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Releasing children from poverty
Compassion®
in Jesus' name

JIRANI

Nurturing Life, Strengthening Communities.



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Church-driven

Christ-centered

Christ-focussed

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Mission

Releasing children from poverty in Jesus' name.



Our Vision

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



Core Values

Dignity
Excellence
Integrity
Stewardship
Discernment

National Director Note

Celebrating 40 Editions of Jirani.



National Director: Samuel Wambugu

Dear Neighbors (Our Jirani),

Welcome to the 40th edition of Jirani, Compassion International Kenya's newsletter. This milestone invites us to pause, reflect, and celebrate stories of hope, resilience, and transformation inspired by God's work through Compassion and our church partners across Kenya. As we mark this 40th issue, Jirani remains committed to highlighting the voices of children, youth, caregivers, church partners, staff, and communities involved in holistic child and youth development. Each story shows that impact goes beyond numbers, restoring family dignity, empowering young people, safeguarding children's health, and reigniting hope in communities facing adversity.

> **...let each story remind you of the impact of faithful, consistent, and Christ-centered service.**

This edition highlights moments that showcase Compassion's extensive and impactful work. We observe families experiencing positive change through secure, decent housing that provides children with privacy, safety, and a better environment for growth and learning. The edition emphasizes healthcare efforts that restore dignity and enhance the well-being of both children and caregivers. It also reflects on meaningful visits and connections that strengthen bonds, deepen understanding, and remind families they are loved, and supported. Additionally, we celebrate progress in livelihoods and community resilience, including inspiring developments where families and church partners display courage, creativity, and hope despite challenging circumstances. These stories demonstrate that when the local church is equipped and empowered, communities don't just receive support; they begin to forge lasting paths toward transformation.

This 40th edition also celebrates partnership. Compassion's efforts rely on the dedication of local churches, sponsors, donors, partners, caregivers, volunteers, and staff who work tirelessly alongside children and youth. As you explore this edition, let each story remind you of the impact of faithful, consistent, and Christ-centered service. May it also reinvigorate our shared resolve to continue releasing children from poverty in Jesus' name.

Thank you for being part of this journey of impact.

Samuel Wambugu
National Director
Compassion International Kenya

Celebrating 40 Editions – Words from our church partners



Reading Jirani has been a great encouragement to our church. Every edition reminds us that God is transforming lives through the faithful partnership of local churches, caregivers, communities, and Compassion. The stories of hope and resilience inspire us to strengthen our own ministries. Through the caregiver empowerment initiatives highlighted in Jirani, we have been encouraged to invest more intentionally in livelihood and skills development. One inspiring example is Irene Anyango, whose journey from running a small mandazi business to expanding into basket weaving, tailoring, entrepreneurship, and eventually establishing her own shop has demonstrated the life-changing impact of caregiver empowerment. She has also trained other women in basket weaving and accessed microfinance to grow her businesses, improving her family's livelihood. Her story has motivated us to support similar initiatives, enabling caregivers in our project to improve their household incomes and better provide for their children's education and well-being. Jirani is more than a newsletter it is a source of learning, encouragement, and inspiration that strengthens our partnership in releasing children from poverty in Jesus' name.

By Peter Asweto, Project Director, Lweya, Siaya County, Kenya

Jirani has been an invaluable source of encouragement, learning, and inspiration for our church and project. Each edition shares powerful stories of transformation that demonstrate how God is working through Compassion and local church partners to impact the lives of children, families, and communities. The practical experiences, innovations, and testimonies featured in the newsletter have provided valuable insights that have helped us strengthen our ministry and improve our programming. Beyond informing us, Jirani has also served as an important benchmark. During partnership engagements and meetings, we have used the stories and best practices highlighted in the newsletter to encourage peer learning, inspire innovation, and motivate churches to adopt effective approaches that have yielded positive results in other contexts. The newsletter strengthens our sense of partnership by reminding us that we are part of a wider ministry committed to holistic child development. We greatly appreciate the team that spearheaded Jirani for consistently sharing stories of learning, impact, and collaboration that inspire us to serve children with excellence, compassion, and faithfulness.

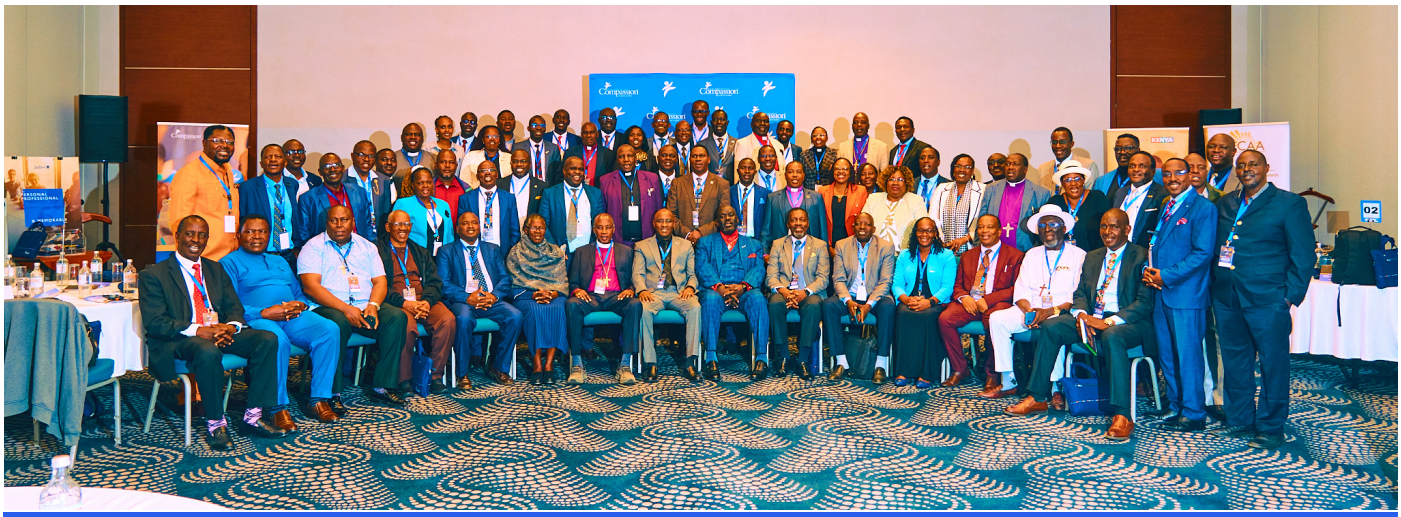
Joshua Mutisya, Project Director, AIC Kanzinwa, Kitui County

The Jirani Newsletter is Compassion Kenya's publication that shares stories, updates, and lessons from holistic child and youth development programs in FCPs, toward releasing children from poverty in Jesus' name. The stories include testimonies from Child and Youth Development, Caregiver Empowerment, and Child Protection, promoting children's rights, as well as innovations in community development and achievements toward self-sustainability in youth development and households. These captivating stories come from day-to-day activities in FCPs, networking with like-minded organizations, sponsor and donor activities, and Compassion's ministry. In addition to the above, the newsletter also contains human resources updates, such as new appointments and assignments for Compassion staff. Generally, the newsletter is a learning resource for many stakeholders on the impact of the partnership between Compassion and the local church.

By Julius Sawo, Ambira, Siaya County Project Director

Our Church Partners

Church Leaders Commit to Collective Action and Accountability

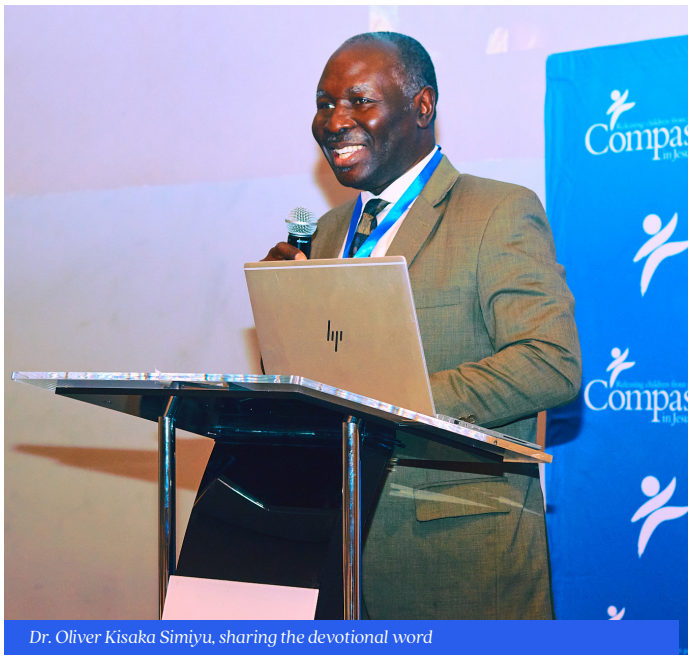


National Church leaders during the conference

The 2026 National Church Leaders Conference brought together church leaders, Compassion International Kenya leadership, and accountability partners for a day of reflection, learning, and renewed commitment to strengthening ministry to children, youth, and families. Held under the theme **"Influencing Positive Change Through Collective Action,"** and guided by **Genesis 41:38**, the conference created space for church leaders to reflect on their shared calling to lead with wisdom, integrity, and the Spirit of God.

