

Voices of Change

Stories from the field



Over the years, we have heard stories of change, we have seen mothers demand for change, we have witnessed communities taking charge of their children's rights and we have observed change at multiple levels. This section highlights some of the stories that have been documented by partners in the learning cohort over the past three years. Through these stories, we see individuals and communities taking bold steps, starting the right conversations and leading change in their lives. The stories are not told as isolated cases, but to exemplify the wider opportunities and challenges we encounter in preventing and responding to violence against children.

Creating a compelling narrative and hearing stories of change are a cornerstone of our learning culture as a cohort. These narratives represent an attempt to better understand initiatives around prevention and reduction of Violence Against Children (VAC) in East Africa. Listening to firsthand accounts enables us to view situations similar to our own and around us through a different lens. This section includes testimonies that feature individuals and communities that enhance our reflections around the work that we do as organisations. Each story takes you through different journeys of challenges, crises and successes. Furthermore, these stories are a booster for all of us to continue in our line of work despite the obstacles.

As you read these real stories, consider two questions:

- *How is the story similar to your own situation?*
- *What tips do you see here for your own work?*