

## *Strengthening health interventions to secure livelihoods*

The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

**Matthew 18: 10-11**

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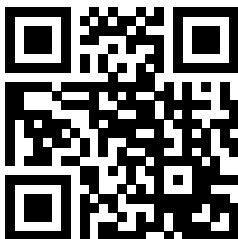
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## Our Mission



Releasing Children from poverty in Jesus' name

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## Our Vision



As a result of our ministry to children in poverty, Compassion will be trusted by the Church worldwide as the leading authority for holistic child development and will be the global benchmark for excellence in child sponsorship.

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## Core Values



Integrity

Discernment

Dignity

Stewardship

Excellence

# Health is Wealth



*Most people equate health to the absence of disease. Although this is true, health is a crucial resource that promotes a person's social, economic, and personal development. Households and communities facing health challenges will often have their livelihoods compromised.*

**W**orld Health Day theme, **Our Planet, Our Health**, serves as a timely reminder of the inextricable link between the planet and our health. The burden of non-communicable and infectious diseases rises alongside the growing incidence of climate-related challenges. In the midst of a pandemic, a polluted planet, increasing diseases like cancer, asthma, and heart disease, actions are needed to keep humans and the planet healthy and foster a movement to create societies focused on well-being.

Health is underpinned by all the activities that Compassion International undertakes. Compassion Kenya has identified different intervention areas to safeguard the health of our program participants and their caregivers.

One of the intervention areas is maternal and newborn health. It is shown that a child's long-term health and development are influenced by what happens when they are in the womb and during the first three years of life. Our survival program helps us work with vulnerable expectant mothers and young children. This is a great foundation to enable children to achieve holistic development.

Another health pillar that Compassion Kenya is addressing is HIV/AIDS. The National AIDS Control Council reports that over 1, 435, 271 Kenyans live with HIV. Our program implements HIV/AIDS treatment interventions that safeguard the well-being of our program participants and their caregivers. Through this intervention, Kshs 10 million is disbursed monthly for nutritional support and ARVs.

Compassion Kenya also enables Universal Health Coverage (UHC) for our program participants living with chronic illnesses. We contribute 100% premium input to the NHIF scheme and county insurance covers. This enables our children to access quality and specialized care within Kenya or abroad.

We also have proactive measures to help communities access clean water and sanitation by constructing wells and latrines. We are currently working with our church partners to develop practical mental health and drug abuse solutions.

Through these ongoing health intervention efforts, our program participants and their caregivers' productivity is safeguarded, improving their future and livelihoods.

*By Eugene Situma,  
Manager Program Support*



# Embracing Immunization to save Lives



*World Immunization Week is celebrated annually during the last week of April to promote the use of vaccines to protect people of all ages against disease. Immunization saves millions of lives and is recognized as one of the world's most successful and cost-effective health interventions.*

Immunization prevents debilitating illness, disability, and death from vaccine-preventable diseases such as diphtheria, hepatitis A and B, measles, mumps, pneumococcal disease, polio, rotavirus diarrhea, tetanus, and yellow fever.

Despite the benefit of immunization, millions of people are still missing out on the life-saving benefits of vaccines. The pandemic disrupted essential health services, including routine immunization, setting back progress by more than a decade.

Compassion International Kenya has put relentless efforts to ensure program participants under five years are fully immunized in partnership with Church Partners. We mirror the WHO primary care GOBI-FFP (Growth monitoring, oral rehydration, breastfeeding and immunization, female education, family spacing, and food supplementation) to enable caregivers to implement life-saving practices in their homes to prevent childhood illnesses that result in infant and child deaths.

Our immunization intervention protects children against

measles, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, tuberculosis, and polio, ensuring no child dies from a vaccine-treatable disease.

We have noticed a year-on-year decline in vaccine-preventable incidents. In FY 20, we recorded 332 vaccine-preventable incidents compared to 216 cases reported in FY21 and 192 cases reported in the current FY.

Comprehensive immunization education and increased utilization of antenatal and postnatal immunization services contributed to this growth.



## *What you should know about immunization*

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted routine immunization services. This increased the risk of vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks. Children who missed any immunization should be supported to get the catch-up vaccines.

Vaccination is a simple, safe, and effective way of protecting one against harmful diseases before contracting them. It uses the body's natural defense to build resistance to specific infections and strengthen the immune system. Vaccines train the immune system to create antibodies, just as it does when exposed to a disease. However, because vaccines contain only killed or weakened forms of germs like viruses or bacteria, they do not cause the disease or put you at risk of its complications.

### **Why should one get vaccinated?**

Vaccination does not only help us to protect ourselves but also protect those around us. It largely contributes to the protection of communities against otherwise fatal diseases. Not everyone can be vaccinated – such as those who are gravely ill or with specific

allergies – and they depend on others being vaccinated to ensure they are also safe from vaccine-preventable diseases.

### **Immunization of children under 5 years**

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), full immunization status is receiving all the essential childhood vaccinations by the end of 24 months after birth. Vaccination status is considered Up To Date (UTD) at 12 months if the child has received one dose of BCG received shortly after birth, three doses of triple vaccine for diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus (DTP) or pentavalent, three doses of polio received at 6, 10, and 14 weeks after birth respectively, and measles vaccinations at the age of 9 months.

### **Why should children get vaccinated?**

Immunization is a critical component of primary health care and an indisputable human right. Every child should be fully immunized for their age. Vaccines save millions of lives and prevent many debilitating diseases. No child should die from a vaccine-preventable disease.

*By Rachel Tabut  
Program Support Specialist*





# LOWERING THE MALARIA BURDEN AMONG FAMILIES



**M**any people take for granted the comfort of uninterrupted sleep. This is not always the case for people without mosquito nets in endemic and transmission malaria zones. Besides interrupted sleep, families living in these zones are at a high risk of malaria.

Malaria is a disease caused when the plasmodium parasite spreads to humans through the bite of an infected female *Anopheles* mosquito.

Children and pregnant women are at considerably higher risk of contracting malaria and

severe disease. According to World Malaria Reports, two-thirds of malaria-related deaths in 2020 were among children under five.

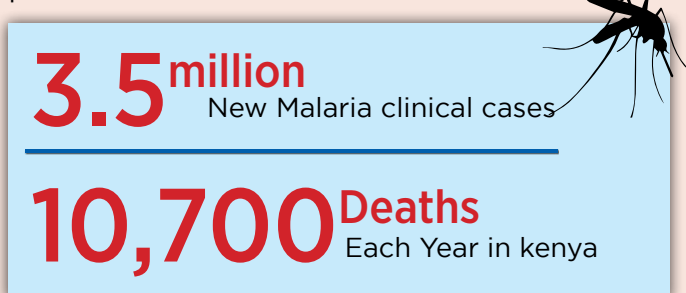
Center for Disease Control has reported an estimated 3.5 million new clinical cases and 10,700 deaths each year in Kenya. Our Medical Incidents Report approximates 235 children and youth are treated for malaria every month.

This data shows the need for consistent effort to reduce the malaria burden and save lives. Compassion International Kenya remains committed to

lowering malaria prevalence among our program participants and caregivers, especially in malaria-endemic zones.

Our proactive effort in Financial Year (FY) 21 targeted 66 Church partners in the endemic and transmission malaria zones. These clusters include Baringo-Marakwet, Homa Bay, Kilifi-Ganze, Laikipia, Marsabit, Migori, and Taita-Taveta.

The educational training by our health professionals enlightened our program participants about malaria presentation (signs and symptoms), the importance of seeking timely and appropriate treatment, environmental prevention of malaria, and how to use a mosquito net properly. 15,078 children and youth and 15,456 caregivers received comprehensive education on malaria prevention.



Compassion International Kenya has continually conducted monthly malaria training collaborating with different sub-county health facilities in partnership with the church. This has delivered sustainability of malaria prevention measures and promoted timely seeking of appropriate malaria treatment in every household. Annually, approximately 70,031 program participants and 79,200 caregivers receive comprehensive training on malaria prevention. Mosquito nets remain one of the most important ways to protect against malaria and other diseases spread by mosquitoes. Through this initiative, 35,652 Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLIN) were distributed to the families in the endemic zones. 17,826 children and youth from 81 Church partners benefited, with each receiving 2 mosquito nets per household.

The outcomes of this intervention include:

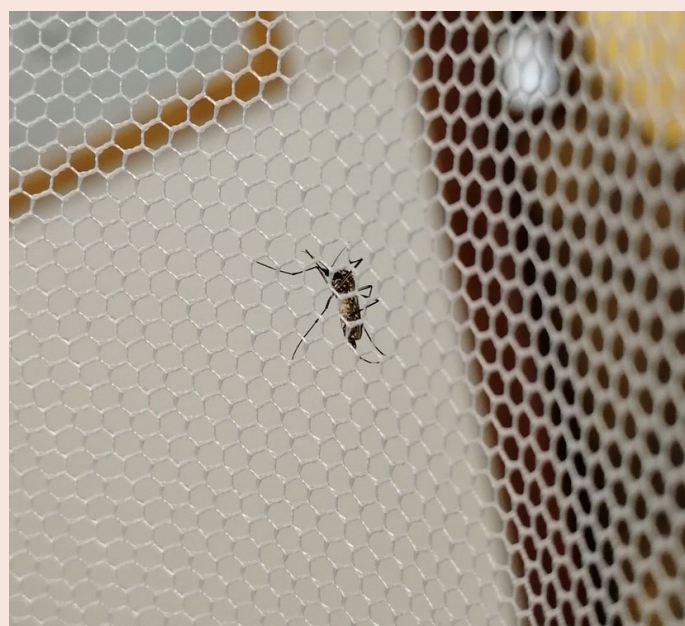
- **Universal access to Long-Lasting Insecticidal Treated Mosquito Nets.** The targeted households have met the recommended universal access (defined as 2 nets per household); according to the Kenya National Malaria Strategy (2009-2017)
- **Increased knowledge on malaria prevention.** The households reached have understood the transmission of malaria and the environmental prevention.
- **Appropriate treatment and prescribed drug adherence.** There has been an increase in knowledge on the need to seek appropriate and timely treatment and complete treatment at the household level.

- **Reduced malaria incidents.** The Church partners have reduced the number of children treated for malaria.
- **Uninterrupted sleep.** The comfort that comes with continuous sleep from the bites of mosquitoes is assured for the children, as was reported by the caregivers.

The significant reduction in malaria through this intervention has reduced the number of Church partners in FY22 to 34 from the previous target of 66 in FY21.

This is what two of our program participants had to say about the initiative.

- *Grace\*: - Sleeping under a treated mosquito net each night will protect me from frequent malaria attacks. Now I can focus better on my academic performance and physical development. My mum will no longer struggle with medical bills for my siblings and me.*
- *Daniel\*: Since receiving the treated mosquito nets, I have slept peacefully. I am happy that my brothers have also been catered for. We're delighted that mosquitoes no longer get to us.*



*By Rachel Tabut  
Program Support Specialist*





## Timely response to Reverse Maternal and Neonatal Deaths



*The Africa Inland Church (AIC) Makutano team noticed high cases of miscarriages and maternal and neonatal death in the community during the regular home visits for program participants aged between 3 to 12 years. Knowledge gap on personal health contributed to the increased miscarriages and deaths.*

The discovery prompted the church to request a survival intervention program. When AIC Makutano partnered with Compassion in 2016, it did not have the proper infrastructure to facilitate all the staff and participants' activities. Through this partnership, the church constructed a modern and decent toilet.



Hon. Johnes Mwaruma, Taita Taveta Senator

The church mobilized funds to put up a semi-permanent kitchen, three temporary classes, a spacious office, and the survival simulation room ahead of the Survival Intervention Launch.

Survival intervention was successfully launched on February 10, 2022, by Compassion International Kenya National Director Mr. Samuel Wambugu. Some Compassion Kenya team members, Taita Taveta senator, World Vision representative, Ministry of Health staff from Taveta Hospital, County Government representatives, program participants, caregivers, and church members alongside other stakeholders.



Program Participants

The survival intervention program participants were trained on the importance of Ante Natal clinics and safe deliveries. Fathers were also encouraged to be present and involved to ensure family stability.



The Fathers are not left behind!

We launched 5 survival programs in Kwale, Migori, Baringo, Taita, and Kilifi counties. The Compassion curriculum has helped the children grow holistically and reduced abuse cases within the community.

*By Sarah Mwamburi  
Partnership  
Facilitator*





## Easy Transition for our Youth



### Sinapis

Compassion International Kenya sought a sustainable exit plan for youth participants exiting the program. Coincidentally, our Program Support Specialist, Caroline Nzau, learned about Sinapi's Entrepreneur Academy from her cousin, who had attended the program.

Her cousin's positive experience at the academy triggered an interest to find out more about Sinapis and how a collaboration would promote the future of the Compassion youth exiting the program.

After thorough deliberations, Compassion settled on a partnership with Sinapis

Aspire LaunchPad. Aspire is a 9-week training program for idea-stage and early-stage entrepreneurs that helps entrepreneurs build a scalable business model while integrating their faith into the business. The youth would undergo a training program to build scalable business models that incorporate faith in their operation and comfortably sustain their livelihoods.

100 young people enrolled in the program between September and December 2021. The training program delved into different entrepreneurial topics like developing business ideas and structuring a business. 24 young people started their businesses during the training period.

Through Compassion's alumni engagement, the 76 remaining youth will be mentored and supported to launch their businesses and become entrepreneurs that change the world. The partnership impact on the first cohort inspired Compassion International Kenya to sponsor 100 more young people between February and April 2022.

Sinapis greatly appreciates its donors who have generously contributed to enabling them to subsidize the costs of the programs. This has increased the number of young people who benefit from the program.

*By Carol Nzau  
Program Specialist*



Youth participants





## Media Highlights – Child Protection and Safeguarding

In March 2022, Compassion International Kenya collaborated with the Department of Children Services in Homa Bay County to launch a Child Protection Campaign in Homa Bay County.

