in its work, ensuring that its mission aligns with the values of holistic development and effective alcohol control.

#### **ABOUT BLUE CROSS KENYA**

Is a registered Non-Governmental working with children and youth on prevention of alcohol and other substance use in Kenya.

#### **MISSION**

To mobilise alcohol prevention, treatment and aftercare interventions for the whole family

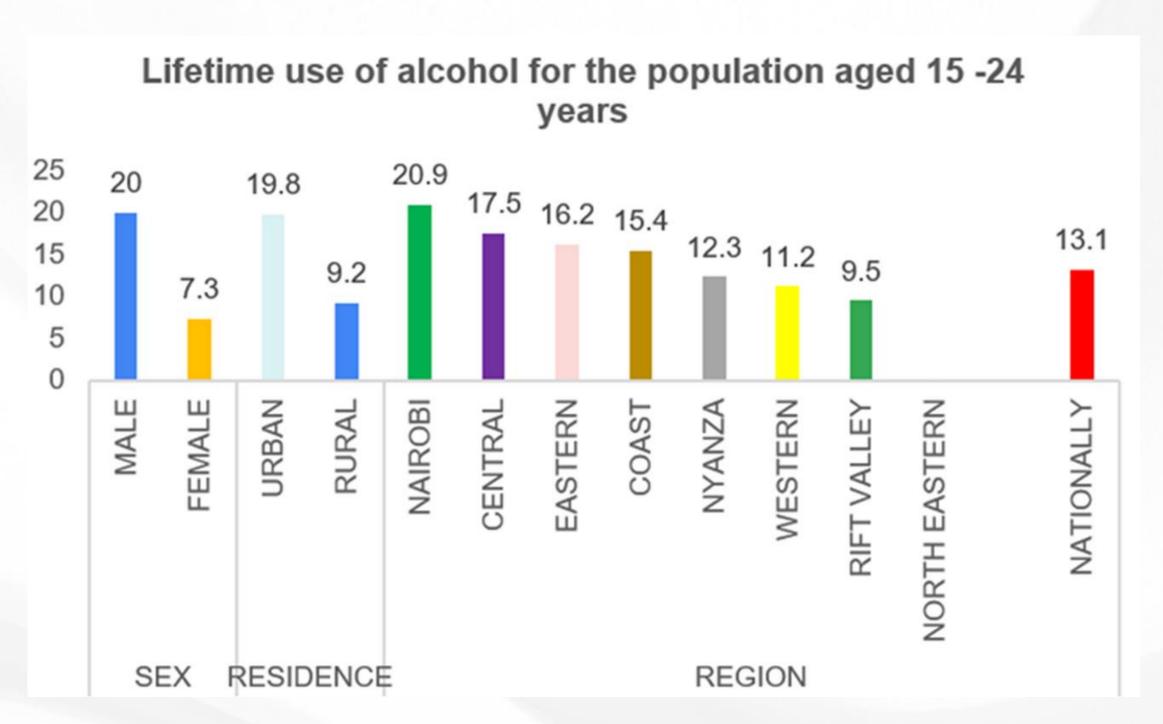
#### **VISION**

**Sober Communities** 



#### THE CHALLENGE OF ALCOHOL USE AMONG CHILDREN IN KENYA

- (NACADA 2022) alcohol remains the most commonly abused substance in Kenya, with illicit brews like becoming more accessible due to their low cost.
- Around 1 in 6 Kenyans between the ages of 15 and 65 currently use at least one drug
- In households affected by alcohol abuse, there is a higher prevalence of domestic violence
- For children, living with a parent or caregiver who abuses alcohol often results in neglect, emotional distress, and sometimes physical abuse.
- These experiences can lead to long-term psychological effects, academic struggles, and behavioral issues, setting a challenging foundation for their future well-being and development.



Source: NACADA 2022 Report

## **OUR INTERVENTION**

Life Skills Education

Beneficiaries: 64 schools, 3679 direct beneficiaries and 58783 indirect beneficiaries

#### **KEY LSE MODULES**

Understanding the Risks

How much is too much?

The Problem with Alcohol

My Own Advertisement





# SCHOOL GUIDELINES FOR ALCOHOL USE PREVENTION

 We have supported school policy development in 64 schools.

#### Thematic areas

- Supply Reduction
- Preventive Education
- Incident Management
- counselling, Treatment and Support

