



EDUCATING THE YOUTH TO FIGHT POVERTY

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BACKGROUND

- MDG number one aims at eradicating extreme poverty and hunger followed by MDG number two aiming at achieving universal primary education for all by the year 2015.
- In this spirit, the government of Kenya introduced free primary education in the year 2003.



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- Kawangware mentorship centre was established in the year 2012, by a group of University students, with the support of CHEPs Kenya.
- The aim is to provide mentorship to children in academic, social and life skills, health and career development.
- Why KCPE candidates?

METHODOLOGY

- Considering my medical background, I volunteer to mentor the students in science, medical career guidance, life and social skills.
- Factors incorporated to improve performance;
 - crash course - 2/3 Of the year
 - intense past-papers revision- 1/3
 - Competition
 - performance appraisals
- Multiple discussions and workshops are held on life and social skills.



CHEPs

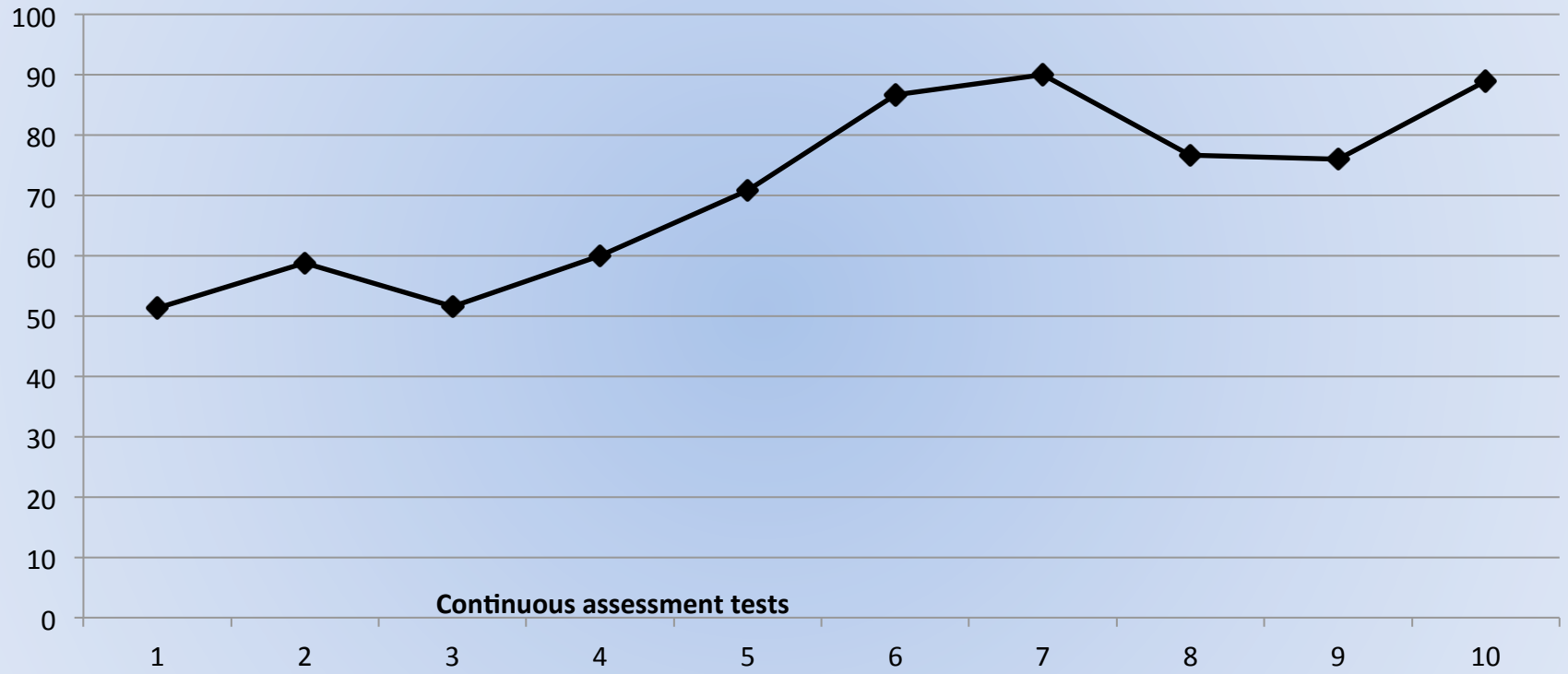
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RESULTS

- Steady improvements in academic performance, confidence, social behavior, time utilization, and career aspirations are recorded along the year.
- This was also noted through the parents' views during a prize giving day early this year.

An example of academic progress monitoring graph, 2013

Class average marks(%)



Continuous assessment tests



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DISCUSSION

- Kawangware is one of the largest slums in Nairobi, with hundreds of thousands of residents, many of whom live on less than \$1 a day ¹
- Lack of quality education results in rampant unemployment encouraging idle sitting, drug abuse, risky sexual behavior, and insecurity.



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¹<http://www.leeonenessfoundation.com/projects/kawangware>

- This has major impacts on the way of life to the children of Kawangware, undermining their dreams and aspirations, and resulting in their adoption of the same.
- Education is a key factor to break this cycle of poverty and social challenges.
- Furthermore, social and health education has helped to discourage the children from joining youth gangs or indulge in social challenges as has been repeatedly attested by their parents.



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CONCLUSION

- Holistic mentorship addressing academic, career guidance, and life and social skills can go a long way in breaking the cycle of poverty.