

JIRANI

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Releasing children from poverty
Compassion[®]
In Jesus' name

Empowered and included

“Do not let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity.”

1 Timothy 4:12



Contents



3

In Focus



5

Adapting to the Fast-Paced World



6

Bringing Hope in Sight



7

Snapshot



8

Inspiring Hope for Ndege and his family



9

Malawi

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Compassion
Releasing children from poverty
in Jesus' name

Known, Loved, Protected

**Child Protection:
Our Highest Priority**

**Report cases of abuse and neglect to 116.
#SeeItReportIt #YouHaveThePower**

Child Protection Campaign 2021

Our Mission



Releasing Children from poverty in Jesus' name

Our Vision



All children in poverty thriving toward their God-given potential

Core Values



Integrity
Discernment
Dignity
Stewardship
Excellence

IN FOCUS



When it comes to unemployment and underemployment, the youth are the worst hit. Despite the wide range of challenges to youth employment, there is clear potential for young women and men to find decent work.

If they receive the necessary support, Africa's youngest job seekers can lead the continent's economic growth by working in jobs that utilize their full potential. But the greatest impact will be felt when youth are fully empowered to pursue entrepreneurship opportunities, where they are also decision-makers.

Hindrances to employment & Income opportunities for young people according to the National Adolescents and Youth Survey (NAYS) report of 2015 are corruption, lack of capital, lack of knowledge, and relevant skills.

By creating entrepreneurial opportunities and harnessing the potential of our youth, our church partners are nurturing our youth to be able to adapt to this rapidly changing world.

1. How has the pandemic affected the youth and their ability to get jobs?

- 1.1. Even before the coming of the COVID-19 pandemic, opportunities for youth in the job market were still a challenge.
- 1.2. The pandemic has created more hindrances for young people in the labor market. There are fewer job vacancies for jobseekers leading to lengthier school-to-work transitions.

- 1.3. The pandemic greatly impacted the services and manufacturing sector where a majority of the roles were held by young people.
- 1.4. With loss or drop in income, the youth are more likely to fall into poverty.
- 1.5. According to the UN-2020 report, the closure of schools and universities has affected more than 1.5 billion children and youth worldwide and has significantly changed how youth and children live and learn during the pandemic.
- 1.6. Learning institutions rushed into online platforms hence graduating half-baked graduates who might not have fully mastered the expected knowledge and skills for work.

2. What will be the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic?

- 2.1. Young people will continue to be the majority affected by the upsurge in layoffs.
- 2.2. There has been a collapse of small businesses and startups where a good number of young people had invested heavily.

Africa's youngest job seekers can lead the continent's economic growth by working in jobs that utilize their full potential.



2.3. There will be an increase in crime, corruption, alcohol and drug abuse, early motherhood and marriages, school dropouts, divorces, kidnappings, and suicides.

2.4. Because they are least likely to afford internet connectivity, low-income households will be the most affected by a lack of access to quality education.

3. What have the church partners done to ensure youth adapt and thrive despite the Covid-19 pandemic?

3.1. The youth program focuses on achieving youth outcomes.

3.2. Ensuring youth are growing as Christ-followers through discipleship programs.

3.3. The youth agency approach works to develop youth to positively influence their generations and context.

3.4. Youth are self-sufficient and equipped to economically support themselves and others.

3.5. Youth are physically, mentally, and socially well-being.

We prepare the youth for success – Education, appropriate skills training through Tvet institutions, mid-level colleges, and university programs for employability or entrepreneurship.

4. What can be done to ensure youth are more resilient and adapt to the fast-changing world?

4.1. Collaboration

Collaboration increases impact, productivity, and accountability and saves on time and resources. Compassion and the Church partners will seek more collaborative opportunities with the national and county governments and other youth-based organizations. We also encourage more involvement by our youth in designing programs and interventions for themselves.

*By
Douglas Moseti*

4.2. Digital skills

Digital skills are critical in preparing the youth to be innovative, expressively engage in their communities and be more impactful. With technology and exposure, young people will be more capable of learning and venturing into new ideas and opportunities.

4.3. Involve the youth

The youth are no longer leaders of tomorrow but leaders of today.

Key players should allow the youth to play a central role in establishing systems that enable their success. Organizations must invest in the ideas and potential of youth.

4.4 See the youth as partners

Co-designing with youth as genuine partners could help create a system that empowers and supports young people to bring lasting change across generations.

5. In the new FY, what is Compassion focusing on building capacity?

5.1. Learning/study skills - including collaboration, initiative, self-regulation, retention of information, reading and grammar, concentration techniques, and efficient note-taking.

5.2. Leadership skills – including decision making, critical thinking, integrity, relationship building, problem-solving, dependability, patience, creativity, and effective communication.

5.3. Entrepreneurship skills – communication, sales, business strategy, business management, customer service, financial management, problem-solving, strategic thinking, and planning.

5.4. Mentorship – Learning how to mentor younger children and youth and learning to be a good mentee (including active listening, availability, and analysis).

5.5. Discipleship – learning how to be a disciple of Jesus Christ and how to disciple others.

Adapting to the Fast-Paced World



In this growing digital world, we face a future of many possibilities. With every passing year, new technologies and services are emerging. As digital technologies become a changer in our daily activities, at ACK Malaba church we decided to adapt to this new reality and thus embarked on a digital transformation journey for children and youth.

We don't just train them on basic computer skills but have initiated the journey to develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of technology.

Learning HTML, CSS, and Java

We have seven children and youth between the ages of ten and thirteen, learning Hypertext Markup Language (HTML), Cascading Style Sheets (CSS), and Ubuntu, a complete Linux operating system. HTML is the code used to structure a web page and its content. CSS is used to style and layout web pages. Ubuntu includes the Linux kernel version 5.4 and GNOME 3.28 and covers every standard desktop application from word processing and spreadsheet applications to internet access applications, web server software, email software, programming languages and tools, and several games. They are also working on a website for the program.

The same children and youth who went through the digital literacy training organized by the cluster have been digital literacy ambassadors and gotten many of the other children interested in acquiring computer skills. Attendance has risen and is more regular, making it is easier to keep track of the children's progress.

Hardware maintenance

At the program, we have children who can dismantle, repair, and reassemble desktop computers and laptops. The children's involvement in the maintenance of their equipment has lowered running costs for the cluster.

7 children & Youth
between the ages of ten and thirteen, are learning (HTML), (CSS) and Ubuntu



Health

Bringing Hope in Sight



A history of cataracts

They say that seeing is believing! The caregiver narrated that the problem started with their grandmother. Bakari Mwanahiyyu was among the children who inherited the curse from his mother, passing it on to his two children. In 1989, assisted by his brother, Bakari Mwanahiyyu underwent a free eye operation at Lighthouse for Christ Eye Centre in Mombasa. It took the fourteen-year-old a year to recover. Now he can see clearly and can look after his family.

Interventions

In 2019, during the Health Eye Campaign, eye surgery costing Ksh. 40,000 was performed on Swalleh Mbovoko Bakari. Swalleh now has full use of his eye and is among the top in his class pp2. He goes for regular checkups at the Lighthouse for Christ Eye Centre.

In March 2021, when Joel Macharia, Compassion's Country Director visited the center and met Esther Adheke, one of the village representatives and a caregiver, and the mother of 4-month-old, Ibrahim Kivuli with the same cataract problem as his brother Mbovoko.

The country director advised the church and Partnership Facilitator, Benjamin Kivuva to see that the problem was corrected. Ibrahim was taken to the Lighthouse for Christ Eye Centre where he underwent eye surgery costing forty-one thousand Kenya shillings to remove a cataract.

In 2019, after Esther Adheke went through Qavah training provided for caregivers in her region, she sold chicken and raised Ksh.3,000 to start a small kiosk. She now has working capital of Ksh.35,000. Her husband is completing cake baking classes.

Through village-based discipleship programs and the support the family has received, Esther Adheke confessed Jesus Christ as her savior and now attends mid-week services at the church on Wednesdays and Fridays, even though her husband wants her to change her mind. The family is so grateful for the interventions done and their prayer to the Church and the organization is to see that it intervenes for more needy families to the glory of God.

*By
Ushindi Baptist
Church-Dzikunze*



Snapshots

A Clean Break: Official Opening of the 100,000ltr water tank in Chigutu.

Official opening of the 100,000ltr water tank in Chigutu on the 29th of July 2021, by Hon, Fatuma Achani, Deputy Governor, Kwale County alongside Newton Midamba, Senior Manager, for Partnership, Compassion Kenya, and other county and Compassion representatives.



Water scarcity in the area meant that a large population of women and children spend up to one-third of their day fetching water in the hot sun from the nearest freshwater source. This robs the community of their futures. The water tank acts as an effective interim solution to water scarcity and will come in handy particularly during dry spells.



The event brought together officials from Kwale County, Frontline Church Partners in Kwale, children and Compassion Kenya staff.



Inspiring Hope for Ndege and his family

A decent place to live in can make a real difference in the life of a family. Home ownership creates stability and safety but for many families in Kinango, the security of a decent home is a reality that is far out of reach.

Decent, safe, and stable housing is important to families. Certainly, it fulfills a basic human need for shelter; but it also contributes to the well-being of both parents and children. Housing can be a path out of poverty for vulnerable families in need of a hand-up.

On the 30th of July Compassion Kenya staff Led by Newton Midamba, Senior Manager, Partnership, and James Mulandi, Manager, Coast Region joined members of the East Africa Pentecostal Church (EAPC) Mabesheni to officially open the new house for Ndege and his family. The house was fully funded by Compassion Kenya staff and furnished by EAPC church.



Ndege and his mother stand in front of their new home

For the last 7 years, Ndege and his family have been living with a neighbor after their house caved in and collapsed due to heavy rains. The death of Ndege's father also caused terrible consequences and as a result, they often found themselves at the mercy of well-wishers and neighbors.



Front row-left-right) Compassion staff: Lauryn Ayoti, Aileen Munga, Ndege and the mother, Susan Rupia and Raphael Jalang'o, Back row-left-right EAPC church Bakari Danda and Ibrahim Mbiti sit in one of the rooms.

For Ndege and his siblings, the new home gives them an opportunity to improve and succeed academically, maintain health and well-being, and achieve financial success later in life.



EAPC committee members with Ndege and his mother.

This new chapter will bring the stability they yearned for. They no longer have to move from house to house.



The smiles and joy was unquestionable when the house was officially handed over to Ndege's mother.

Malawi



Malawi staff, from left, in front of the Malawi National Office: Timothy Zimba, David Mangani Chirwa, Noriah Tadala Katungwe, Pellanie Mogha, Majama Jere, Fumbanani Kapote Phiri, Chipiliro Ndazamo, Lawrence Chiwaya, Patrick Nyondo, and Neriwell Matupa. (Dziwani Chitheka, not pictured)



We join in celebrating with Joel Macharia, Kenya and Malawi National Director, following activities in the opening of the Compassion Malawi office! The project is progressing well despite the current COVID-19 restrictions to include travel restrictions. 11 new staff members started July 1 (*photo, above*). Due to COVID-19 restrictions, on-boarding and job training were conducted virtually.

We are grateful to God that the staff will quickly get to know each other and that they will feel supported as they start their Compassion journey.



The Compassion Kenya team Joel Macharia, Samuel Wambugu, Samuel Mwaniki, and Douglas Moseti joined representatives from CAP youth Empowerment Institute team led by Ashok Ankathi, Dennis Muchiri for a partnership strategy meeting. The institute implements Basic Employability Skills Training (BEST) model through public-private partnerships for its sustainability and scalability.

Their mission is to build safer, healthier, and productive communities of young people capable of supporting self-directed growth and positive citizenship. They endeavor to be an end-to-end community-based solutions provider in linking quality learning and sustainable livelihood for vulnerable communities of children and young people.

Through this partnership, Compassion looks to link children and youth to CAP YEI training locations for employability and entrepreneur skills training with the goal of being imparted with market-driven technical, entrepreneurial, and life skills that give them livelihood opportunities.

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
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