

## **Abstract:**

The community capacity support cash transfer project was implemented in 13 districts in Kenya. The selection of these districts was based on the vulnerability of this district to orphan-hood. This study was undertaken in Bondo District, which is one of the implementing districts. This study sought to find out the effectiveness of the orphan support project on ~ducation of the beneficiary orphans in Bondo. It focused on 30 selected orphans, and their matched counterparts, the 3.Q non-orphans, who acted as the control group. To achieve this objective the survey looked at various components of the programme. The study investigated the frequency of school attendance by the supported orphans, and academic performance rates among other indicators vis-a-vis the contribution that community-based orphan support projects in Bondo has made in averting the negative situation in regard to these indicators on the orphans. The study was guided by empowerment theory, while noting that the concept of empowerment resides in the person, and not the helper. Empowerment refers to increasing the spiritual, political, social and economic strength of individuals or communities. In this study the Cash transfer provided linked the orphans to resources which enhance their self esteem and provides them with abilities to improve their lives. Both quantitative and qualitative data were collected from the orphaned children supported by the community capacity support project. These supported orphans were matched with their counterparts, the non orphans of the same level of schooling. The non orphans were selected from the school register. Other data were collected through Focus Group Discussions using interview guide and these were analyzed using Statistical Package of Social Science (SPSS) software and Microsoft excel package. The main findings of the study showed that community participation played an effective role in enhancing the wellbeing of the beneficiary households. The study also showed a remarkable improvement in school performance by the supported orphans as a result of the project. From these findings I would like to recommend to all the agencies providing support to the orphans and vulnerable children to consider using this approach in addressing the needs of the orphans and vulnerable children.