The conference was attended by **47** National Church Leaders, representing **497** churches in partnership with Compassion International. The gathering highlighted the power of the local church as a trusted, community-rooted institution that continues to play a central role in nurturing, protecting, discipling, and empowering children and youth. Dr. Oliver Kisaka delivered the devotional message and encouraged leaders, drawing on **Acts 11:19–30**. He reminded them that a church transformed by the Word of God becomes united, generous, and mission-driven, moving beyond self-focus to impact others through faith and compassion.

In his keynote address, **Samuel Wambugu**, National Director of Compassion International Kenya, reflected on the journey since the 2024 National Church Leaders Conference, which focused on governance and accountability. He noted that the previous conference laid a foundation by launching and adopting the Code of Conduct and Governance Guidelines, calling church partners to move from awareness to practice and from compliance to commitment. The National Director highlighted the continued impact of the Compassion–Church partnership, including progress in water projects, education support, major medical care, youth self-sufficiency initiatives, and youth agency. He emphasized that strong governance, child protection, and youth-focused action are essential to delivering consistent, sustainable impact for vulnerable children and families.



Dr. Oliver Kisaka Simiyu, sharing the devotional word

At the same time, he invited leaders to face emerging challenges with courage and unity. These included child protection concerns; data protection and compliance responsibilities; financial stewardship concerns, and youth-related challenges such as mental health concerns, drug and substance abuse, skills mismatch, identity struggles, and limited economic opportunities.

Our Church Partners



National Church leaders during the conference

A key part of the conference was the presentation by the **African Council for Accreditation and Accountability**, which focused on the legal landscape and regulatory frameworks affecting Faith-Based Organizations. The session helped church leaders understand the importance of public trust, governance, accountability, compliance, and biblical stewardship in Christian institutions. The African Council for Accreditation and Accountability is a faith-based Pan-African institution that works with Christ-centered churches, Christian non-profits, and Christian-owned businesses to strengthen accountability, credibility, and institutional discipleship. Its work is anchored in accreditation, advisory support, and advocacy, helping organizations align their operations with biblical standards while strengthening governance, financial transparency, human resource systems, and organizational sustainability.



Compassion National Director giving the keynote address

Following the presentations, church leaders took part in question-and-answer and plenary sessions, leading to the conference participants' key resolutions:

- Conduct comprehensive compliance audits in governance, employment, child protection, data protection, property, financial management, and procurement to support the resolutions that follow.
- Strengthen governance and accountability by reviewing church registration status, clarifying leadership structures, formalizing board meetings, improving reporting lines, and safeguarding church property.
- Enhance tax compliance by reviewing tax-exemption status, filing annual returns, remitting statutory deductions, tracking surplus funds, and maintaining audit-ready records.
- Improve financial management and internal controls through stronger budgeting, procurement, reporting, approval processes, monthly financial reviews, and annual audits as part of the overall compliance response.



National Church leaders during the conference

- Prioritize child protection and safeguarding by developing or strengthening relevant policies, establishing incident-reporting procedures, and enforcing codes of conduct to reinforce safe church practice.
- Improve data protection by establishing clear procedures, registering or renewing registration with the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner, securing sensitive information, and enforcing access controls to strengthen responsible information handling.
- Build a strong culture of compliance through regular awareness programs, leadership training, quarterly compliance reviews, annual evaluations, expert support, and independent audits to sustain these measures.
- Plan to align church operations with the African Council for Accreditation and Accountability's standards and accreditation pathway through assessment, advisory support, and continuous improvement to ensure ongoing progress.



Panel Discussion with Afcaa and Compassion during the Conference

Beyond governance, the conference called churches to expand their commitment to children and youth programming.

In his closing remarks, **Newton Midamba**, Senior Manager of Partnership, encouraged leaders to carry the day's commitments back to their churches and denominational structures. The conference closed with prayers led by **Bishop Shadrack Oloo**, marking the end of a significant day of reflection, accountability, and renewed partnership.

Watch the highlights here https://youtu.be/23-DaWDFL5U

Contributor: Kipyegon Yator, Partnership Facilitator, Compassion Kenya

Our Church Partners

Celebrating Innovation and Self-Reliance at the Third CORA Awards



Compassion Team at the awards



Deputy Governor Francis Thoya presents the 2nd runners-up award for Overall Church to AIC Nzewani Church during the CORA Awards ceremony.

The third Celebrating Outstanding Remarkable Achievements Awards at Elim Church in Makupa, Mombasa, showcased a spirit of hope, collaboration, and change. The event united church partners, government officials, community members, and development actors to honor the positive effects of church-led efforts in tackling poverty, supporting families, and empowering children and youth.

The celebration, themed **"Spurring Innovation Toward Self-Reliance,"** showcased how local churches help communities transition from dependency to sustainable livelihoods, dignity, and lasting change. 90 Frontline Church Partners from the Coast and Eastern regions participated in the awards, presenting practical solutions, exchanging ideas, and celebrating excellence in holistic child and youth development. Francis Thoya, Deputy Governor of Mombasa County, attended the event and praised Compassion International Kenya and its church partners for their efforts to combat poverty, empower youth, and transform communities. He highlighted grassroots efforts, such as youth-led shoe-making enterprises, which generate income and tackle youth unemployment.



Compassion National Director, Samuel Wambugu presents a gift to Mombasa Deputy Governor, Francis Thoya during the CORA Awards ceremony.

The National Director of Compassion International Kenya highlighted that the awards symbolized more than just celebration; they embodied faith in action. He observed that exploring the exhibition stalls showcased stories of hope: young people gaining confidence, caregivers enhancing household income, churches leading in child protection, and families striving for self-reliance. He also emphasized that innovation extends beyond technology; it is a mindset that helps communities recognize opportunities, address challenges, and develop sustainable growth pathways. The exhibitions, featuring savings groups, youth enterprises, caregiver empowerment, and child protection programs, illustrated how local churches support families in building resilience and fostering hope.

The top winners included.

1. Wesa Pentecostal Evangelistic Fellowship of Africa
2. Africa Inland Church Nzewani Child Development Center
3. Mariakani Baptist Church

Several other church partners were also recognized for their exceptional work benefiting children families, and communities.

The awards honored excellence in seven key areas: Growth in Christ, Youth Agency, Self-Sufficiency, Integrated Well-being, Caregiver Empowerment, Child Protection, and Partner Outcomes. These categories highlight Compassion's comprehensive development approach, supporting children spiritually, emotionally, socially, physically, and economically. The celebration served as a valuable learning platform, featuring videos and exhibitions from various church partners. These showcased ideas highlighted best practices and motivated participants to expand successful initiatives within their communities. The core message from the third Celebrating Outstanding Remarkable Achievements Awards was clear: faith-based partnerships are effective. When churches, communities, government, and development partners work together, children gain opportunities, youth find purpose, caregivers boost livelihoods, and families rebuild hope. The awards recognized past accomplishments and also invited continued efforts to build self-reliant families, resilient communities, and a future where every child and young person can say, **"I can. I belong. I matter."**

Watch the highlights: https://bit.ly/3TrR2zP

Contributor: Carol Nyakoyo, Administrative Assistant, Compassion Kenya

Sustainable Communities

Smart Villages: Turning Local Resources into Lasting Impact



Community in a Smart Village



A Smart Village

There is a quiet kind of transformation happening in communities, one that does not begin with grand infrastructure or external dependency, but with something much simpler: the resources people already have and the willingness to use them differently.

The Smart Village initiative is built on this idea. It is not just a project but a way of rethinking how communities grow, sustain themselves, and thrive. By integrating access to clean water, household farming, environmental care, and clean energy, it is creating a model in which change is practical, visible, and lasting.

For many families, the journey begins with water. What was once a daily struggle with long distances, unreliable sources, and high costs has been replaced by consistent, affordable access. Solar-powered water systems now serve communities through frontline church partners, producing enough water to meet daily needs, while smart ATM technology allows households to access it conveniently. As one community member reflects, *"Before, getting water was a daily struggle. Now, it is accessible, affordable, and reliable."* From there, the impact extends into the home. Across households, small kitchen gardens are taking root. What may seem modest is now producing vegetables that feed families and, in many cases, generate additional income. More than **500** of these gardens have been established, each a reminder that food security does not always require large-scale farming; it can begin just outside the home. As one participant shares, *"We are no longer just buying food, we are growing it and even selling some."*

At the same time, the environment is being restored not as a separate effort but as part of everyday life. Tree nurseries and fruit tree cultivation are helping communities care for their surroundings while also investing in the future. Planting a tree becomes both practical and symbolic, an investment in tomorrow's shade, fruit, and stability.

Energy, too, is being reimagined. Through training and the adoption of clean, renewable solutions, households are finding safer, more sustainable ways to light their homes and cook their meals. These changes reduce reliance on harmful fuels, lower costs, and contribute to healthier living environments. What emerges is not just a technical shift but a lifestyle transformation. What makes the Smart Villages

> *"Planting trees is not just about today, it's about securing the future for our children."*

remarkable is not any single intervention but how they all come together. Water supports agriculture. Agriculture strengthens income and nutrition. Environmental conservation sustains both. Clean energy ties it all together into a system that is safer and more sustainable. It is this integration that allows communities to move beyond short-term solutions and build long-term resilience.

