INFLUENCE OF RESOURCES, KNOWLEDGE, CAPACITY BUILDING AND COOPERATION IN DELIVERY OF QUALITY EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION SERVICES IN KWALE COUNTY, KENYA.

By

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E83/15333/2005

DEPARTMENT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES

A RESEARCH PROPOSAL SUBMITTED FOR THE PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION, KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

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DECLARATION

This proposal is my original work and has not been presented for a degree in any University/institution for consideration.

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We confirm that the work reported in this proposal was carried out by the candidate under our supervision as university supervisors.

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ABSTRACT

Provision of quality Services in the Early Childhood Development and Education (ECDE) sector is crucial as it promotes effective growth and development of young children in their formative years. The District Centre for Early Childhood Education (DICECE) has the responsibility of facilitating quality ECDE services. It is charged with the supervision and assessment of pre-school teachers, capacity building, mobilization of local communities and parents and development of localized curriculum among other activities. The success of delivering quality services is assumed to be determined by various factors. It is not known whether some of the factors thought to influence delivery of quality services which include: resources, knowledge in ECDE, capacity building programs, support and co-operation between the DICECE officers and other stakeholders are available in Kwale County. The purpose of this study is therefore to investigate and examine whether these factors influence delivery of quality ECDE services in Kwale County. There is need for this study to be conducted so that any hindrances that exist in facilitating delivery of quality ECDE services may be unearthed and addressed. The findings of the study may also assist not only Kwale County but also other County Governments in their obligations to ensure delivery of quality ECDE services. This study will adopt the descriptive survey design to investigate and examine these factors said to be influencing delivery of quality ECDE services. The design will be used as it is an efficient method of collecting data regarding characteristics of the population, current practices and conditions of needs. It also gathers information from relatively large cases of samples hence cutting down on cost. In this proposed study the independent variables are, available resources, knowledge in ECDE, capacity building programmes for parents and cooperation between DICECE officers and other education officials while the dependent variable is quality ECDE services. The study population will be DICECE officers/trainers and the parents in all the ECDE Centers in Kwale county. Probability sampling will be utilized to draw a representative sample of parents while all the DICECE officers will be included in the study as the population is small. A sample size of 120 parents will be selected using stratified sampling with proportions. Questionnaires will be used for the DICECE officers while an interview schedule will be used for the parents. Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) will be used to organize data for analysis. Qualitative data will be analyzed qualitatively.