Railway Children Africa

Emotional support for economic gain
Railway Children Africa

- Significant numbers of children alone on the streets
- Children have often experienced extreme violence and trauma
- Partner projects were unable to engage with many of these children
- Attempted to learn lessons from Juconi (Mexico)
- Eco-systemic family support packages developed including economic strengthening elements
- Key ingredient development of therapeutic relationship with project worker
- On going training provided from Juconi
Railway Children Africa

We fight for children living on the streets
• First economic inputs provided too soon
• Only after 18 months she could start to consider taking on a job or business
• Pilot phase in Nairobi showed significant decrease in levels of violence, improved relationships, improved health
• Families in Mwanza show increase in number of meals each day from 53% to 5% on one meal a day
• Juconi have SROI of $10 for every $1 invested
• Initial indications are that the approach developed in Mexico can be applicable in Africa
• Shift from ‘What’s wrong with you?’ – to ‘What happened to you?’ – this is possible anywhere
I never believed that anyone would ever care for me as much as you have? I had completely given up hope on myself and my child, I am so happy now about my future

- young mother who gave birth on the streets in Mwanza

‘If a society values its children, it much cherish their parents’

-Bowlby