The results are already visible in improved health and hygiene, higher household incomes, and a renewed sense of ownership of the future. But perhaps the most powerful outcome is less tangible. It is the shift in perspective, the realization that change does not always have to come from outside but can be built from within. As one voice puts it, *"This is not just a project, it is changing how we live."*



A Smart Village

Watch the full story here: https://bit.ly/3Qp6tHN

Contributor: Emmanuel Okonda, Partnership Facilitator, Compassion Kenya

Sustainable Communities

A Home of Dignity: Restoring Safety, Hope, and Learning for Children in Voi and Turkana



House Before



House After

A home is more than just a physical structure. For children, it offers safety, belonging, dignity, protection, and growth opportunities. It is the space where learning continues beyond school, where families gather, where children sleep peacefully, and where hope for the future is nurtured. For many vulnerable families, lacking proper shelter can harm nearly every aspect of a child's life. It leaves children exposed to harsh weather, jeopardizes their health and safety, reduces privacy, disrupts learning, and can undermine their confidence and dignity. To combat this, Compassion International Kenya, launched a House Improvement Project, to create safe, decent homes for **70** registered families and their children in Voi, Taita Taveta County, and Turkana County.

Implemented between October 2025 and June 2026, the 10-month project was designed to improve the living conditions of children and families by providing safe, decent, and appropriate housing for each **local context**. The project reached **62** participants in Voi, Taita Taveta County, and 8 participants in Turkana County. With a total estimated budget of **KES 18,130,000** approximately **USD 140,108** , the project reflects Compassion's holistic approach to child development. In Taita Taveta, the intervention provided three-bedroom houses, while in Turkana, one-bedroom units were constructed due to environmental and logistical constraints, including water scarcity and soil conditions. This contextual approach ensured that the support provided was not only meaningful but also practical and responsive to the realities of each community.

The project aimed to improve dignity and privacy for **70** participants and their families by providing safe, decent shelter. For children, this involves more than just better housing; it means living in a safer environment, having improved study spaces, protection from harsh weather, and a supportive home that promotes their well-being. These homes help reduce health risks associated with substandard housing, enhance protection, provide better learning environments, and boost children's dignity, self-esteem, and sense of security.

> *"The results are clear: 70 completed houses are now occupied by families."*

The project highlights the vital role of community participation. In Taita Taveta, families and community members donated bricks, water, sand, ballast, and provided unskilled labor. Similarly, in Turkana, the community contributed unskilled labor, sand, and hardcore, with extra support given due to environmental challenges. These contributions fostered a sense of ownership and made the project more meaningful to those involved. The local church was instrumental in identifying needs, supporting families, coordinating resources, and ensuring that the homes addressed the community's specific realities. This approach exemplifies Compassion's church-driven model, in which transformation relies on trusted local partnerships and is sustained by ongoing relationships, accountability, and care.



Family in Voi with Compassion National director during a visit after home completion

The House Improvement Project highlights that holistic child development must address all aspects of a child's life. Education, health, protection, emotional well-being, and dignity are closely linked to the child's environment. By investing in shelter, Compassion and its church partners are laying the groundwork for children to dream, learn, and grow.

Watch the video here: https://youtu.be/AL6GvHuazpw

Contributor: Sarah Mwamburi-Kisombe, Program Support Specialist, Compassion Kenya

Compassion Kenya Partnerships

Partnership for Early Detection: Transforming the Lives of Children with Disabilities in Kenya



A caregiver and child participate in a screening session with BethanyKids.

In many underserved areas across Kenya, childhood disabilities often go undetected during the crucial early years. For thousands of families, this diagnostic delay can mean the difference between manageable conditions and those that lead to lifelong complications. Compassion Kenya, in partnership with BethanyKids, a nonprofit that provides specialized medical, surgical, and rehabilitative care to children with disabilities and complex conditions across Africa, including Kenya, aims to change this by delivering early screening, medical services, and comprehensive support directly to the communities in greatest need.

A Strategic Response to an Urgent Gap

Launched in July 2025, this community-based intervention spanned nine counties: Laikipia, Baringo, Meru, Isiolo, Samburu, Nakuru, Embu, Marsabit, and Tharaka-Nithi. These areas, many of which are classified as arid and semi-arid lands (ASAL), face persistent barriers to healthcare access, including long travel distances, limited specialized services, and low awareness of developmental conditions. The initiative focused on children under five, a period widely recognized as critical for identifying developmental delays and congenital conditions. Through mobile screening camps and community outreach, healthcare teams met families, bridging a gap that traditional facility-based systems often struggle to close.

Scale and Reach: Turning Numbers into Lives Changed

Since its launch, the program has screened **4,235** children in the targeted communities, a significant milestone in expanding access to early diagnosis. Of these, **91** children were referred for specialized surgical care, and **767** were directed to nearby health facilities for treatment of common illnesses. More than **55** children have been enrolled in ongoing care through BethanyKids clinics, ensuring continuity of treatment beyond initial diagnosis. To date, **56** successful surgeries have been completed, addressing conditions that, if left untreated, could severely limit a child's quality of life. The initiative addressed mobility challenges through assistive devices. Wheelchairs have already been issued. While these figures demonstrate scale, their true significance lies in the individual transformations behind them, including children who can now walk, sit, or attend school, and families who gain renewed hope.

> *"Surgical procedures, ranging from hernia repairs to neurosurgical management, are complemented by rehabilitation and follow-up care."*

Beyond Treatment: Addressing Complex Medical Needs

The conditions identified through screening span a wide spectrum of pediatric health challenges. These include congenital and developmental conditions such as clubfoot (a condition in which a baby's foot is twisted inward), spina bifida (a condition in which the spine does not fully develop), hydrocephalus (a buildup of fluid in the brain), and hernias (when an organ pushes through a weak spot in muscle), as well as orthopedic issues like knock knees (where the knees touch while standing straight) and complications from untreated burns. Interventions are tailored to each child's needs. Surgical procedures, ranging from hernia repairs to neurosurgical management, are complemented by rehabilitation and follow-up care. This integrated approach ensures that treatment does not end at diagnosis but continues through recovery and reintegration into daily life.

Supporting the Caregiver: A Holistic Model

Recognizing that a child's well-being is closely tied to a caregiver's capacity, the program places strong emphasis on psychosocial and emotional support. To date, **357** caregivers have participated in structured mental health sessions, helping them process the emotional and practical challenges of raising a child with a disability. An additional **24** caregivers have been referred for ongoing therapy, reflecting a commitment to sustained mental health support. In parallel, the initiative incorporates spiritual care, with **12** caregivers reporting faith commitments and receiving continued support from local church communities.

This work is grounded in Compassion's holistic child development model, which extends beyond medical intervention to nurture the whole child. It focuses on strengthening well-being across physical, mental, self-identity, and relational dimensions, while also supporting spiritual growth through discipleship. The approach equips local churches to create safe, participatory environments for children and youth and addresses the effects of poverty through context-specific programming. The model ensures that impact extends beyond immediate care to lasting transformation for children and their communities.



A caregiver and child participate in a screening session with BethanyKids.

Compassion Kenya Partnerships



Caregivers and community members with children under five during an awareness session prior to screening



Mothers in prenatal stages and caregivers of children under five participate in capacity-building training on early detection and developmental milestones.

Shifting Community Perceptions

In many of the targeted regions, stigma surrounding disability remains a significant barrier. Misconceptions can lead to isolation, delayed care seeking, and limited inclusion for affected children. Through community engagement and visibility into successful outcomes, the initiative challenged these narratives. As children receive treatment and regain mobility or function, communities witness firsthand the potential for change. This, in turn, fosters greater acceptance and encourages earlier engagement with healthcare services.

The Role of Investment

The intervention is supported by a comprehensive approach that addresses a range of needs that may arise for Compassion's participants, with a total budget of **KES 6,468,600** (approximately **USD 49,759**). This funding underpins every stage of the process from screening and referral to surgery, rehabilitation, and caregiver support. In a context where specialized pediatric care is often financially out of reach, this investment plays a critical role in expanding access. It demonstrates how targeted funding, when paired with strong partnerships and community-based delivery models, can yield measurable and meaningful impact.

> *"The approach equips local churches to create safe, participatory environments for children and youth and addresses the effects of poverty through context-specific programming. The model ensures that impact extends beyond immediate care to lasting transformation for children and their communities."*

Why Early Detection Matters

At the heart of this initiative is a simple yet powerful principle: early detection changes outcomes. When conditions are identified in the first years of life, interventions are more effective, less invasive, and significantly less costly over time. Conversely, delayed diagnosis can lead to complications that are harder and sometimes impossible to reverse. For children in underserved communities, where access to healthcare is already limited, early screening is not just beneficial but essential.

Looking Ahead

As the initiative continues to expand its reach, its long-term vision is clear: to ensure that no child is left behind because of preventable or treatable conditions. Scaling this model will require sustained investment, strengthened partnerships, and ongoing community engagement. The foundation has already been laid. Across nine counties in Kenya, thousands of children have been given a chance at healthier, more dignified lives, demonstrating that with the right approach, even the most complex challenges can be met with practical, life-changing solutions.

Watch the highlights here: https://youtu.be/FxWQHK3iEoE

Contributor: Eunice Mwariri, Program Support Specialist, Compassion Kenya.