## **OUR INTERVENTION**

#### **ALCOHOL & WASH Education**

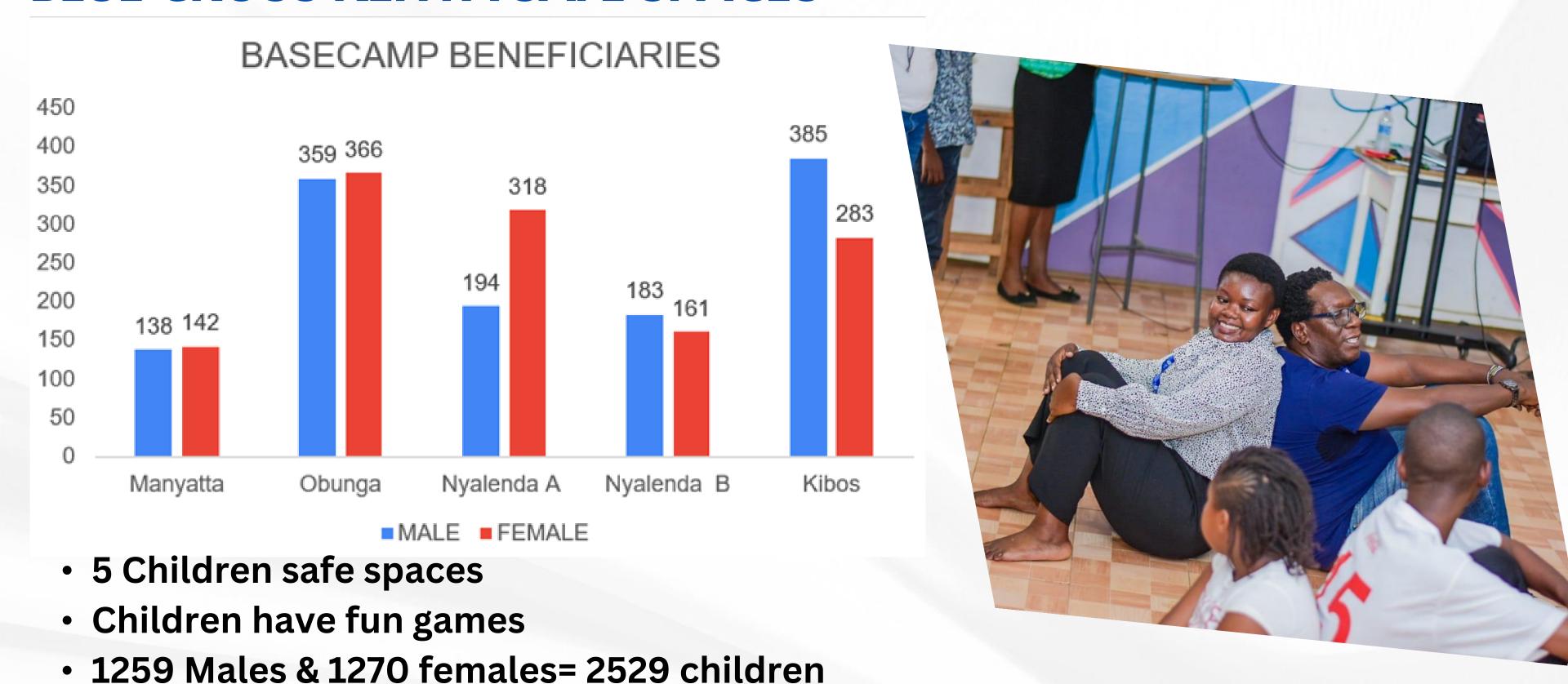
Beneficiaries: 5 schools, 600 direct beneficiaries and 3775 indirect beneficiaries

