



PACS
OFFENDERS CAN CHANGE



COMMUNITY SERVICE ORDERS PROGRAMME

PAMPHLET

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ABOUT US

INTRODUCTION

Probation and Aftercare Service is a criminal justice agency in the State Department for Correctional Services, Ministry of Interior and National Administration, Kenya.

Probation and Aftercare Service provides community correctional Services countrywide, and is committed to reforming lives and building safer communities. We driven by the belief that individuals have in themselves the ability to change.

MANDATE

Probation and Aftercare Service derives its main mandate from the Probation of Offenders Act CAP 64 and the Community Service Orders Act CAP 93 in relation to management of offenders in the community and provision of social inquiry reports

VISION

A just, safe, secure and crime-free society.

MISSION

To Promote and enhance the administration of justice, community safety and public protection through provision of social inquiry reports, supervision and reintegration of non-custodial offenders, victim support and social crime prevention.

CORE VALUES

Probation and Aftercare Service is committed to courtesy and excellence in service delivery and is guided by the following core values:

- Fairness
- Respect for human dignity
- Reliability
- Confidentiality
- Integrity
- Professionalism

WHAT IS COMMUNITY SERVICE ORDERS?

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Community service orders is a non-custodial sentence whereby a person who has committed an offence whose sentence is less than three (3) years is ordered to perform unpaid public work instead of being sentenced to prison. This work must be for the community and beneficial to the public, no one should work in private establishments. Some of the projects that offenders may be ordered to perform community service work include afforestation, building and road constructions. Cleaning public parks and streets and maintaining water holes, etc. As for professionals such as teachers, doctors, masons, carpenters may be assigned to schools, hospitals and building sites.

WHO MAY BE SENTENCED TO COMMUNITY SERVICE?

An offender whose offence does not trigger public outcry and whose offence does not carry more than three(3) years imprisonment qualifies to be placed on Community Service. Offences such as robbery with violence, rape, indecent assault, possession of narcotic drugs, do not qualify for this programme. The offender must have fixed abode and must be willing to perform community work and to follow the conditions of the order.

PROGRAMME GOAL

The programme's goal is humane treatment and rehabilitation of offenders through reparation and community participation.

WHAT ARE THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME?

The programme aims at:-

- Decongesting prisons and reducing government expenditure
- Involvement of community In rehabilitation and treatment of offenders
- Reparation through community work by the offender
- Ensuring family and community harmony as the offender continues in his/her normal duties of nation building.

BENEFITS OF CSO PROGRAMME

HOW IS THE PROGRAMME ADMINISTERED?

The programme is administered by a national community service committee under the chairmanship of a High Court Judge. The implementation is done through a National Executive Committee whose secretary is the National Community Service Orders Coordinator. The Coordinator is the “Chief Community Service Officer” of the programme. Under the National Coordinator, the programme has community service officers at court levels throughout the country. The community service officers form the basis upon which the programme is implemented. Every court has Case Committee chaired by the magistrate while the community service officer is the secretary. Members of this committee form the link between the Executive, Judiciary and the community. The programme is Judiciary driven but implemented by the probation and aftercare service with the community for the community.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE PROGRAMME?

- It is cost effective.
- It avoids stigmatization.
- It avoids contamination from hardcore criminals.
- It is a humane treatment of offenders.
- It helps to decongest prisons.
- It involves the community.
- It has reparation for the offended parties.
- It helps tap offenders’ skills for the community.
- It enables the offender to acquire work skills.

THE SCOPE (COVERAGE)

The programme covers the whole country.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

WHAT ARE THE DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE?

The Executive Committee is the implementing body of the National Committee. Its duties are:-

- Supervision of day to day running of the secretariat
- Collection, storage and dissemination of data
- Transmitting and advising Case Committees
- Educating and sensitizing public and criminal justice agencies on the purpose of the programme
- Coordinating with other agencies on matters relating to the programme

WHAT ARE THE DUTIES OF A COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICER?

A Community Service Officer is an officer of the court charged with duties of:-

- Preparing and providing pre-sentence reports to the court.
- Identifying suitable work places.
- Overseeing work and progress of offenders
- Ensuring Community Service Orders are complied with
- Applying for review of the orders to the court
- Facilitating and promoting reconciliation.
- Ensuring safety of offenders and community.

- Guarding against discriminatory practices
- Maintaining confidentiality of information
- Keeping records of offenders performance and appraisals
- Submitting periodical reports to relevant and appropriate Community Service Orders.
- Under the Community Service Orders Act, the probation officer doubles up as the Community Service officer.

WHO IS A COMMUNITY SERVICE SUPERVISOR?

A supervisor is the person who directly supervises the offender in his/her place of work. The supervisor is usually the head of the agency in which the offender works. The supervisor performs his/her duty under the direction of a community service officer and is non-paid agent.

WHAT DOES THE ORDER ENTAIL?

The order has conditions which must be followed by the offender under the direction of the community service officer and the supervision of community service supervisor.

The conditions are:

- Work as instructed in a responsible manner.
 - Co-operate with your supervisor and follow instructions.
 - Be of good behavior, honest and truthful
 - Work for the full session and remain on site until released by the supervisor
 - Report any change of employment or residence to the Community Service Officer and supervisor.
 - Attend appointments to discuss your progress with community service officer.
 - No association with people of questionable character
 - Abstain from over-indulgence in intoxicating substances
 - Reside in a place directed by the CS officer.
 - Any variation of instructions will only be done with knowledge of the Community Service Officer.
- Any other conditions as ordered.

CONTACT US

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