A child from the community undergoes screening in Laikipia County, where a diagnosis is made and referral for treatment is provided.

Compassion Kenya Partnerships

Compassion Kenya and Dad Camp Formalize Partnership to Strengthen Fathers and Families



Jason Braun, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Dad Camp, and Samuel Wambugu, National Director of Compassion International Kenya, at the MOU signing



Jason Braun, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Dad Camp, and Samuel Wambugu, National Director of Compassion International Kenya, at the MOU signing

Compassion Kenya and Dad Camp formalized their partnership through a Memorandum of Understanding, signifying a significant step in their efforts to restore, disciple, and mobilize fathers and male caregivers across Kenya. The agreement was signed at the Compassion International Kenya offices by Jason Braun, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Dad Camp, and Samuel Wambugu, National Director of Compassion Kenya. It highlights a mutual dedication to strengthening families by empowering fathers to be more present, intentional, spiritually grounded, and actively involved in their children's lives.

This partnership expands Dad Camp's influence in Kenya, where it has engaged over **1,000** fathers through training, follow-ups, and community activities. More than **200** male church leaders have been trained and actively support the initiative, while over **200** male caregivers have committed their lives to Christ. Quarterly Dad Camp Breakfasts held across Compassion's Frontline Church Partners have reached over **520** fathers, offering ongoing encouragement, discipleship, mentorship, and peer support. The memorandum underscores the crucial role of fatherhood in comprehensive child development. Engaged fathers provide enhanced emotional support, protection, stability and foster healthier family relationships.

The partnership recognizes the vital role fathers and male caregivers play in nurturing children, strengthening families, and building resilient communities. Fathers are already making changes, being more intentional at home and taking charge of care, guidance, and spiritual leadership. Churches are establishing spaces such as men's fellowships and accountability groups to support this ongoing transformation beyond Dad Camp. The initiative also promotes local male leaders as facilitators, mentors, and advocates for responsible fatherhood, resulting in stronger family ties, household stability, and renewed hope. As fathers embrace their roles, child protection improves with increased involvement in nurturing and safeguarding.

The signing represents more than just an institutional Agreement; it embodies a dedication to investing in fathers, reinforcing families, supporting churches, and establishing safer environments where children can grow, feel a sense of belonging, and thrive. Through this partnership, Compassion Kenya and Dad Camp are promoting a movement towards restored fatherhood, healthier families, and revitalized communities.

Contributor: Nickson Bonke, Partnership Facilitator, Compassion Kenya,

> *"The initiative also promotes local male leaders as facilitators, mentors, and advocates for responsible fatherhood, resulting in stronger family ties, household stability, and renewed hope."*



The Compassion International Kenya and Dad Camp teams at the Compassion offices following the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding

Youth Development

Youth Outcome: Growth in Christ



Participants during a devotion session at home

Across communities in Kenya, a quiet yet powerful transformation is underway. Children and youth are not only growing physically and mentally; they are also growing spiritually, becoming rooted in faith, shaped by Scripture, and empowered to live it out in their daily lives. Through Compassion International's Growth in Christ Framework, young people are experiencing holistic transformation. At its core, this work is guided by a strategic vision focused on holistic spiritual development:

- **Youth are growing as Christ-followers,** becoming more Christ-like through a lifelong process of spiritual formation guided by the Holy Spirit, Scripture, and discipleship relationships.
- **Youth are committed to the Lordship of Jesus Christ,** placing faith in Jesus as Savior and Lord, deepening their devotion, developing a Christ-centered worldview, and sharing the gospel with others.
- **Youth are engaged in a nurturing Christian community,** experiencing belonging, encouragement, mentorship, and discipleship within a supportive faith environment.
- **Youth internalize biblical truth** by regularly engaging with Scripture, understanding its meaning, and applying biblical principles in daily life.
- **Youth are contributing through service** by identifying and using their talents and spiritual gifts to serve others and respond to needs within their communities.



Participants during reading the bible



Participants during a devotion session led by a church pastor.

In partnership with the local church, these outcomes are supported through intentional approaches such as Bible study groups, discipleship initiatives, and the practice of Christian disciplines in everyday life, creating nurturing spaces where children can grow, participate, and thrive. In these environments, young people deepen their understanding of Scripture, strengthen their devotion, and build a faith that shapes their identity. One participant highlighted, *"I learn a lot from the Bible, like praying like Paul and Silas, and now I pray for my friends and family."*



Participants during a devotion session in Church.

> *One participant highlighted, "I learn a lot from the Bible, like praying like Paul and Silas, and now I pray for my friends and family."*

In Kilifi, children are not just learning; they are leading. Through peer-led devotions and shared worship, they grow in confidence as young disciples. A strong s ense of belonging is central to this journey. Through mentorship and Christian fellowship, children find safe spaces where they are supported and encouraged to grow. For many families, the change is deeply personal. *"I have seen a big difference in my children. They can now pray and even read the bible." Caregiver, Kilifi County*. Caregivers are witnessing children step into new roles, demonstrating responsibility, spiritual awareness, and leadership within their homes.

Watch the video here: https://bit.ly/4tMncn7

Contributor: Nickson Bonke, Partnership Facilitator, Compassion Kenya.

Youth Development

Compassion-Supported Youth Take the Lead in Kenya Children's Assembly Elections in Makueni County



Newly elected Kenya Children's Assembly leaders during the launch and elections of the Makueni County chapter



Seven of the ten elected leaders are from Compassion-assisted projects, including the newly elected KCA Governor, Shama Mwenda

The Makueni County Government reached a significant milestone by launching the Kenya Children's Assembly, Makueni. This Assembly provides a formal platform for children to discuss topics that affect their lives, such as education, health, protection, safety, and overall well-being. Additionally, it provides children with hands-on experience in leadership, civic engagement, democratic processes, and advocating for their rights.

The launch and elections brought together children from all over Makueni County to choose leaders who will advocate for their peers and for children's welfare. The event was graced by Engineer Sebastian Kyoni, the County Executive Committee Member for Gender, Children, Youth, Sports, and Social Services, along with officials from the State Department for Children Services. A key highlight was the impressive performance of children involved in Compassion-supported church partner projects in Makueni, who secured seven of the ten available positions. Notably, Shama Mwenda, a participant in the Compassion program, was elected Governor of the Kenya Children's Assembly in Makueni County, the assembly's highest leadership role.

This achievement highlights how intentional investments in children, such as mentorship, leadership programs, child protection, and participation initiatives, are making a significant impact. Collaborating with local church partners, children are building confidence, understanding their rights and duties, and using their voices to promote positive change. Elected leaders now have a clear platform to involve children in decision-making at both t he county and national levels. Their leadership not only amplifies children's voices in Makueni County but also inspires other children and adolescents to participate in leadership, advocacy, and community development.

Highlights

- **10 youth** were elected to the Kenya Children's Assembly leadership in Makueni County.
- **7 of the elected leaders** are from Compassion Frontline church partner projects.
- **Shama Mwenda** was elected Governor of the Kenya Children's Assembly, the highest office in the county chapter.
- Youth participation and representation in governance and children's rights advocacy were strengthened.
- Youth gained greater confidence, leadership exposure, and practical experience in democratic processes.

Remarks from the Frontline Church Partner Child Protection Representative:

"I congratulate all the children who were elected to the Kenya Children's Assembly leadership. Your success demonstrates that when children are empowered and given opportunities, they can become effective leaders and agents of positive change. I am particularly proud that seven of the ten elected leaders come from Compassion-assisted projects, including Shama Mwenda, who was elected Governor. May you serve with integrity, courage, and a passion for advocating for the rights and well-being of all children in Makueni County."

Contributor: Faith Maundu, Makueni

Youth Development

Compassion International Kenya Empowers Youth Through Vocational and Digital Skills



Graduates celebrate during the PawaTech Digital Freelancing Program graduation ceremony.

Compassion International Kenya prepares young people for responsible, productive, and self-reliant adulthood through strategic partnerships with MIBS College and PawaTech Solutions Limited. These collaborations equip youth with practical skills aligned with current job market demands, enhance employability, encourage entrepreneurship, and open avenues to sustainable livelihoods.

> *These initiatives collectively illustrate Compassion's all-encompassing approach to youth development, aiming to cultivate capable, confident, self-reliant, and purpose-driven young people.*

In partnership with MIBS College, Compassion International Kenya recognized **478** youth beneficiaries supported by Compassion from various regions, including Nakuru, Laikipia, Samburu, Marsabit, Meru, Isiolo, Tharaka Nithi, and Embu County, at the **6th** MIBS College Graduation Ceremony. These graduates have completed short courses in Mobile Phone Repair, Cosmetology, Motorcycle Repair, Tile Installation, and Gypsum and Ceiling Installation. They also acquired additional skills in Photography and Videography, Baking, and Basic Computer Skills, expanding their income diversification opportunities. The MIBS program achieved a **99** percent training completion rate, and **99** percent of participants are already earning income from their new skills.



Justus Muinde, senior managerof buisness support, poses with graduates during the graduation ceremony.



Graduates celebrate during the MIBS College graduation ceremony.

