



*“We aspire, in conjunction with the Mukuru community, to establish and operate, a holistic and sustainable health, educational and social development program which will address the basic needs of the most vulnerable groups in the community.”*

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# Mission and Vision

## Vision statement

In partnership with the Mukuru community, Tofauti envisions:

**"The Mukuru Community attaining sustainable and holistic human development and self-reliance."**

## Mission statement

In the spirit and charisma of Catherine McAuley and the Sisters of Mercy and in partnership with stakeholders, Mukuru Promotion Centre will:

**"Provide early childhood development and education, secondary education, vocational skills, social rehabilitation and health services to the Mukuru community"**



## Company Overview

Mukuru Promotion Centre (MPC) is incorporated as a Charitable Trust. The Trustees are the members of the Kenyan Province Leadership Team of the Sisters of Mercy. Our scope covers:

- Four primary schools for over 5,000 children
- A secondary school
- A rehabilitation centre for up to 60 street boys
- A medical clinic with a HIV/AIDS testing centre attached
- A community based health care program
- A skills training centre for over 100 students, and
- A sponsorship programme to secondary schools for more than 200 children.

# The Mukuru Slums

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The slums of Mukuru are home to over 400,000 people. Most of these people have left their rural homes because of poverty and came to the city in the hope of finding work. Some are successful but the majority, being unskilled and uneducated, remain jobless. They live in very poor shacks made from cardboard or plastic material while those who are a little better off have houses made from corrugated iron sheets. These one-roomed houses are approximately ten by ten feet and have no sanitation or running water. There is no waste collection and most of the waste, household and other, goes directly into the nearby river.

Current statistics show that over 60% of Nairobi's population live in slum conditions. Slum dwellers pay rent for their shacks to landlords who 'own' the land. The amount varies from US \$12-25 per month depending on the location of the house. There is no space for children to play. There are no recreation facilities for adults or children with the exception of bars, video shops, pool tables. Many turn to local brew, drugs and crime, against this background, MPC is making an impact implementing a holistic program of education, health and social development components in collaboration with the Mukuru community.

# INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

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## 1. Primary School Education



### ST CATHERINE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Has an enrolment of about 1000 children. It is situated on the same site as the Mary Immaculate Clinic and the Mary Immaculate Rehabilitation Centre. Before the advent of free primary education in January 2003, the cost of sending children to primary school was prohibitive. Because few families in the slums could afford the school fees, children were sent to the streets to sell groundnuts or to get money for food by any means possible.

Although primary education is now financially supported by the Government of Kenya, there is still insufficiency of teachers. Hence interns are requested to help in the teaching of the kids as part of their internship program. The subjects include maths, English, science and social studies.

In addition, the school system in Kenya is very exam orientated. This is difficult for the slum children because of the lack of facilities and stimulation at home. MPC has introduced Child-Centred Education where the emphasis is on the individual child, the building of self-esteem, learning through play and discovery, and a positive approach through music, art and acrobatics.

## 2. Mary Immaculate Rehabilitation Centre



The Mary Immaculate Rehabilitation Centre was established in 1995 for the many street children who were wandering and living on the streets of the adjacent Industrial Area. Now, with the opening of the new dormitory, we cater for up to 65 boys who participate in a one year long program. The intern is to conduct non-formal primary teaching for those for whom it is appropriate, and carpentry and art for the older boys. After lunch they engage in extracurricular activities; art, music, football, gardening, scouting and some craft work. Tackling the habit of substance abuse is a challenge for most of the boys in the program. Group and individual counselling is an integral part of the internship and is carried out on a very regular basis.

The goal of the internship is to re-integrate the boys to family (if possible) or to a meaningful life off the streets, in boarding school or in employment.

During their 12 months in the Rehabilitation Centre, the social workers contact the relatives of the children and prepare them for their children's return. Some extend a warm welcome to the children while others are not so receptive. These are the ones that continue to offer challenges to the staff because the integration to a regular life-style becomes more difficult without family support.



### 3. Mary Immaculate Clinic



Initially, the Mary Immaculate Clinic was set up to cater for the families of the children who attend the primary schools. Now, the Clinic is open to all residents of the Mukuru villages. Approximately 100 people from the slum area attend the clinic daily. There is a minimum charge of US \$0.50 for each visit. Services include general preventive and curative medicine, maternal and child health, (including prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV) and an anti-malnutrition unit, which is staffed by professionals from St Elizabeth School of Community Health and Social Work in Slovakia.

#### **Nurse Manager with visitors**

The Clinic is staffed with a Nurse Manager; Clinical Officer; Nurses; Pharmacists; Laboratory Technicians and Support Staff. Mission for Essential Drugs Supply (MEDS), which is a church-based organization, supplies the drugs and they ensure quality low cost drugs to its customers.

#### **In the Waiting Bay**

With the escalation of HIV AIDS among the population, a Voluntary Counselling and Testing Centre was established in January 2004. This centre offers free HIV/AIDS counselling and testing to the people in the surrounding slums. HIV positive persons are referred to the Comprehensive Care Clinic (CCC) at the Mater Hospital which is a neighbouring hospital also under the care of the Sisters of Mercy. At the CCC all patients receive free treatment, support and care for themselves and their families