



star of hope Kenya

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JULY 2020 COVID19 RELIEF FOOD PROGRAM REPORT

Dear Friends,

Greetings from the children and staff at Star of Hope Kenya. The July 2020 COVID19 Relief Food Intervention Program reached **250 families in Kind (1,017 Food Packages)** and **Cash (Kshs. 150,000)**. The program had a great impact in our communities. Thank you for being part of this noble exercise.



Figure 1 : Thank you for making a difference

What The Kenyan Government Has Done:-

President's Speech

1. Cessation of movement in Nairobi and Mombasa towns lapses from 7th July 2020.
2. Nationwide Curfew extended for 30 days
3. Government will revert to the lockdown of major towns if the situation deteriorates and COVID-19 cases surge within the next 21 days

Ministry of Education Speech

1. **Learning in primary & secondary schools to resume in January 2021** to allow for ample time to prepare school facilities to combat coronavirus by installing sanitizer dispensers, increasing desks to help in social distancing, building more classrooms among other measures.
2. **2020 Primary and Secondary final year candidates** to sit for their Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) and Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) examinations in **2021**. Pupils expected to repeat their current class.
3. There will be **phased reopening** of colleges & universities in September with strict rules against Covid-19

What We Are Doing:-

1. **Running the Relief Food Program** to support our children and their families. Most of the children are in very vulnerable states and many of their parents have lost their jobs as a result of coronavirus pandemic.



Figure 3 : Relief food program beneficiary

2. **Setting up Coronavirus preparedness measures** in all our School projects as per the Ministry of Health requirements on places of gatherings.

We have ordered for the purchase of **20 automatic hand sanitizer dispensers** and **6 Forehead Thermometers**.



Figure 4 : Forehead Thermometers

Our Maintenance team has begun **fabricating new desks** for us pupils to meet the social distancing requirements of pupils. We also have plans to do a lot of **clean up of our school infrastructure** and **create more room** for learning.



Figure 5 : Waiganjo, Technician fabricating new desks

We have also upgraded our borehole at Mikindani to ensure we continue to have sufficient water for sanitation throughout. This is an ongoing process and we will keep you up to date with the progress we make.



Figure 6 : Upgrading of the Mikindani Borehole

- Home-Based Learning** Star of Hope Kenya teachers have been teaching their pupils through homework and regular home visits. Our teachers are also involved in counseling the children and providing moral support to their pupils that they visit at home. We are using the support we received to purchase more learning and teaching materials for our pupils and teachers to ensure learning continues smoothly at Home away from school. **1,456 children** have benefited from this mode of learning.



Figure 7 : Teacher Rebecca in Jimba offering home-based learning

The Damage of the Pandemic in the Education Sector

1. Children in all Public schools have **disconnected from their education** since they are not studying at home as no one is following upon them.
2. **Teenage Pregnancy Crisis** - up to **4,000 teenage girls** have gotten pregnant in Mombasa County alone between January and June 2020. The figure for the whole country, it is feared, may run into several thousands. Teenage girls are encouraged by their parents to indulge in sexual behaviors with elder men so that they can put food on the table. This puts them at risk of early pregnancies, HIV Infections, early marriages and dropping out of school. This is the scenario that has been witnessed since the start of the pandemic in public schools around Mikindani and the slum areas of Mikindani where most of our children reside.
3. The state of **coronavirus infections** in Kenya as of **25th July 2020** is as follows;
Confirmed cases..... 16,268 | Recovered cases 7,446 | Deaths 274

The Positive Results Achieved in Our Projects through Our Interventions

1. **Teachers Involvement in home visits** to our children and counseling the children and checking up on their education progress has enabled our children to stay focused and connected to their education.
2. **The Relief Feeding program** has made it possible for our female children and their families to avoid being victims of the teenage pregnancy crisis as they have enough food to sustain themselves. We are happy to announce that amongst **758 girls** across our school projects, **none of them** has been a victim of teenage pregnancy.
3. Supplying our children with sanitation materials and providing medical support when they get sick has made it possible to keep our families safe as no one has been infected with the coronavirus.

Purity Aluoch -The Future Surgeon

We visited Purity Aluoch at her home in Mikindani during the door to door delivery of relief food packages by the Star of Hope Kenya Team.

Purity is a grade 6 pupil at Living Word Primary School. She is a bright girl, bubbly and very intelligent. She has always been position one in her class since Kindergarten. She aspires to become a Surgeon in future to improve the life of her family.



Figure 8 : Purity Aluoch

Behind this beautiful girl's story is the ugly challenges she faces. Purity was born with HIV/AIDS and suffers from sight problems. She recently lost her spectacles and has been struggling with her sight. She is being raised by a single mother who is a casual laborer at a textile factory near Mikindani. The mother recently got retrenched from her low-income job due to the coronavirus pandemic. She now relies on doing laundry for other families for a 2 dollar pay. The worst thing is that these jobs are very scarce which makes the family to miss out on most meals. Eating a balanced diet very crucial to Purity's health and that of her mother.



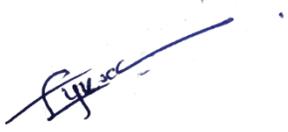
Figure 9 : Purity Receiving Food package

Purity's case is one among many in our Star of Hope Kenya families. Most of our families are really going through life threatening circumstances and the Relief Food Program is having a BIG impact in making things better for them.

Conclusion

"I have visited many of our children at their homes during this exercise to deliver relief food packages. I have interacted with the children and interviewed their parents. The stories of their daily struggles are sad and heartbreaking. Despite everything, what makes me happy is seeing the smiles on their faces when we deliver these food packages. Hearing comments like - *we were to sleep hungry today if it were not for the generous support from Star of Hope International Foundation* - This is what makes me truly believe that surely, Hope makes a difference " - Kevin Tanyi, Donor Relations Dept. Star of Hope Kenya.

God Bless You.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'G. Ochieng', written in a cursive style.

Gilbert Ochieng, Operations Director - Star of Hope Kenya.