Similarly, Compassion International Kenya, in partnership with PawaTech Solutions Limited, launched the Digital Freelancing Program under the theme **"Empowering Youth Through Digital Jobs."** The initiative trained **40** participants from Meru, Isiolo, and Samburu Counties in digital skills over two months, followed by a month of mentorship. This training introduced participants to online work opportunities and improved their confidence, professionalism, client engagement, financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and problem-solving skills. The **40** graduates have collectively earned over **KES 2 million**, roughly **USD 15,500,** through digital freelancing, with the highest earning close to **KES 300,000**, about **USD 2,300**. The program also supports education sustainability, as all graduates are expected to enroll in universities and colleges in September **2026**, leveraging their digital skills to fund their higher education.

These initiatives collectively illustrate Compassion's all-encompassing approach to youth development, aiming to cultivate capable, confident, self-reliant, and purpose-driven young people.

Contributor: Antony Wangeci, Program Support Specialist, Compassion Kenya

Sustainable Livelihoods

Caregivers Building Economic Resilience in Olesharo, Narok County.



Compassion Team in Aic-Olesharo Cooperative Dairy Launch

The Africa Inland Church Olesharo Savings Group Ministries initiative has evolved from a modest community effort into a robust model of caregiver empowerment, financial discipline, and local ownership. Starting in mid-2023 with two savings groups, Africa Inland Church Oloirien and Africa Inland Church Nabulaa, each consisting of **25** members, the program has grown to include eight active savings groups and a cooperative society that helps families with savings, loans, business development, and community investments.

The groups were formed to enable caregivers to access affordable loans, increase household income, and develop essential financial skills. Members adhere to clear guidelines for savings, loan procedures, guarantors, repayment, and group duties. Monthly training sessions regularly cover topics like savings, investments, business planning, financial management, and fostering group unity. The positive results are evident in the businesses and income-generating initiatives members have launched or expanded. Caregivers are investing in kitchen gardens, groceries, beadwork, poultry farming, ram fattening, milk production, and small housing improvements. Additionally, the groups have combined resources to purchase assets such as tents, hireable chairs, land, shops, and a milk cooling system.



Community at Aic-Olesharo Cooperative Dairy Launch

In September 2025, the eight groups united to form the Africa Inland Church Olesharo Cooperative Society, establishing a stronger foundation for collective investment and sustainable growth. By May 2026, the groups had accumulated combined savings of KES **4,796,000**, about USD **37,000**, and owned shared assets such as tents, two acres of land, two shops, and an **8,000**-liter milk cooling system. A key achievement has been the cooperative's milk value addition project. Compassion International, through the Food Security and Livelihoods program, provided **KES 3,000,000** in support, roughly USD **23,200,** while the society contributed **KES 800,000,** about **USD 13,900**. This funding aims to boost dairy-related livelihoods and add more value for caregivers engaged in milk production.



Aic-Olesharo Cooperative Dairy Launch

> *By May 2026, the groups had accumulated combined savings of KES 4,796,000, about USD 37,000, and owned shared assets such as tents, two acres of land, two shops, and an 8,000-liter milk cooling system.*

Beyond boosting financial growth, the initiative has generated significant social and spiritual benefits. Members regularly gather for encouragement, peer learning, business advice, and spiritual support rooted in biblical principles. A particularly encouraging result is the increased involvement of men. In a setting where child-related activities are often seen as women's responsibilities, more male caregivers are actively engaging in program activities, especially within savings group ministries. Notably, the three savings group trainers are men, indicating a positive shift toward community participation and shared responsibility for children's and families' well-being.

The Africa Inland Church Olesharo Cooperative Society demonstrates that savings groups can serve roles beyond finances. They act as catalysts for dignity, inclusion, livelihood enhancement, spiritual nurturing, and community change.

Contributor: Beatrice Ruiru, Partnership Facilitator, Compassion Kenya

Sustainable Livelihoods

Enhancing Livelihoods with Baking and Poultry at the Anglican Church of Kenya, Maseno, Kisumu County.



Shiners Bakery Group

At the Anglican Church of Kenya in Maseno, Kisumu County, caregiver empowerment is expanding via practical, community-based confidence, and develop long-term resilience. By engaging in Savings Group Ministries and Common Interest Groups, caregivers come together around shared economic objectives, pool resources, learn new skills, and launch income-generating activities that reduce dependence on external aid and strengthen household stability.

Two groups demonstrate this transformation: Shiners Bakery Group and Favor Self-Help Group. One thrives in baking, the other in poultry, but both are built on teamwork, faith, local ownership, and a common aim to improve the lives of children and families.

Baking Hope: The Shiners Bakery Group

Shiners Bakery Group turns basic ingredients like flour and charcoal, along with determination, into a growing source of income. The group brings together mothers and grandmothers, many of whom are responsible for vulnerable children. What began as a small income activity has become a symbol of dignity, mentorship, and independence. Central to their story is Ann, a caregiver and widow who, after her husband's passing, took on the challenge of supporting her family alone. Joining the bakery provided her with more than income; it gave her a renewed sense of purpose. Today, she trains and motivates other women to knead dough, manage orders, oversee the oven, and believe in their own resilience.

> *"I know what it feels like to have nothing," Ann says. "So I will not let another woman sit and wait. We will bake, we will sell, we will rise."*

Every morning, women gather to bake fresh buns using a simple charcoal oven. Their products now supply the Frontline Church Partner and several local schools, including Chulaimbo Boys, Ekwanda Boys, Ebusakami Girls, Mwanzo Wetu Primary School, and Wonderland Primary School. They also take orders for social events, steadily growing their customer base and community reputation. With an estimated monthly investment of **KES 30,000 (USD 232)**, the group earns about **KES 75,600** (**USD 585**). After covering key expenses, they have an estimated monthly surplus of **KES44,200** (**USD 342**), which helps pay caregivers, reinvest in ingredients and equipment, and support the children.

Growing Opportunity: The Favor Self-Help Group

The Favor Self-Help Group is opening new opportunities through poultry farming. Originally formed by **23** members who shared a common goal of boosting their household incomes through a sustainable activity, the group decided to pursue poultry farming after discussion and planning. They collectively raised **KES11,500**, roughly **USD89**, to buy **100** one-day-old chicks, feed, vaccines, and other essentials. To enhance their knowledge, they partnered with Uzima Chickens for hands-on training in poultry management, feeding, disease prevention, and marketing. This partnership was enabled by the initiative of group leader Patrick Odongo, whose leadership facilitated access to vital technical support.



The group leader, Patrick Odongo *100 day-old chicks*

The poultry project is currently based at a caregiver's home, where she voluntarily provides her poultry structure and cares for the birds on behalf of the group. This has reduced start-up expenses and demonstrated the group's strong sense of ownership and responsibility. They plan to sell the chickens at about three months of age. Income from the first sales will be reinvested to purchase an additional **100** chicks. Through this revolving approach, the group aims to become a self-sufficient poultry business that regularly generates income for its members.

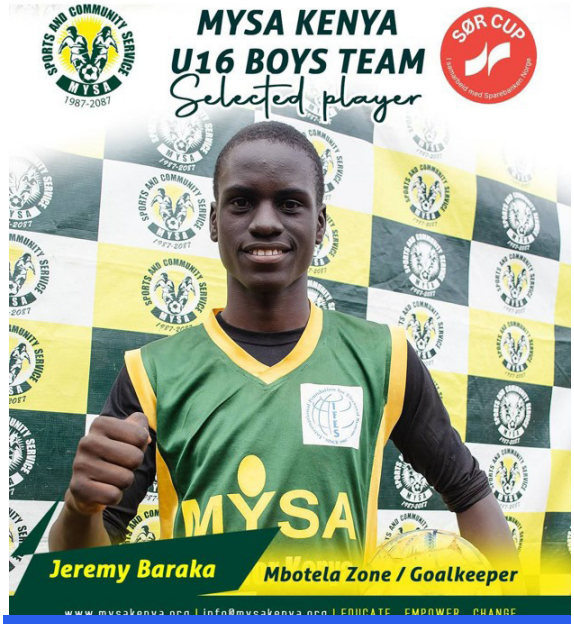
One Vision, Two Pathways

Though the initiatives differ, both demonstrate that trained, organized enhance families. Shiners Bakery Group leverages skills, mentorship, and market access to transform simple products into dignity and income. Meanwhile, Favor Self Help Group illustrates how local savings, training, and shared responsibility can foster a promising community enterprise. Both reflect the Anglican Church of Kenya Maseno emphasis on caregiver empowerment as part of child development. When caregivers earn income, children benefit from stable households, improved care, protection, and hope.

Contributor: Leah Achar, Anglican Church of Kenya in Maseno.

Creative Economy

From Passion to Success: The Journey of Jeremy Baraka



Jeremy

No matter a child's background or difficulties, proper support can turn talent into opportunity. Jeremy Baraka, a 15-year-old from Saint John's Primary School in Nairobi, Kenya, sees football as more than a hobby—it's a way to build confidence, discipline, gain exposure, and find hope. He began playing at age **10** and, like many children from modest backgrounds, loved the game deeply. His journey was tough; he sometimes had to share football boots with his older brother, which meant he missed matches. Despite these challenges, his parents' encouragement helped him stay committed to his dream.

