VisAbility Kenya: Making the Invisible, Visible

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**VisAbility Kenya: Making the Invisible, Visible**

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**Goal**
- To promote the inclusion and rights of individuals with mental illness

**Objectives**
- To create a volunteer network encompassing university students to conduct group recreational activities
- To create inclusive spaces within the town of Machakos, Kenya
- To increase awareness about mental health needs, rights, and outcomes

**Project Activities**
- Summer Institute
- Community Fundraisers
- Volunteer Recruitment & Training
- Group Recreational Activities
- Knowledge Exchange
- Volunteer Appreciation
- Program Evaluation
- New Project Developments

**Outcomes & Evaluation**

**Volunteer-Related Outcomes**
- Student/volunteer engagement and retention
- Increased awareness and capacity to support people with disabilities

**Program-Related Outcomes**
- Create inclusive community spaces
- Promote meaningful activity and connection

**Evaluation Methods**
- Interviews, focus groups, pre/post surveys, satisfaction questionnaire

**Learning & Development**
- Networking; stakeholder engagement; presentation skills; community development; cultural humility; social innovation; team work

"The institute taught me how to position myself as an agent of positive social change, something that I have always wanted to be, but never necessarily knew how to become." — J. Carswell

"To summarize the Summer Institute, I come back to the Swahili word ubuntu, meaning 'I am because we are' — this embodies everything I feel when I think of Global MINDS." — B. Jackson

"Global MINDS created for us a space to practice creativity, which helped me realize the potential each one of us bring to addressing real world struggles. Having been able to use my ideas alongside other amazing ideas in proposing a solution for a global struggle, was such a humbling yet exciting experience" — T. Benjamin-Thomas

**Project Challenges**
- Stakeholder engagement
- Coordinating schedules
- Creation of realistic volunteer training program
- Creation of online presence
- Continuation of project momentum

**Sustainability & Growth**
- Student/volunteer recruitment
- Secure external funding (government, international, academic fundraising)
- Collaboration with stakeholders
- Utilization of free and accessible community spaces
- Expand to communities beyond Machakos, Kenya
- Expand volunteer recruitment to community members

"They should be given opportunity...they have their views, they have their own ideas to share”

— Machakos community member

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