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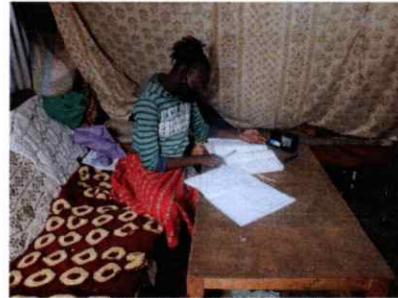
07 February 2021

Update on SOS Children's Village Eldoret

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to you to express our deepest thanks for your financial support toward SOS Children's Villages Kenya. None of our work would be possible without your support.

All thanks to you! With your help, 179 children at the village of Eldoret could satisfy their goals, develop talents and passions. Moreover, they fulfilled their dreams as to having a house full of love. So sit down comfortably and see what has happened in the passing year...



Ann revising her school work

Let me share with you the stories of two families supported by the family strengthen program.

What made Ann smile!

During COVID- 19, the government shut down schools and children had to stay at home. It changed the daily activities of the children in the country. It was a sad moment for Ann who loves going to school. After two months of being at home, Ann wondered if she would ever go back to school and have the fun as she used to enjoy.

Ann always played from morning until late in the night. This became a major concern to her mother .She feared that Ann might involve herself with bad company. Luckily, the ministry of education came up with online education programs for students to study while at home.



Safari showing his elder mother the generator

Ann was sad once again because she did not have access to the online programs, for her family did not own a radio or a television.

Effort to begin.

Family strengthening program did a needs test on education support for the children during the widespread



disease. From the test, there was a need to support children with reading materials. They wanted all children to attend the online lessons offered by the government so that they could keep up with their schoolwork.

Ann got a solar radio, books and writing materials to study while at home. This made her study and watch the lessons transmitted on the radio by the government. She invited her cousins and they listened to the education programs together. Her mother was happy as Ann had good company at home. She got the confidence to leave Ann at home, as she went about her daily activities.

Ann says:

'I am happy that I got the books and a solar radio. I used to feel bad when my friends could study online and I could not. With the help of the family strengthening program, I received a solar radio. This has made me catch up with the lessons on the radio.

We listen to the news and learn on what the government plans about schools. When I grow up, I want to help those children who are in situations like mine. I am happy my mother can listen to current affairs about the country through the solar radio.

Ann has gone back to school and her class teacher has noticed Ann's academic improvement. She can read quite well and write interesting stories, which she did while at home. The writing materials kept her busy during the day.

My second story is about a young man who sacrificed his leisure to support his parent and siblings.

The sun always comes out after a storm!

Safari is a second born in a family of six. He takes care of his old mother together with his brothers and sisters. Through the community management, the family was recruited to the program in the year 2018. The mother is old to provide the basic needs for the children. Safari had to step in to help his elderly mother to provide for the family.

Effort to begin

After the selection to the family strengthening program, the social worker and the caregiver came up with a family plan. This would enable the family be self-dependent and get basic needs. One of the areas was to capacity build the family as it is the important thing in the family. The caregiver identified a business and got business skills training on it. He got a welding machine, which would make him support the family.

Good fortunes

Safari is now a successful businessperson and can provide for the family. His siblings are going to school and do not lack any of the basic needs. The caregiver has all the skills to operate a business.



**SOS Children's
Village**
Kenya

Safari's appreciation

'Life was hard with having to depend on my old mother. Thank you so much family strengthening program for changing our lives.'

Had it not been for the family-strengthening program to offer business skills training for care givers, Safari would not be businessman. Safari runs a welding workshop at Munyaka shopping Centre.

He is doing well and supplies welding items and he is able to run the business. Safari is now able to provide the basic needs to the family. He has taken young people in the community whom he is training in welding.

Thank you for supporting their dreams.

As I finish my letter to you, I would like to thank you once again for helping to make the dreams of these families come true. For some families, this is not possible, but, thanks to your support, the Family Strengthening Program supports many families in the community.

Thank you for being a part of our community and our story especially during these hard times of COVID-19 pandemic. I wish you a happy healthy festive season and a prosperous New Year of 2021.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gladys Mumbi'.

Gladys Mumbi
National Sponsorship Co-ordinator