

A.FE.SA.DE (Association des Femmes pour la Sante et le Development) created in November 2007

Women's Association for Health and Development

Working with the orphans of HIV / AIDS victims in the City of Aru, Province Orientale, Democratic Republic of Congo.

THE VISION

AFESADE gives hope, support, health and educational promotion and developmental assistance to vulnerable orphan children. It offers activities such as weekly retreats for the children and monthly training for their carers.

THE PROGRAMME

Working in collaboration with IPASC, AFESADE identified 350 children (by the end of 2008) who were in need of support as a result of the psychosocial effects of HIV/AIDS¹. 250 of the children were supported only by their mothers, who were unable to provide for them. Of those children tested, 10 were found to be HIV positive. 200 of the children are of school age and 150 are pre-school age.

Of the children identified, 167 were found who needed educational, emotional and practical support. Unfortunately, only 122 could be provided for and the other 45 dropped out of the program.

The initial result of the programme achieved:

- More parental accountability towards financial provision of their child's education
- Reconciliation and improved living conditions for children living with carers other than a parent
- General improvement in the wellbeing of the children under the care of AFESADE.

Members of AFESADE personally support 8 children who would otherwise be unable to access education.

¹ Psychosocial effects of HIV/AIDS describe the feelings and reactions experienced by children and young people when they are affected by HIV/AIDS in some way.

MEMBERS

President: Dorcas Ndjangusi



Vice President: Claire N'Chwekise



Secretary: Fifi Bakaswara

Counselling and Trauma: Cathy Faida

Training: Clementine Amory

Treasurer: Alain Kaswara (IPASC)

ACTIVITIES

Orphans Retreat:

Held at IPASC headquarters, Aru, the orphans retreat helps children who have lost their parents to develop life skills in a safe environment. The emphasis of the teaching is spiritual, learning about supporting their peers based on sound Christian teaching.



Taking part in Woman's Day – March 2008:

