



Empowering Communities to Protect Children and End Child Abuse

"Children's children are a crown to the aged, and parents are the pride of their children."

Proverbs 17:6 NIV

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List of Contributors

Jeniffer Nthiga

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Our Mission



Our Vision



All children in poverty thriving toward their God-given potential.



Child Protection:

Compassion International Centralizes all data Relevant to their Child Protection Activities on Resolver



ompassion International has implemented a new technology solution to help improve and enhance incident reporting and management relevant to their child protection activities. Resolver, allows Compassion International to offer more robust capabilities for reporting incidents of abuse, neglect, and exploitation through hotlines, emails, and an online portal, collecting information in a central system for better visibility and analysis.

Translated into 25 languages and counting, the Resolver software services provide Compassion International's offices with a streamlined solution for how incidents are reported, making it easier for participants to capture events when they happen. Additionally, Resolver's software provides the ability to track incident response with detail and accuracy, helping Church Partners analyze and report on Compassion International's impact on helping children move out of poverty in the communities we serve.

Compassion Kenya launched Resolver at 29 clusters comprising 461 Frontline Church Partners (FCPs) across the country, with each cluster group bringing together an average of 90 attendees. The campaign aimed to raise awareness about not just the platform but also abuse reporting and the need for every person, young and old, to be involved in reporting any incidences of abuse of children that they get to know of or witness. The campaign comes in the backdrop of data showing that even though many children experience abuse and neglect, including program participants, there is low reporting of these incidences to the local authorities and Compassion. This situation has caused many children who are abuse survivors to miss out on available support to help them in the journey of healing and restoration from the effects of abuse. When reporting does not happen, the perpetrators of Child abuse get emboldened when no action is taken against them, which turns into more children being exposed to abuse by the same perpetrators because they remain in the community.

The campaign was done by mobilizing every church to identify seven persons in their FCP who would participate in a day-long campaign launch event. The day-long activity was held at the cluster level. Each FCP sent a Patron, 2 Church committee members, 2 Church Development Workers (CDWs), one youth representative, and one caregiver representative. Other key stakeholders were invited to the launch in the different clusters, including the County Director of Children services, representatives from the Police, Human rights watch, and the local administration.

By reporting child abuse incidents, survivors of abuse will get help and restoration, and the abusers will be stopped from abusing more children. The campaign has managed to rally everyone to be involved in reporting incidences of child abuse among participants using various reporting options that are now available with the launch of Resolver. These options include a website, a hotline, an email, and an App with the expectation to see more incidences being reported now that several reporting options are available not only to the church committee and workers but also to Children/youth and caregivers.

Contributor: Mirriam Mutuku

Report Abuse

You can use these toll free helplines to report any incidents of violence and abuse in Kenya.

999/112/911 Police Helpline- in case you need to reach the police urgently call this number.

- 2 **116 Childline Kenya Helpline** provides counselling, rescue, safe shelter, medical care, and legal support. The providers are also dedicated to provision of education to the public on child safety across the country.
- **3 1195 Gender-Based Hotline** linked to local facilities that provide medical treatment and prevention of infections, legal aid, and rescue centres. It also offers immediate 24-hour confidential tele-counselling and coordination of rescue missions.



Joyline and Joseline

A Survival Story



Maristela with her twins, Joyline and Joseline

eet Joyline and Joseline, twins born in an environment that meant their survival would be impossible, yet here they are, smiling in the loving arms of a mother whose life has changed forever.

We were first introduced to Joyline and Joseline in February 2022 when KTN, a local news channel, told the story of a mother of twin baby girls who could not breastfeed her daughters because of medication from treating her heart condition, Compassion International Kenya as part of our mandate to ensure babies are thriving intervened for Joyline and Joseline.

At 6 weeks, we intervened for this family and began to support Joyline and Joseline. As Compassion International Kenya, in partnership with the local church in the family's area, we supported them, to ensure the survival of the twin girls. In supporting the most vulnerable mothers and their young children through providing education and support for the families we help ensure that the child survives, thrives, and has a healthy start to life.

The girls are now thriving, healthy babies. In the immediate intervention, the twin's weight increased; Joseline's to 9 kgs from 3kgs and Joyline's to 7kgs from 2.5kgs. As much as the mother received a lot of immediate relief from her story on the news, our church partner worked with her toward creating a sustainable plan to ensure she could support her family by helping her start a now successful business. We value the need to empower caregivers of our participants to be self-sufficient as part of our work towards releasing children from poverty, as we know that a child is part of a larger community.

