Coordinating Education Transitional Services for Adolescent Orphan Girls in Zimbabwe "A Community Systems Framework"

Pamhidzayi Berejena Mhongera Center for Universal Education | Brookings Institution June 29, 2012



Outline:

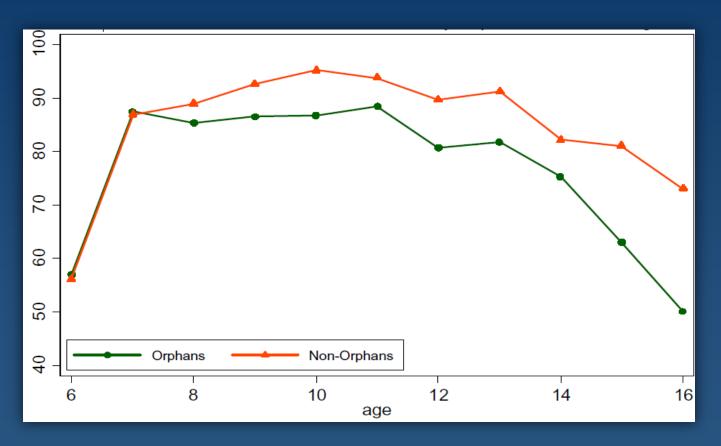
- 1. Overview of OVC
- 2. Challenges affecting OVC's education
- 3. Community Assessment Study: Mufakose
- 4. Intervention: Community Transition Agency

State of OVC in Zimbabwe

- 1.4 million orphaned due to AIDS in Zimbabwe;
- Over 1 million OVC out of Secondary School;
- HIV infection higher for orphaned girls.

Source: UNICEF 2011, 2012

Low enrollment & attendance for OVC



Source: Gundersen, Kelly and Jemison 2004

Government and NGO Responses

OVC not accessing school fees and psychosocial support due to:

- Poor coordination at community level;
- Insufficient funding for programs;
- Ineffective community case management system.

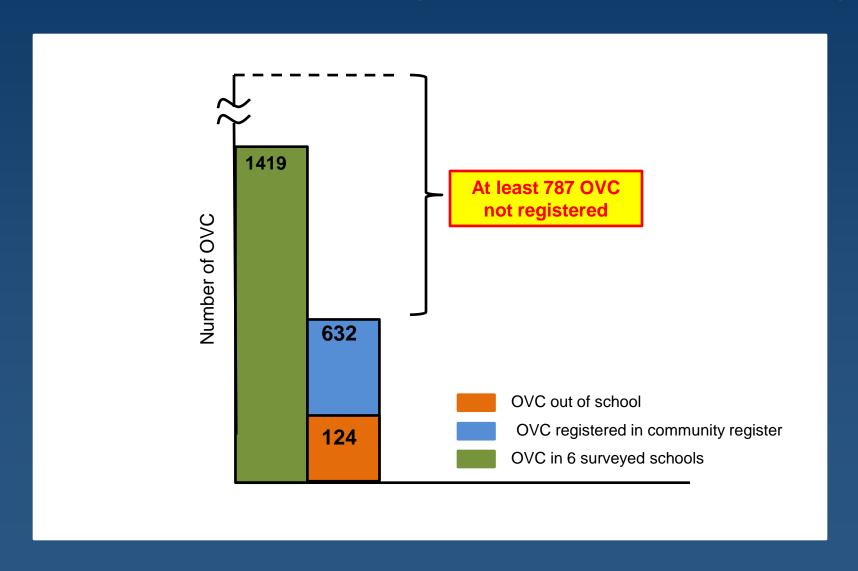
If OVCs are not on the register they <u>cannot</u> receive services

Mufakose Community

- BCC operates in the community;
- Highly populated, poor & urban;
- Many grandparents care for OVC;
- 9 primary & 5 secondary schools



Mufakose Case Study-OVC Service Delivery



Main Research Findings

- At least 787 OVC are falling through the social services cracks;
- Increased absenteeism at secondary level;
- Late and non-payment of fees for OVC;
- Schools not providing counselling services.

Transition Services

Coordinated activities designed within a result-oriented process and the benefits include:

- Evidence-based
- Increased advocacy
- Aid- effective
- Child-centered
- Build resilience



Intervention



Coordination at Community Systems Level

Out-ofschool OVC

Case Management + Advocacy

Increased Enrollment

In school OVC

Case Management + Counseling

Increased Retention

Result: All OVC are enrolled and make the transition to secondary school.



Thank You! Mazvita!