Supported by Frontline Church Partners, Jeremy has engaged in various football activities, including attending Saturday matches, using equipment, participating in tournaments, and preparing important documents, such as his passport, for upcoming opportunities. This support has been vital in nurturing his talent and increasing his confidence. He has also benefited from training and mentorship through Halisi Academy. He has competed in numerous tournaments, including the Football Kenya Federation Youth Leagues, the Mathare Youth Sports Association Mbotela Zonal League, the Rausha Kipaji Cup in Nakuru, the Mazingira Cup in Lower Kabete, the Futa Best Tournament, where his team reached the finals, the Halisi Cup, and the Honorable Jateso Super Cup.



Jeremy during a Match

Jeremy's commitment to training and discipline ultimately opened a major door. From a pool of **200** players, he was selected for a tournament organized by the Mathare Youth Sports Association. He then became one of only six goalkeepers chosen for an under-**16** trip to the Norway Cup, an annual international youth football event in Norway. For Jeremy, flying represented pride, dignity, and increased confidence. It strengthened his self-belief and served as an inspiring example for other chrildren in the program. His football journey also included memorable moments, such as competing in the Rausha Kipaji Tournament in Nakuru, where he had the opportunity to take photos with Honorable Felix Odiwuor, Member of Parliament for Langata.



A pose with the MP for Lang'ata, Honorable Phelix Odiwuor

Today, Jeremy continues to chase his big dreams. He aspires to play in the Kenya Premier League and improve as a goalkeeper. His story shows that with support, mentorship, and opportunities, children's talents can flourish. Jeremy has become an inspiration to other project participants and local youth. His journey illustrates how passion, discipline, family encouragement, and proper support can open doors that once seemed inaccessible.

Contributor: Kipyegon Yator, Partnership Facilitator, Compassion Kenya



The Team in Norway



The team at Norway. Jeremy is in the back row, standing, second left

Child Protection

Community-Led Child Protection Campaign Strengthens Safeguarding at AIC Maeni Satellite Project



Community members and Parents of Satellite (AIC Maeni)

Africa Inland Church Maeni is a satellite initiative of the Africa Inland Church Kanzinwa Child Development Center and is supported by Compassion as a Frontline Church Partner. It currently assists 63 registered caregivers and plays a key role in raising awareness about child protection within the community. The center selected 18 Child Protection Champions from among parents and caregivers, each representing a different village within the project zone. The Children's Officer trained these champions on important child protection issues, including child rights, prevention of abuse and neglect, and appropriate reporting methods. Following the training, they established and registered the Linda Mtoto Self-Help Group to strengthen community-driven child protection efforts and foster collective responsibility for safeguarding children.



Community members and Parents of Satellite (AIC Maeni)

> *The event aimed to raise awareness among parents, caregivers, and community members about protecting children from abuse, neglect, and harm. Participants learned about preventing child abuse, the impacts of neglect, parental safeguarding roles, and proper reporting channels.*

In a commitment to child safety, Linda Mtoto Self-Help Group, along with project staff and Accountability Structure Members, held a one-day Child Protection Campaign at Africa Inland Church Maeni on **June 17, 2026**. The event aimed to raise awareness among parents, caregivers, and community members about protecting children from abuse, neglect, and harm. Participants learned about preventing child abuse, the impacts of neglect, parental safeguarding roles, and proper reporting channels. The area Assistant Chief also attended, urging the community to participate in child protection efforts and report abuse cases actively. Over **80** community members, including parents and caregivers from the satellite project, attended. Through discussions and awareness sessions, attendees gained a better understanding of the importance of child protection and the need for collective effort to foster safe, nurturing environments for children.



Community members and Parents of Satellite (AIC Maeni)

The campaign enhanced collaboration among caregivers, community leaders, government officials, project staff, and Accountability Structure Members. It also showcased how community ownership can effectively promote child safety, well-being, and shared responsibility.

Contributor: Joshua Mutisya, Project Director



Community members and Parents of Satellite (AIC Maeni)

Events

Muskathlon 2026: Faith in Motion, Hope in Action



Runners during Musakthlon

Muskathlon **2026** was more than an endurance event. It was a powerful expression of faith, partnership, sacrifice, and compassion in action. Through the longstanding collaboration between Compassion Kenya, Compassion Netherlands, and the 4M Movement, sponsors, participants, church partners, families, and children came together around one shared mission: releasing children from poverty in Jesus' name.

The Muskathlon journey in Kenya began in **2015** with the first event in Transmara, Narok County. Since then, the movement has continued to grow, hosting events in Baringo County, Laikipia County, Kwale County, Isiolo County, and, most recently, in Voi, Taita Taveta County, in **2026**. Over the years, this partnership has reached more than **20,000** children and families through sponsorship, infrastructure development, water projects, shelter improvements, educational support, and community development initiatives.

This year's Muskathlon was a powerful reminder of what becomes possible when people choose to act with compassion. A total of **KES 94,936,552** (approximately **733,307.50 USD**) was raised at the event to support children and families. In addition, the Kenya National Office raised **KES572,000** (approximately **4,414.60 USD**), demonstrating strong ownership, unity, and commitment to the mission. Through the event, **320** children were newly sponsored, opening a new chapter of hope, care, and opportunity in their lives. Beyond the numbers, the true impact of Muskathlon was evident in the relationships formed and strengthened. More than **48** children had the opportunity to meet their sponsors in person, many for the first time. These moments created deep connections among children, families, and sponsors, reminding everyone that sponsorship is not simply a financial commitment but a relationship of love, encouragement, and shared hope.

The impact also extended into homes, churches, and communities. Muskathlon participants visited eight Frontline Church Partners and more than **30** homes, fostering opportunities for prayer, listening, encouragement, and genuine connection. These visits allowed sponsors to see firsthand how the local church supports children and families in spiritual, social, emotional, and practical ways. Muskathlon is unique for bringing together fitness, faith, and compassion. Participants train for months, raise funds, and take on an endurance challenge not only for personal achievement but also for the sake of children and families facing poverty. Every step taken, every kilometer completed, and every contribution made becomes part of a larger story of transformation.



Runners during Musakthlon



Runners during Musakthlon

Watch the Highlights Here: https://bit.ly/4y91xrO

Contributor: Raphael Jalang'o, Supervisor of Sponsor Donor Support, Compassion Kenya



Runners during Musakthlon

Events

Celebrating Excellence at Education Day 2026



Participants receiving cheques during the award ceremony

Education Day, is a special occasion dedicated to celebrating academic excellence and recognizing outstanding performance in the 2025 Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) and Kenya Junior School Education Assessment (KJSEA) examinations. The event brought together **174** participants,



Participants outside Compassion Kenya offices

A major highlight of the day was the awarding of scholarships to deserving beneficiaries. Eighty-four KJSEA participants received scholarships worth **KES 40,000** (approximately **USD 310**) annually for three years, representing a total investment of **KES 10,080,000** (approximately **USD 78,000**) toward their continued education. In addition, **27** KCSE participants were awarded scholarships of up to **KES 60,000** (approximately **USD 465**) annually for four years to support their university education, funded by a Complementary intervention (CIV). The event also recognized excellence among Frontline Church Partners, with two top-performing FCPs receiving awards of **KES 200,000** each (approximately **USD 1,550**) for their remarkable contribution to education and child development.

> *"Education is more than academic success; it is the foundation upon which dreams are built, and futures are transformed." — Dr. Faith.*



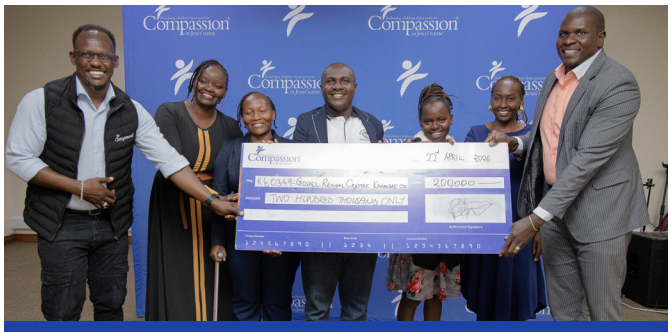
Participants receiving cheques during the award ceremony

Participants were further inspired by Dr. Faith from Africa Nazarene University, who attended as the guest speaker. Her powerful address encouraged students and stakeholders alike to pursue excellence, resilience, and purpose in their educational journeys. "Education is more than academic success; it is the foundation upon which dreams are built, and futures are transformed." – Dr. Faith.



Participants receiving cheques during the award ceremony

The Education Day celebration served as a reminder of the transformative power of education and the collective commitment to empowering children and youth to achieve their full potential.



Participants receiving cheques during the award ceremony

Watch the Highlights Here: https://bit.ly/4wypV4n

Contributor: Douglas Moseti, Program Support Specialist, Compassion Kenya.

Events

Celebrating Mother's Day



Mothers Day Group

> *"When we empower a mother, we secure the future of an entire generation."*

Compassion International Kenya commemorated Mother's Day by honoring the strength, resilience, and dedication of mothers supported through its Survival and Early Childhood Development programs. This event was part of Compassion's broader effort to support **2,473** mothers involved in the Survival Program across Kenya. The day was filled with laughter, worship, and joy during the celebration held at the Anglican Church of Kenya Good Shepherd Isinya, a Compassion Frontline Church Partner. The gathering included **65** mothers with children under three years old from Isinya's host church and Deliverance Church Kiserian.

