

**Contribution of Children's Homes in Addressing Needs of Orphaned and Vulnerable Children in
Tanzania
A Case of Moshi Municipality
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The study was conducted with the aim of assessing the contribution made by children's homes in addressing the needs of orphaned and vulnerable children (OVC) in Moshi Municipality, Tanzania. The objectives were to assess the children's needs offered by the children's homes, examine the obstacles faced and determine the strategies for improving the performance of these homes. Three children's homes were selected (Amani Children's Home, Moshi Christian Children's Home and Treasures of Africa Children's Home). The study employed a cross-sectional survey design where both quantitative and qualitative approaches were used. Both primary and secondary data were used in this study. Primary data were collected from 75 respondents (58 children and 17 staff members) and three key respondents (social welfare officers) using interview and questionnaire. At the same time secondary data were collected from children's homes documents. Previous research reports, journals and books were also used in this study. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics. The three children's homes operated in accordance with the Tanzania's Children's Homes Regulation of 2012. The findings indicated that the sampled children's homes were playing a major role in addressing the needs of OVC in terms of providing food, shelter, education, healthcare, and safety, spiritual and recreational needs. It was also revealed that these homes highly depended on international donors, which made it difficult to maintain their standard and sustainability. It is recommended that strategies like sensitizing the community to contribute towards the welfare of the OVC as well as strengthening these homes' partnership with other organisations could be vital for their performance and sustainability.