#### **KEY LSE MODULES**

- Alcohol Prevention awareness
- Humanitarian Assistance slums
- WASH trainings



#### **BLUE CROSS KENYA SAFE SPACES**

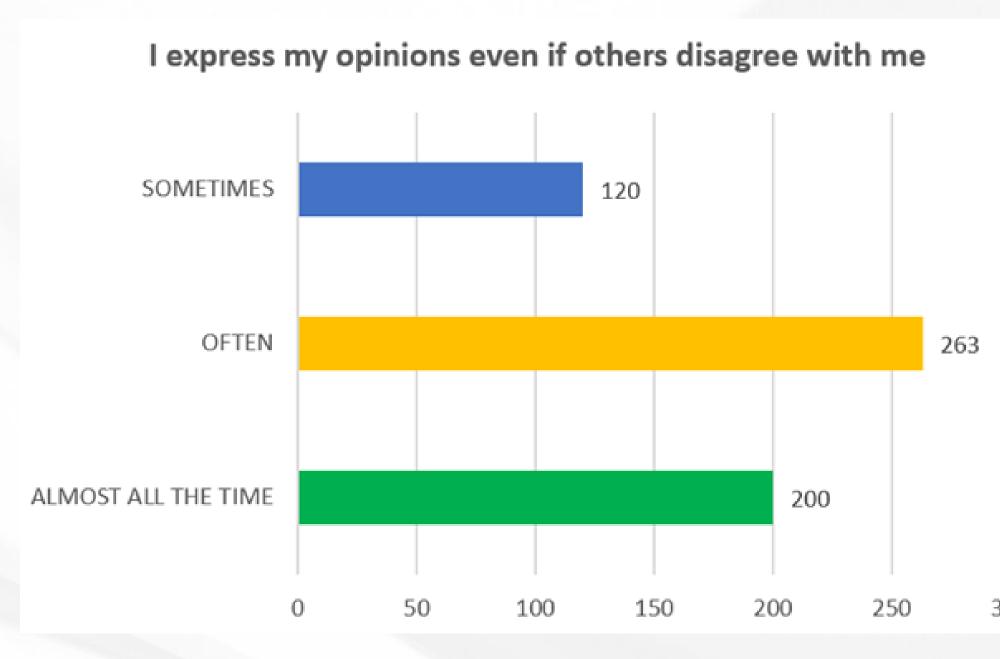


Children taught on decision-making, Communication, advocacy and Human rights

#### **EVIDENCE BASED FINDINGS**

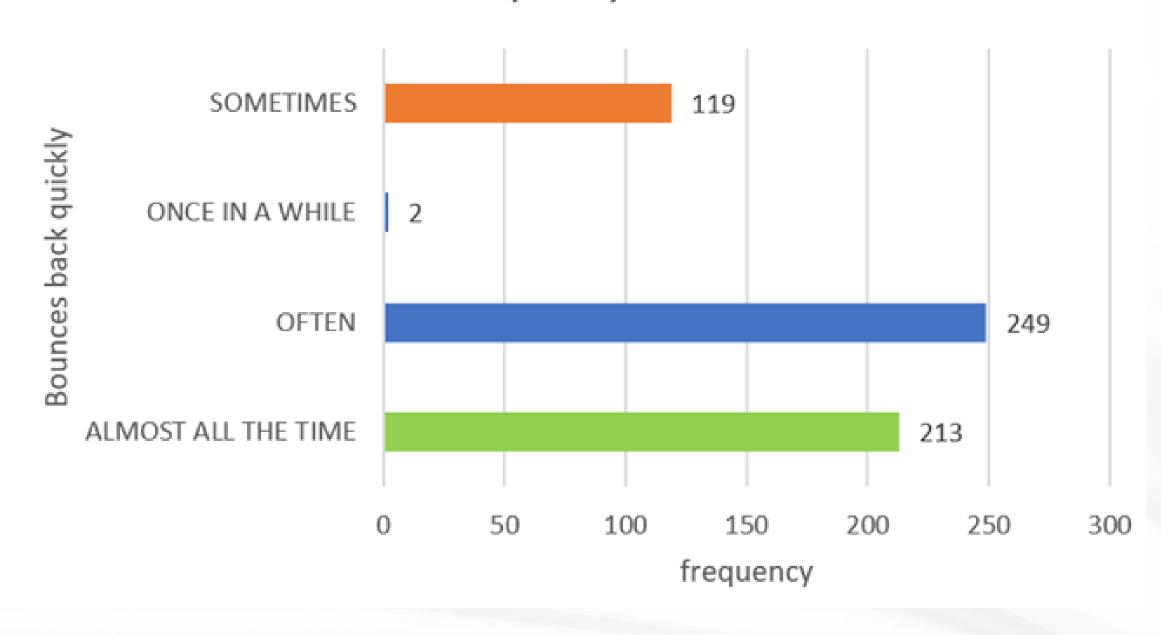
#### COMMUNICATION

263 beneficiaries often expressed their opinions even if others disagreed with them, beneficiaries almost all the time expressed opinions even if others disagreed with them while 120 beneficiaries sometimes expressed their opinions even if others disagreed with them



#### **EVIDENCE BASED FINDINGS**

#### I bounce back quickly after hard times

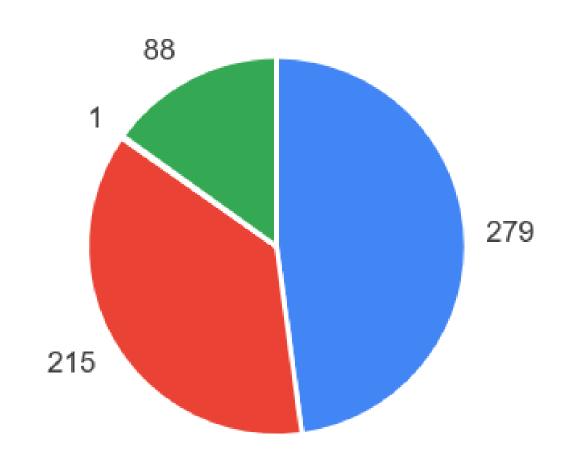


#### RESILIENCE

Beneficiaries developed resilience skills. 249 of them responded that they often bounce back quickly after hard situations in their lives, 213 almost all the time were able to bounce back while 119 sometimes were resilient from hard situations.

#### **EVIDENCE BASED FINDINGS**

## When I see someone being taken advantage of, I want to help.





#### **ADVOCACY**

279 beneficiaries almost all the time want to help their friends faced with who are disadvantageous situation.215 beneficiaries often want to help their friends who are faced with disadvantageous situation while 88 beneficiaries sometimes want to help their friends who are faced with disadvantageous situation. This shows how beneficiaries take proactive roles in supporting others and standing up fairness in their communities.

#### CALL TO ACTION

Establish community-led enhance or prevention programs focused on reducing alcohol access and influence around children and youth.

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Encourage ongoing research to monitor the effectiveness of alcohol control policies and assess the social and health impacts of alcohol exposure on children.

Introduce age-appropriate alcohol education programs in schools that include both preventive education and life skills training, equipping children to make informed decisions and resist peer pressure

Advocate for legislation that specifically addresses the needs of children, such as stricter penalties for alcohol sales to minors, advertising restrictions, and public health campaigns focused on family wellness



## THANK YOU