The event, attended by representatives from Compassion International Kenya, celebrated mothers who continue to nurture, protect, and shape their children's futures despite social and economic challenges. Through the local church, Compassion's Survival Program offers comprehensive support to vulnerable mothers and infants from pregnancy through the first year of the child's life, including health



Mothers Day Group

and nutrition services, parenting training, emotional and spiritual support, and economic empowerment. A highlight of the occasion was an awards ceremony led by Catherine Wamiti, Senior Manager of Program Support, during which each mother received a bravery certificate and a personalized tote bag in recognition of her courage and dedication.

In her speech, Catherine praised the mothers for their relentless love and sacrifices, highlighting, "When we empower a mother, we secure the future of an entire generation." The event served as a strong reminder that supporting mothers leads to stronger families, better protection for children, and healthier communities.

Contributor: Irene Kimani, Program Support Specialist, Compassion Kenya



Survival mother & Baby

Events

Funday

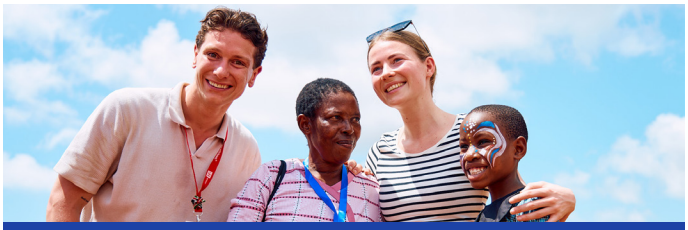
Funday is a highlight of the sponsorship experience, offering sponsors and children a special opportunity to meet face-to-face. It cultivates moments of joy, encouragement, and shared hope. Thanks to Compassion's collaboration with local churches, Funday enables sponsors to connect directly with the children they support, listen to their stories, share laughter, and witness the real effects of sponsorship on their lives and communities. These experiences highlight that sponsorship is about more than just financial aid; it's a relationship rooted in love, dignity, prayer, and compassion. Through activities like games, conversations, and genuine smiles, Funday highlights how connection can bridge borders, cultures, and communities.

Watch the Highlights here: https://bit.ly/4wcCymh.

Contributor: Raphael Jalang'o, Supervisor of Sponsor Donor Support, Compassion Kenya.



Sponsors with their sponsored children during the Fun Day



Sponsors with their sponsored children during the Fun Day



Sponsors with their sponsored children during the Fun Day



Sponsors with their sponsored children during the Fun Day



Sponsors with their sponsored children during the Fun Day



Sponsors with their sponsored children during the Fun Day



Sponsors with their sponsored children during the Fun Day



Sponsors with their sponsored children during the Fun Day

Events

Strengthening Impact Through Partnership and Public Accountability- PBO Week 2026

Compassion International Kenya was proud to participate in Public Benefits Organizations Week 2026, themed **"A New Dawn in Action."** The event united government officials, civil society, development partners, and other key players to discuss the role of public benefit organizations in fostering sustainable change across Kenya. The gathering was attended by notable leaders, including Her Excellency, the First Lady of Kenya, the Cabinet Secretary for Interior and National Administration, and officials from the Public Benefits Organizations Regulatory Authority. Their presence highlighted the importance of collaboration among government, public benefit entities, and development partners in addressing community needs and boosting national progress.



The First lady of the Republic of Kenya is visiting booths.

> *"A key highlight was the release of the Public Benefits Organizations Sector Report, which highlighted the sector's focus on accountability, good governance, transparency, and achieving measurable results."*



Compassion team during the PBO Week



Compassion team during the PBO Week

A key highlight was the release of the Public Benefits Organizations Sector Report, which highlighted the sector's focus on accountability, good governance, transparency, and achieving measurable results. For Compassion International Kenya, this confirmed the importance of operating within strong regulatory and partnership frameworks that build public trust and ensure responsible management. The event also provided an excellent opportunity to connect with partners



The report

and stakeholders at the Compassion booth. Through meaningful discussions, Compassion demonstrated its initiatives in holistic child and youth development, church collaboration, child protection, youth empowerment, and community transformation. Overall, the event emphasized that sustainable impact depends on strong partnerships among organizations, government, communities, churches, and stakeholders. By working together, sharing knowledge, and upholding accountability, we can foster environments where children, youth, families, and communities thrive.



Compassion team during the PBO Week

Watch the highlights here: https://bit.ly/4bxOA0U.

Events

Celebrating Day of the African Child



Brass Band of Compassion Participants perfoming during the Event in Kwale County

Every 16 June, Africa observes the Day of the African Child, a day to reflect on children's rights, well-being, protection, and future across the continent. The 2026 theme, **"Ensuring Access to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for Every Child in Africa,"** emphasizes a fundamental aspect of child survival and overall development.

Access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene isn't just a development goal it's essential for a child's health, dignity, protection, education, and future opportunities. Without clean water and sanitation, children are at greater risk of preventable illnesses, not going to school, and face increased safety and well-being threats, especially girls and vulnerable communities. Over the last five years, Compassion International Kenya has carried out water, sanitation, and hygiene projects reaching approximately **58,000** children through more than **150** church partners. These efforts have also supported caregivers, households, schools, and the broader community. The investments included building and rehabilitating **51** water projects, such as **15** boreholes, **2** sand dams, and **34** other water systems, like rainwater harvesting, river abstraction, water purification, distribution networks, and spring protection. Now, over **10,000** participants and their families have better access to safe drinking water.



Children proudly holding the Day of the African Child banner after the procession at Maranatha Angata grounds



Children passionately reciting a poem on child rights during the event at Angata Barrikoi, Narok County.

Sanitation and hygiene remain a top priority. Compassion Kenya has supported **38** sanitation facilities at church partner sites, helped over **2,000** households improve sanitation through Community-Led Total Sanitation, established **200** handwashing stations for church partners, and supplied more than **2,000** household handwashing facilities. Hygiene promotion and behavior change initiatives have reached approximately **30,000** people across **141** Frontline Church Partners, focusing on handwashing, safe water handling and storage, household sanitation, and community hygiene awareness.

In the last five years, Compassion Kenya has allocated roughly **USD 2,255,618**, or about **KES 292,129,026**, toward water, sanitation, and hygiene initiatives. This funding has supported assessments, water infrastructure development, hygiene promotion, emergency responses, menstrual hygiene programs, sustainability efforts, and community engagement.

The effects of these interventions are evident in communities. An evaluation after the sand dam project in Kitui County revealed notable advancements in water access, quality, and health. **76%** of community members considered the dam reliable, with **44%** rating the water quality as excellent and **53%** as good. Communities also experienced fewer waterborne disease cases, less time spent collecting water, better child health and nutrition, improved menstrual hygiene, lower household medical expenses, and greater dignity



Procession Match with HE Chirema Kombo - Deputy Governor of Kwale and the participants

and safety for children. Compassion Kenya continues to advocate for climate-resilient and sustainable solutions, such as Smart Village innovations, solar water systems, multi-use water infrastructure, flood and drought-sensitive setups, and tailored solutions like sand dams in dry regions. These strategies aim to boost community ownership, enhance sustainability, and adapt to the challenges of climate change.



Participants from Mombasa County performing During the celebration Procession Match with HE Chirema Kombo - Deputy Governor of Kwale and the participants

Inclusion is a key aspect of this initiative. Compassion emphasizes supporting vulnerable children and underserved communities by providing disability-friendly and child-friendly water and sanitation facilities, as well as water systems closer to homes. Children actively participate through hygiene education, child-focused campaigns, environmental conservation efforts, and community forums. The 2026 Day of the African Child theme highlights that access to water, sanitation, and hygiene is a right, not a privilege fundamental to dignity, health, education, protection, and opportunity.

Contributor: Johnbosco Andolo, Program Support Specialist, Compassion Kenya



Participants from Mombasa County performing During the celebration Procession Match with HE Chirema Kombo - Deputy Governor of Kwale

Strengthening the Work: People, Systems & Learning

Understanding Procurement: More Than Just Buying.

What is Procurement?

Many people think procurement means purchasing goods or services. While buying is part of procurement, it is only one step in a much larger process. Procurement is the process of identifying a need, planning for it, selecting the right supplier, purchasing the required goods or services, and ensuring they are delivered as expected. Every step is designed to ensure the organization receives quality products and services at the best value while maintaining fairness, transparency, and accountability.

Why Does Procurement Matter?

Good procurement helps organizations:

- **Use resources responsibly.**
- **Obtain value for money.**
- **Reduce risks.**
- **Deliver projects on time.**
- **Build strong relationships with suppliers.**
- **Ensure compliance with company policies and donor requirements.**

When procurement is done well, everyone benefits, from employees and partners to the communities we serve.

The Procurement Process

Although every purchase is different, procurement generally follows the same structured process. To illustrate, imagine the organization needs **10 laptops** for new employees.

1. A Need Is Identified

The IT department informs management that 10 new employees are joining, and each will need a laptop to perform their work.

2. The Requirement is Planned and Budgeted

The team confirms the number of laptops needed, the required specifications, and whether funds are available within the approved budget.

3. Suitable Suppliers are Identified

Procurement identifies qualified suppliers capable of providing laptops that meet the organization's quality and technical requirements.

