

Kenya

Kenya is home to nearly 55 million people, made up of diverse cultures and speaking more than 68 languages. Most Kenyans share a warmth and friendliness – hugs, raised hands, or thumbs ups – are considered an important part of the fabric of social and cultural life.

Close to 83% of the population identify as Christian, with the remaining population represented as 11% Muslim and 6% traditional African believers (voodoo worshippers and other minor religious groups).

Despite an abundance of natural and human resources, Kenya is hindered by many political, social, and developmental challenges, all of which severely impact children and other vulnerable populations:

- Literacy is high but access to education may be impeded by poverty or geography
- 36% of the population live below the poverty line (less than \$1.90/day)
- Limited access to healthcare and a lack of health workers (doctors, nurses, practitioners)
- Child prostitution and sex trafficking is common in some regions
- 26% of youth (between 5 and 14 years) work for a living
- 25% of Kenyan girls marry before 18, impacting their academic, social, and economic outcomes



***“Learn to do good; Seek justice, Rebuke the oppressor;
Defend the fatherless..” Isaiah 1:17 (NKJV)***

Kids Alive in Kenya

At Kids Alive Kenya, we address these challenges and care for **788 children** and **297 families** through seven ministry sites:

- Karundas Children's Home
- Kids Alive Boys' Home
- Nyamarambe Children's Home
- Mitaboni Children's Home
- Hall Mead School
- Keeping Families Together Kenya
- Simba Scholars

Our teams at these sites offer the following types of interventions:

Preventive programs

- Schools, classroom instruction
- School supplies, tuition for government schools where needed
- Sports programs
- Mentoring and discipleship
- Medical, mental health, and dental care
- HIV/Aids, terminal illness care
- Nutritional care including meals for students and food supplements for families

Strengthening programs

- Trauma counseling
- Staff trauma training
- Family mentoring and strengthening
- Social worker assistance with securing government services
- Economic empowerment and income-generating training

Restorative programs

- Residential care
- Family reintegration
- Family mentoring and strengthening

Systems programs

- Community empowerment, connections, and networking
- Advocacy and training with government institutions



Director update

Warm greetings from Kenya, where despite trauma and burnout hitting our communities and even impacting our staff over the past year, we see the Lord's faithfulness through your support and through the transformed lives of kids in our care. We stand on the truth of Psalm 121:5-8:

"The Lord watches over you - the Lord is your shade at your right hand; the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord will keep you from all harm - he will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore."

We are working under some difficult situations within the communities, and among our team as well. COVID-19 has led to severe traumatic experiences among children and staff at Kids Alive Kenya, as many have lost loved ones. Additionally, we've seen a huge increase in dysfunctional families and the number of family break-ups in the communities where we have a presence. Domestic abuse and child abuse is on the rise in Kenya, accentuated by lockdowns, job losses, and stress.

In this context, we see our work more relevant and vital as ever. And thanks to generous donors, we were able to support 297 families (about 1,600 individuals) with supplementary food, sanitizing and hygiene items, family mentoring, and spiritual care in an effort to strengthen families and ensure they remain together as much as possible. We're grateful for the successes we've seen and know that God has kept His watch over us, just as He promised.

As we look to the next year, we are excited to expand the holistic nature of our interventions in all our programs. We are strengthening our child protection systems to ensure the highest level of safety for the kids in our care. We are developing plans to establish a childcare intervention program for the vulnerable children living in the slums of Nairobi (Kenya's largest city) that constitute 47% of the urban population.

We're seeking special funding for these projects:

- Growing the Kids Alive Hall Mead school to accommodate new curriculum (largely infrastructure) with additional classrooms, computer lab, science labs, extra-curriculum facilities, additional human resource and operations
- School buses to transport non-residential children who live long distances from the school

We have great hope as we see God working in the lives of children and families in Kenya. We believe we are called by our Lord Jesus Christ and draw strength from scripture. *"For the Lord loves justice, and He will never abandon the godly."* Ps 37:28a (NLT)



Purity Nyamu
Country Director, Kenya



In his own words...

(a conversation with Adam Kioko)

Adam's story begins with a hard loss. His mother, who was raising him on her own, died when he was very young, leaving him to live in an unhealthy home with extended family. At the tender age of five, Adam came to Kids Alive Kenya. That was the beginning of a new life for him.

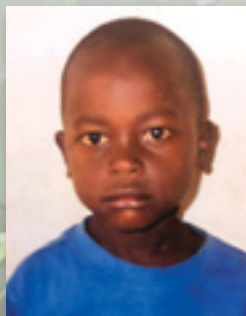
Q – What do you remember about growing up in Kids Alive Kenya?

Adam – "I remember being provided with all my meals every day. I remember having my own bed. I loved sleeping on the top bunk. I remember being told about Jesus in our daily devotions. I remember doing homework and never worrying about not having books or pencils."

Q – What can you say was a memorable thing/moment/person at Kids Alive Kenya?

Adam (laughing)– "I stammer a lot, maybe like Moses, and some people like to make fun of me. But at Kids Alive, I felt always loved and accepted. The staff at Kids Alive always believed in all of us. They always used to tell us that we are loved by God, equally, no matter where we are. They told us we can achieve what we dream of."

"One day, I was encouraged with the message that 'I am university material,' and I decided right then to work hard to go to university. I am so happy the Kids Alive team never gave up on us! To be honest, sometimes we were naughty, but they showed us forgiveness. They believed in us, all of them believed in us."



It turns out Adam was a promising student. In fact, Adam did very well! His national grade eight examination was a success and he proceeded to grade nine. Quite a hurdle for the little boy who had come to us years earlier. Adam kept his dream of attending university alive, and after he completed grade 12 with high marks, he enrolled in a local public university in Kenya where he is currently pursuing a degree in accounting.

Q – What would you say about your future?

Adam – "I want to grow the way I was taught to be. I accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Savior. He is the Perfector of my faith. He is my conqueror. I am a winner. I want to live for Him. I want to graduate and become an accountant that serves God with utmost integrity. During the holidays, when I come back to my community, I do a lot of volunteer outreach activities, talking to other kids about Jesus and encouraging them to stay focused in their schoolwork, to obey their parents, and be obedient to them always. I also serve in the Christian Union at our university and play the guitar."

"I know God has a lot in store for me."



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Thank you for faithfully standing with us as we see God's faithfulness to the children of Kenya!