



Chalan Foundation

Lighting Hope

Baseline Survey Findings

About Us

Founded in 2013, Chalan Foundation works to transform the lives of vulnerable learners and youth through education, life skills, and community empowerment. We operate across 10 underserved counties (sub-nationals), reaching over 121,000 learners through six program pillars. We focus on scalable solutions that connect education to long-term opportunity and improved livelihoods anchored in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly education and gender equality.

Why the Baseline Matters

To understand the key barriers affecting learners and inform evidence-based programming. Conducted across **51 schools in 10 underserved counties; Turkana, Samburu, Homa Bay, Bomet, Baringo, Bungoma, West Pokot, Kajiado, Kitui and Nandi County.** The insights from the survey will enable Chalan Foundation design targeted interventions that improve school retention and educational impact.

Baseline Survey Key Findings

Our Baseline Survey identified real barriers to education



612

Learners



51

Schools



200+

Caregivers

1



Access and Retention crisis

- 48% of learners miss full school weeks
- 43% miss school 1–2 weeks per term
- 58% of absenteeism is due to school fees
 - 45% of learners come from non-intact households

2



Learning Environment Gap

- 28% of learners are in classes with over 60 students
- Only 26% have full textbooks
 - 80% of labs are under equipped
- 53% of computer labs are non-functional

3



Psychosocial and Lifeskills needs

- Life skills index: 3.2/5 baseline
- Emotional regulation lowest at 2.7
- 38% of learners are unable to solve real-life problems
- 13% of learners have no mentor



Safety and Gender Barriers

- 1/3 of girls miss school due to menstruation and poverty
- Only 21% access sanitary pads
- 57% report theft, 26% bullying
- Only 5% report abuse to counselors



Digital skills and Future Pathways Gap

- 93% of learners want digital skills
 - 33% cannot type
 - 37% cannot use email
- 52% have never exposed to STEAM
 - Only 4% have accessed

Impact and Outcomes

- Evidence-driven targeting of vulnerable learners
- Refined program design & improved Theory of Change
- Enhanced optimized resource allocation
- Mapping intervention strategies and prioritization
- Foundation for measuring impact through midline & endline assessments
- Enhanced policy dialogue & alignment with key stakeholders

Challenges:

- Structural poverty affecting attendance and retention
- Weak integration of existing infrastructure
- Under-resourced psychosocial and life skills support
- Gender disparities (menstrual health, safety risks)
- Limited ICT access, digital inequality, data gaps

Opportunities:

- High learner motivation and caregiver commitment to education
- Potential for integrated, multi-sectoral interventions
- Scaling life skills, mentorship & psychosocial support programs
- Investment in low-cost digital & STEAM solutions
- Strengthening county partnerships & community engagement
- Leveraging baseline data for partnerships, funding, and impact tracking



Join Us In Lighting Hope

Let's Build Together

Partner, Collaborate, Invest and Support.

We invite partners and investors to scale our impact in advancing inclusive, equitable, and sustainable development for children and young people.

Through our multi-sectoral programs, we have reached thousands of learners across multiple counties, improving retention, well being, and opportunity pathways. With strategic investment, we can deepen this impact, reach more underserved communities, and build resilient education systems that ensure every child not only accesses school, but thrives.



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