4. Quotations or Bids are Requested

The selected suppliers are invited to submit quotations detailing their prices, delivery timelines, warranty terms, and other relevant information.

5. Suppliers are Evaluated Fairly

The quotations are compared using agreed evaluation criteria such as price, quality, technical compliance, delivery time, warranty, and after-sales support. The objective is to identify the supplier that offers the best overall value, not simply the lowest price.

6. A Supplier is Selected and Approved

The supplier that best meets the requirements is recommended for award and approved according to the organization's approval process.

7. A Purchase Order or Contract is Issued

Procurement issues a Purchase Order (PO) or signs a contract, formally confirming what will be supplied, the agreed price, delivery schedule, and payment terms.

8. Goods or Services are Delivered

The supplier delivers the laptops, and the receiving team checks that the correct quantity, specifications, and quality match the order.

9. Payment is Made After Confirming Satisfactory Delivery

Once the laptops have been inspected and accepted, and all required documentation is complete, Finance processes payment in accordance with the agreed terms.

10. Supplier Performance is Reviewed

Procurement assesses the supplier's performance by considering factors such as product quality, delivery timeliness, responsiveness, and overall service. This information helps determine whether the supplier should be considered for future purchases. Each step helps ensure that purchases are made responsibly and in accordance with organizational policies.

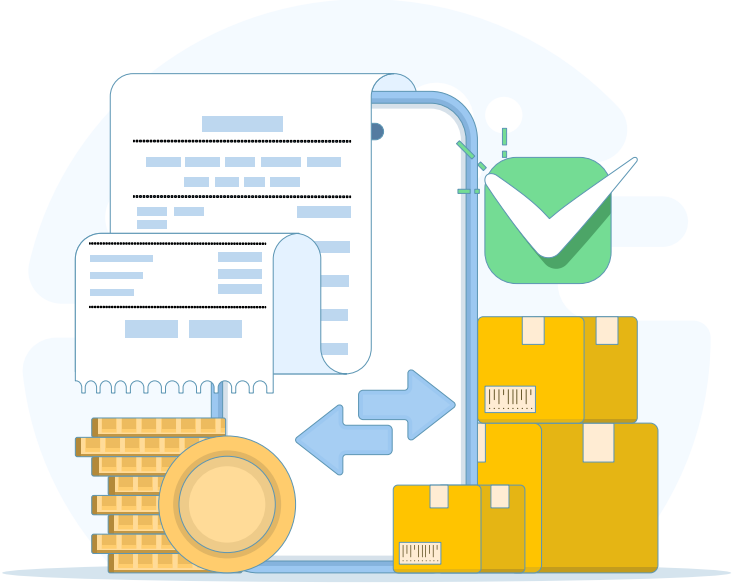
Everyone Has a Role

Procurement is not just the responsibility of the procurement team. Requestors, budget holders, finance teams, approvers, project teams, and suppliers all contribute to a successful procurement process. Working together ensures purchases are timely, compliant, and provide the best value.

Looking Ahead

This article is the first in our Procurement Learning Series. In future editions, we will explore procurement planning, supplier selection, contract management, ethical procurement, and practical tips that help make procurement more efficient and effective.

Contributor: Xavier Maina, Sourcing Specialist, Compassion Kenya



People And Culture

New Staff



Patrick

Ekalale Patrick Ekom

Ekalale Patrick Ekom joins Compassion International as a Partnership Facilitator I, bringing a decade of experience in development and humanitarian programming across Kenya. His expertise spans resilient livelihoods, economic inclusion, food security, climate resilience, market systems development, financial inclusion, and private sector engagement.

Before joining Compassion, Ekalale served in various technical and leadership roles with international and local organizations, including Save the Children International, DanChurchAid, Habitat for Humanity Kenya, Smart Regional Consultants, and Plan International Kenya. Throughout his career, he has designed and implemented programs that have strengthened the resilience and economic well-being of vulnerable communities, particularly women, youth, refugees, and pastoralist households across Turkana, Mandera, Nakuru, Busia, Siaya, Laikipia, and Nyandarua counties.

Ekalale holds a Bachelor of Science in Management of Agroecosystems and Environment. He is also certified in Project Management for Development Professionals (PMD Pro), Agricultural Value Chain Analysis, Market Systems Development, and Financial Inclusion through the Village Savings and Lending Associations (VSLA) methodology.

Outside of work, Ekalale enjoys reading the Bible, attending fellowship, facilitating youth engagement sessions, organizing youth rallies and retreats, and playing basketball. He is passionate about mentoring young people and supporting vulnerable communities to build resilient and sustainable livelihoods.

His favorite Bible verse is

Psalm 91:1: "He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty."



Juliet

Juliet Tsuma

Juliet Tsuma joins Compassion International as a Grants Acquisition Specialist II, bringing experience in institutional fundraising, donor relations, strategic partnerships, and communications.

Before joining Compassion, Juliet served as a Business Development Consultant at the Sustainable Africa Foundation, formerly known as the Syngenta Foundation. She also worked with Solidaridad Eastern and Central Africa as the Regional Business Development, Partnerships, and Donor Relations Coordinator, and with the International Land Coalition as the Regional Communications and Resource Mobilization Officer.

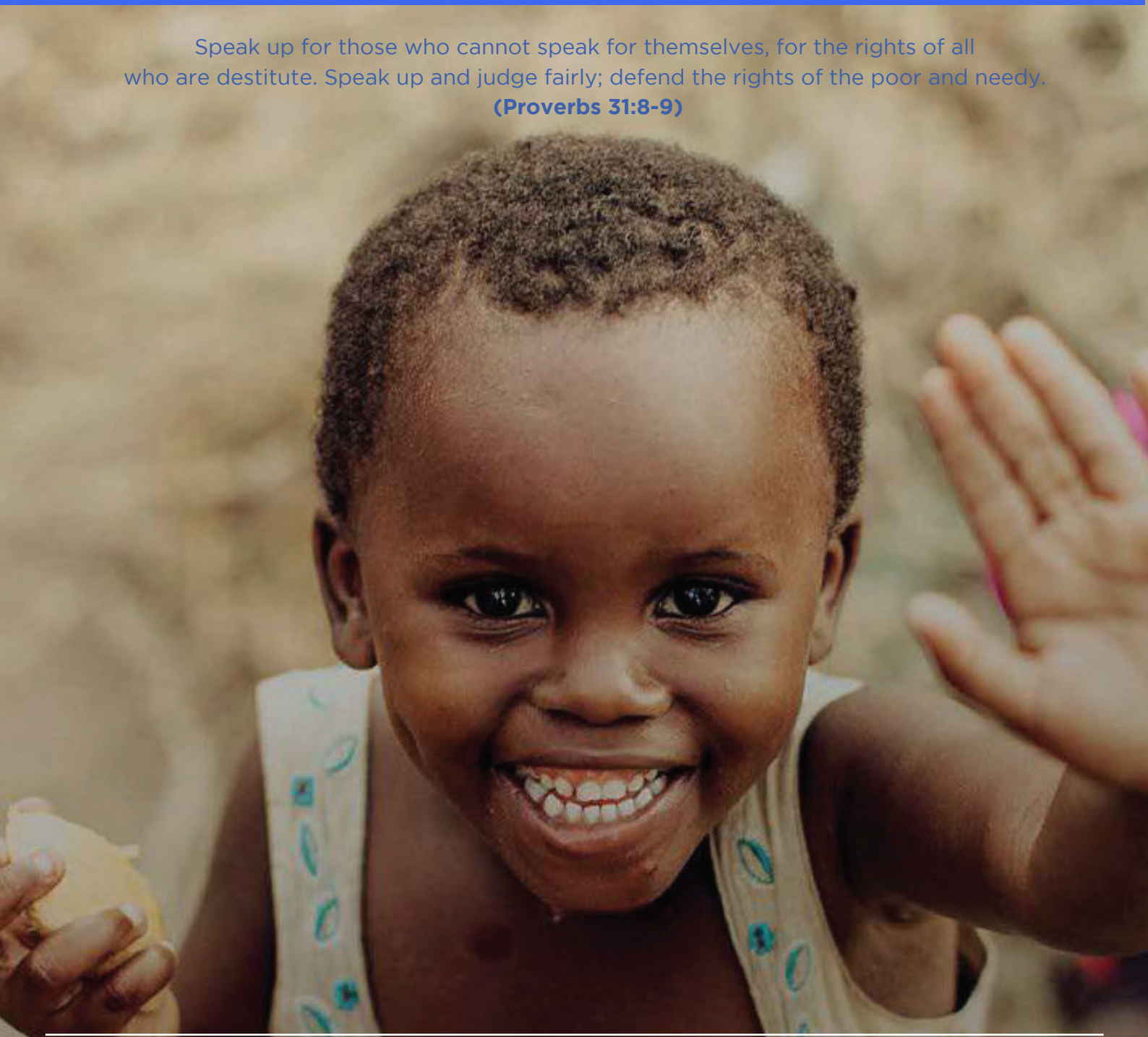
Juliet holds a bachelor's degree in media studies from Moi University. Outside of work, she enjoys exercising.

Her favorite Bible verse is

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18: "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

Releasing children from poverty
Compassion®
in Jesus' name

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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