Contributor: Irene Kimani



Maristela and her mother receiving a stock to boost their business.

For The Love of Music

In our programs, our youth participants are treated with dignity and encouraged to dream, play, learn and grow holistically.

eet Amos Leshao, also known as Leshao Leshao by his music fans. When he starts singing, adorned in his Maasai regalia, you will be glued to him as he dances to the tune of his self-composed Maasai songs.

Leshao, beyond his unique musical gifts, is pursuing a bachelor's degree in Education Technology in Civil Engineering at Meru University of Science and Technology. He has only been pursuing Music for two years; his music journey has not been easy, but he has a loyal fan base on TikTok and YouTube. He highlighted,

"Music plays a big part in my life, and I only started singing after I finished my secondary education in 2021 because I had to focus on my studies." Leshao recently participated in a business and innovation challenge organized by our church partners in Transmara, Narok county, where he came third. He said during the day,

"It is my dream to share my Music with my sponsor. I also want to earn money and give back to my community by sponsoring vulnerable children and mentoring youth who want to pursue Music as a career.".

Contributor: Lydia Sereya



Amos Leshao, also known as Leshao Leshao



Betting the odds to reach her full potential

eet Jane, an entrepreneur, a first-class honors graduate from Egerton University with a Bachelor of Arts in Criminology and Security Studies, and a beneficiary of the Leadership for Life (L4L) initiative from Compassion Kenya that supports participants with Undergraduate scholarships; she is truly a testament of our work in Compassion believing that we can help children towards reaching their God-given potential.



Jane on her graduation day February 10, 2023.

We first met Jane in 2009 when she joined our program through our church partner, AIC Karaba. She had lost her mother and been separated from her six siblings; in later years, losing her father as well, she stayed diligent in the program, gaining courage and her voice through her formative years, taking part in national drama festivals, even as a member of the Scouts club.

With our Church Partner's support, she could consistently attend her high school education at Kangaru Girls, helping her progress toward her academic goals.

Leadership for life is an initiative that provides support beyond financial support, giving the participants training and skills growth in areas like mentorship and entrepreneurship. Jane, through the program, during the COVID-19 pandemic, began her business, even taking part in the Youth Business Challenge competition, and emerged as one of the best business ladies in the competition. It is truly a joy to see Jane start to live to her potential. Jane highlights as she reflects on her journey,

"The experiences as a participant in the program and other initiatives under it such as Leadership for Life have played a big role in making me who I am today."

Contributor: Jeniffer Nthiga



Jane being awarded a certificate after completion of the business and entrepreneurship training.



Jane (3rd from the right) with her colleagues and trainers during the Youth Business Challenge Training

Complimentary Interventions (CIVs)

A Step Away from Water Challenges

s part of our continued work toward empowering communities to protect children better by providing sustainable solutions for meeting families' basic needs, we successfully supported giving access to water in Sirai, Laikipia County. In collaboration with our Frontline Church Partners in Sirai, we have managed to drill and set up a water piping system to provide the community with access to clean water.

Access to clean water is a basic human need; helping communities have access to clean water helps reduce the risk of diseases, even protecting children from the threat of abuse by having to walk long distances to access water. The region has experienced years of challenges in accessing adequate water resulting in acute malnutrition, water-related complications, and skin-related problems.

The intervention will immensely benefit the community and bring a total transformation in matters of hygiene, improve health, and provide the opportunity for more kitchen gardens, which will translate to improving livelihood conditions.



Water purification system



Site visit by the Church Partners, Manager of Partnership and Partnership Facilitator

Food Security and Livelihoods Effect of Drought in ASAL Kenya and the Suitable Adaptation Measures

The current drought has been the worst experienced in the Eastern Africa region in the last forty years and is attributable to the widespread effects of climate change. The effects have been devastating with widespread hunger affecting communities in Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALS). The region has experienced inadequate rains in the last three years. The last time reasonable rains were recorded was in March-May 2020.

The inadequate and irregular rains have contributed to low food production, hence the prevailing hunger situation in the region. Besides crop failure, the droughts have been so severe with rampant livestock deaths experienced in the affected areas.

