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# Improve your Advocacy Skills!

## PSS Project Partners:

1. Centre for Youth and Children Affairs (CEYCA), Malawi  
Network of Organizations for Vulnerable and Orphaned Children (NOVOC), Malawi  
Malawi Human Rights Resource Centre (MHRRC)  
PLAN Malawi

## How to Order the Manual

You can order one or more copies of *Advocacy for the Care, Protection and Support of Orphans and Vulnerable Children – Training Manual* by sending an email or letter to the publisher (see below), indicating the

## Publisher

Centre for Youth and Children Affairs (CEYCA)  
P.O. Box 30861, Lilongwe  
3, Malawi

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**Worldwide, numerous orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) do not fully enjoy their rights. They, for example, do not attend school and have no access to health care. Advocacy is a useful tool to improve the lives of these children.**

Leaders of civil society organisations and government representatives working on behalf of the care, protection and support of OVC are offered a great chance to upgrade their advocacy skills. A practical guide is now available for trainers and participants in training programmes: *Advocacy for the Care, Protection and Support of Orphans and Vulnerable Children - Training Manual*.

Although the manual was developed in Malawi and frequently refers to facts and situations of this country, it is valuable in other countries as well.

## The Manual's Five Thematic Units

Step by step, users of the manual become more skilled at designing advocacy strategies on behalf of OVC. Relevant terms are explained and, in the 'Activities' sections, participants are encouraged to find solutions for specific challenges. Also references for further reading are given.

### **Unit 1: Advocacy**

What is 'advocacy'? And what are effective advocacy strategies? This Unit stimulates participants to design advocacy strategies for the benefit of OVC. It also defines lobbying as a form of advocacy.

### **Unit 2: Child Rights**

Which treaties guarantee the human rights of children? This Unit presents existing child rights treaties, such as the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of Children. Also definitions of 'child' and 'child rights' are given.

### **Unit 3: Economic, Social and Cultural Challenges for OVC in Malawi**

What are specific challenges for OVC? This Unit lists and explains a number of them, such as child labour, prostitution, incest, and HIV/AIDS.

### **Unit 4: Resources Mobilisation and Fundraising**

How can we enthuse people to invest time and money in actions on behalf of OVC? Unit 4 focuses on effective strategies for resource mobilisation and fundraising.

### **Unit 5: Psychosocial Support**

Why do OVC need tailor-made psychosocial support? Unit 5 explores different types of psychosocial challenges for OVC, such as the death of parents, as well as appropriate interventions.

Malawi, September 2010

**Reach Out! Orphans and other Vulnerable Children is the reason we exist.**