The campaign objective was to create awareness and trigger sustainable action from the government and other stakeholders to address the causes of child neglect in the county.





## INTERPOL Project SOTERIA, Workshop



**K**enya staff attended a workshop by INTERPOL Project SOTERIA, Organized and Emerging Crime Directorate, Crimes Against Children Unit.

Project SOTERIA seeks to establish an advanced level of collaboration between law enforcement agencies and aid sector organizations in order to prevent sex offenders from using positions within humanitarian organizations to target, access, and offend children and vulnerable adults.

SOTERIA will promote professional investigations that will ensure the perpetrator is arrested and prosecuted. Among the activities within SOTERIA will be to provide assistance to the aid sector in form of briefings, training sessions, and communication actions to prevent, detect and report perpetrators.



**'preventing sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment  
in the aid and humanitarian sector'**

**1st Information Sharing and Capacity Building Workshop  
for Law Enforcement and the Aid and Humanitarian Sector**





**5 - 7 April 2022, Nairobi - Kenya**





The Kenya National Youth Policy of 2006 defines youth as 15 to 30 years old. The majority of Kenya's population falls in this gap. The youth unemployment issue is rising as Kenya's colleges produce many graduates every year, coupled with low labor force absorption, a dilemma the Kenya government currently faces. The unemployment levels increase as more youth engage in crime and drug abuse.

Compassion's youth development program identifies talents in our participants that can help them find purposeful work and share God's love. The youth are invigorated to discover, identify and build up their capacities, learn, create capabilities, and take an interest through inventive approaches to increase their self-reliance and ability to become self-employed.

Judith Mwandumbo a program participant from ACK St. Mary's Mata has featured on a radio commercial that played in Houston, Texas, USA.

KSBJ is a Christ-centered radio station bringing joyful music, an uplifting message, and inspiring ministry to the city of Houston, Texas, and beyond. It is the largest Christian radio station in the USA, with nearly 1 million weekly listeners. A sponsors visit was to gather stories to share through a radio campaign to sponsor participants in the coastal area. KSBJ Radio and Hope Media Group partner with Compassion.

Talent Development fortifies the inborn inspiration of the youth and gives them an enormous feeling of proprietorship. They are ahead of the pack and in charge of their development, their triumphs as large or little as they may appear.

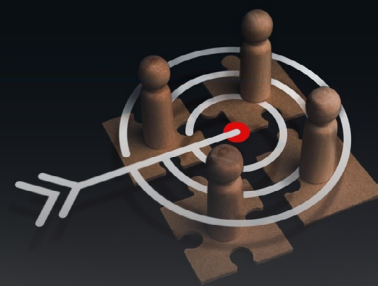
*Judith Mwandumbo a program participant from ACK St. Mary's Mata has featured on a radio commercial that played in Houston, Texas, USA. KSBJ is a Christ-centered radio station bringing joyful music, an uplifting message, and inspiring ministry to the city of Houston, Texas, and beyond.*

As program partners engaged children and youth from the program on their future aspirations, Judith Mwandumbo stood out when she shared her dream to be an advocacy musician to make the plight of children known to the world. She also went ahead to sing one song that other children happily sang along to. We celebrate Judith Mwandumbo and her friends for this achievement.





# Stakeholder Engagement



Compassion International Kenya participated in the NGO Week in March 2022. Our team got an opportunity to network, interact and explore possible partnership opportunities with other stakeholders in the NGO sector. Our National Director shared how Compassion sustained livelihoods and supported vulnerable communities during the covid-19 pandemic.



We paid a courtesy call to the NGO Coordination Board Offices this month. From left are our People & Culture Strategic partner - Justus Muinde; Assistant General Counsel - Gregory Papoi; Mr. Mutuma Nkanata - Executive Director NGO Coordination Board and Samuel Wambugu, Compassion Kenya National Director. It is always an exciting and informative time when we engage with industry stakeholders.

## New Staff:

### *Musau Davies Kivyuvi*



We are delighted to announce that Musau Davies Kivyuvi has joined the Compassion family as the Lead Software Developer. Davies has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Computer Science from Makerere University.

Before joining Compassion, Davies worked as a Software Developer in Futuristic LTD and HiLight Technologies.

He enjoys robotics simulations, coding challenges, traveling and tacking during his free time. Davies also loves visiting Children's homes and planting trees.

Davies is a born-again Christian. He fellowships at International Christian Centre(ICC) Kitengela and is the leader of "The connected & Anchored, Young Adults group."

We are confident that his skills and experience will be a great resource to the Compassion ministry.

*We welcome David to the Compassion family!*



See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I tell you that their  
angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven.  
(Matthew 18: 10-11)



FOR ANY  
FEEDBACK OR  
COMMENTS PLEASE  
CONNECT WITH US



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