It is estimated that 4.2 million Kenyans, mainly inhabiting the ASALs have been affected by the drought. This has resulted in acute food insecurity that is currently being experienced in the ASAL communities. This has led to the high cost of basic foods in the affected regions. Most families in these areas have been affected by the high-cost living, leading to them disposing of their assets, especially livestock for income to meet their immediate household food needs. In most cases, food if available, is inadequate and inconsistent. This has resulted in high levels of malnutrition among children and women. In Kenya, about 900,000 children are malnourished with 200,000 of these being acutely malnourished.

The prolonged drought has resulted in the drying up of the water sources, especially the rivers, on which most of the ASAL communities are dependent for their household water needs. The distance to water sources for households increased during the drought. Thus, women must walk longer distances to fetch water, exposing them to gender-based violence. The households are also exposed to health hazards, as the water from distant sources is of lower quality resulting in high incidences of water-borne diseases.

To address the effects of drought, the communities in the ASALs need to adopt climate-smart practices to mitigate and adapt to recurrent rainfall failure. Communities must embrace rainwater harvesting for growing food at the household level. Rainwater harvesting will reduce dependence on rain for growing food and watering livestock. This will call for the adoption of rainwater harvesting at household level, employing affordable technologies. Farm ponds for irrigation and watering livestock can be excavated using household labour at a low place in the homestead where rainwater flows, or accumulates, during rainy seasons. The ponds are initially built small and enlarged during the following dry seasons for long-term availability of water for farming in the homestead.

Kitchen gardens can be established with sustainable availability of water in the homesteads. Soil and water conservation technologies such as the zai pits and sunken beds can be used in the kitchen gardens to ensure efficient use of the harvested rainwater. The kitchen gardens can be used for growing indigenous vegetables such as Spider plant, black nightshade and Amaranthus that require less water for growth. The households should construct storage structures to store the harvested farm produce for long term and sustainable availability of food.

Finally, the communities should embrace Drought Tolerant Crops (DTCs) such as cassava, sweet potatoes, green grams and cowpeas for guaranteed harvest. This will reduce over reliance on maize which produces disappointing yields as it requires high precipitation. The DTCs will compensate for the recurrent low maize yields.

The adoption of these sustainable climate-smart practices will ensure communities in the ASALs adapt to the ravages of drought that have been rampant in recent years due to the effects of climate change.



Contributor: Julius Wairoma is a Food Security & Livelihoods Specialist at Compassion International Kenya

Partnership

Compassion International Kenya signs MOU with Mwalimu PLUS

ompassion International Kenya signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Mwalimu PLUS to provide a framework to facilitate and strengthen collaboration.

Mwalimu PLUS provides an intelligent e-tutoring solution for students, parents, and teachers designed to improve the learning and teaching process. The solution offers significant learning materials and supports the online learning program for primary Education Institutions.

The partnership with Mwalimu PLUS will help promote our actions toward digital transformation, an essential aspect of our program to support the holistic development of children and youth in Kenya. The collaboration will allow Mwalimu PLUS to support our Frontline Church Partners through regular training, conferences, and meetings on using the Mwalimu PLUS Product. The mutually beneficial cooperation and collaboration will serve the common objective of actively ensuring our program participants' education progression and growth. The understanding that holistic development, through formal education, can positively impact the child reaching their full potential will play a central role in the partnership.

As Compassion International Kenya, we believe that to help children reach their full potential, we need to have active collaboration in the communities through partnerships, first through our Frontline Church Partners, but also community innovators and collaborators like Mwalimu PLUS that can have an impact on the lives of children and their communities, to help break the cycle of poverty.

Contributor: James Mulandi



Image: from left, Our National Director Samuel Wambugu and Mohamud Ali Managing Director at Mwalimu PLUS.



Image: from left, Newton Midamba, Senior Manager of Partnership, Beverly Ogao, Customer Support Lead Mwalimu PLUS, Samuel Wambugu, National Director, Mohamud Ali, Managing Director at Mwalimu PLUS, Linet Ochieng, Senior Manager of Business Support and James Kyalo, Manager of Partnership

Compassion Team Pays a Courtesy Visit to Kitui Deputy Governor



ur Compassion Kenya team, led by James Mulandi Partnership Manager Coast and Lower Eastern Region, paid a courtesy call to Kitui Deputy Governor Augustine Kanani at his office in Kitui on Wednesday, 15 March 2023.

In Kitui County, Compassion Kenya is in partnership with 37 churches of different denominations, with programs to support over 10,000 vulnerable children and their caregivers, engaging in transformative child advocacy and holistic child development, particularly for children living in extreme poverty by equipping them with the skills and resources needed to be resilient in the years to come.

The visit is part of our continued effort toward building sustainable partnerships and engaging in collaboration opportunities within our local context. The visit allowed the team to share some of Compassion's work in the region, including economic empowerment projects in Community Development, Nutrition, Health screening, Cash transfers, Water, and Agriculture.

The county government, under the leadership of the Governor, H.E Dr. Julius Malombe, is rolling out various projects and is ready to bring on board all development partners to help improve the livelihood of Kitui residents across the County, keenly avoiding duplication of projects in areas where the county government and her development partners are in operation. The opportunity allowed the team and the county government to seek ways of partnership with the county government on water provision through sinking boreholes and the construction of sand dams.



Image: Right to Left - Partnership Manager for Central Rift Valley and Upper Eastern region Caleb Munyoki, Partnership Manager Coast and Lower Eastern Region James Mulandi, Kitui County Deputy Governor Augustine Kanani, Partnership Facilitator in Kilifi County Commonde Adunga and Partnership Facilitator in Kitui Central and Kitui South Peter Mutuku.

Events and Activities

Spice FM Interview

A discussion on releasing children from poverty & empowering communities towards sustainable livelihood practices.

We were represented by:

Caleb Munyoki - Manager of Partnerships, Compassion Kenya

Julius Wairoma - Food Security & Livelihoods Specialist, Compassion Kenya.

Watch the full interview at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B52Z24W7nZo



Courtesy Call to Ministry of Health

Compassion Kenya Program team, paid a courtesy call to the Nutrition Department under the Division of Family Health in the Ministry of Health.



Image: left to right Eugene Situma, Irene Kimani, Catherine Wamiti from CIK and Caroline Arimi from the ministry.



Events and Activities

Welcome to the Compassion family Zambia!



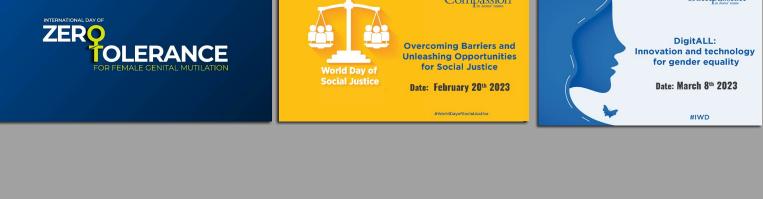
Compassion International Kenya Board of Directors, National leaders team, Church Leaders and caregivers during a visit to the Free Pentecostal Fellowship of Kenya (FPFK) in Solai Division, Nakuru County



Compassion Kenya Staff at a Capacity building training











New Team Members



e are delighted to announce that Phyllis Gatutha has joined the Compassion family as a Partnership Facilitator.

Before joining Compassion, Phyllis worked at Generation Programme Kenya as a regional manager for youth education empowerment. Prior to that, she worked at CAP youth empowerment institute as a youth program coordinator. She is passionate about serving communities (families) and youth groups.

She holds a bachelor's degree in Environmental Science & an MBA-Strategic Management from Kenyatta University.

On a personal front, Phyllis says,

"I have four amazing sisters! In my free time, I enjoy reading and journaling. I also love gardening and researching the different wonderful cultures in Kenya. I am passionate about serving God and enjoy evangelizing and telling people about Jesus Christ. I fellowship at ACK St. Thomast Church Ongata Rongai, where I serve in the praise and worship team."

Her favourite quote is,

"God has been faithful to plant the seed, He will be faithful to always send the rain. Though the seasons change, His love remains."



e also welcome David Mutua Ndunda, joining

Supporter Engagement as our new Trips and Visits Specialist.

Before joining Compassion, he served as an Events Manager at Peak Audio Events. Before that, he was at YM360 Generate, serving as <u>a Child Advocate.</u>

His educational background includes Sociology & Psychology from Kenyatta University. Also, he is an alumnus of Compassion in the Leadership Development Program.

David is married to Patricia Awori, and they have a daughter. In his free time, he enjoys playing music, travelling, and producing events. In addition, he also loves event planning and management.

He worships at City Lighters Church and is passionate about serving God in leading worship.

His favourite verse is

"For in him we live, and move, and have our being". Acts 17:28.

Kindly join me in welcoming them to Compassion Ministry!



Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy. (Proverbs 31:8-9)

FOR ANY FEEDBACK OR COMMENTS PLEASE CONNECT WITH US



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