



**SOS Children's  
Village  
Kenya**

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Thvilum  
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Denmark

01 December 2022

### Your sponsorship for SOS Children's Village Eldoret

Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you for helping the children in SOS Children's Village Eldoret. I appreciate you for all that you do to ensure we live a happy life each day. You are a true friend indeed and make all of us feel special.

Life in the village...

The village has had seasons when the beautiful violet flowers of the jacaranda trees are shedding. Happy children continue to enjoy their days in school. A spectacular sight is of those who walk home with their hands round their shoulder.

Currently, the village is home to 111 children, and 68 young people. We have ten children admitted in our care and are below three years old. Through your cherished support, you have ensured that children and young people continue to receive their upkeep.

A farm of hope

I am happy to inform you that in the village the children have a Sheep Rearing Club. It is a good activity for the children because they learn about rearing animals. Also the animals are raised for meat and milk to boost family nutrition. Over the weekend, children with their SOS Mothers work on the sheep pen.



Using a pen and paper children are busy putting their thoughts into drawings and paintings.



What a spectacular photo of the children enjoying affection from their SOS mother.

The families use the sheep droppings as manure to dress their kitchen gardens and the potted flowers planted around their houses. As you walk towards the house, you will see the beautiful sight of the different colourful flowers and plants.

The young children enjoy playing with the lambs by carrying them on their laps, when they feed them with

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A loving home for every child

grass or bottled milk. They were surprised to learn that sheep have four stomachs and some of their sweaters made of sheep's wool. Elias one of the children says, 'Oh I thank the sheep for giving me wool to keep me warm.'

Rearing sheep is an exciting experience which they share with their friends. Because of your kindness, children are thankful to learn more about animals.

#### Take the mantle

Young people drawn from the five villages and the community were excited to take part in a forum dubbed 'Leave No Youth Behind.' It was the first time the program kicked off; young people enjoyed a five day training.

The goal of the program is to ensure they equip young people with life skills for the future. It also supports them to a smooth transition towards their independence. During the training the young people were able to discuss challenges they faced, and developed solutions. They also shared best practices and innovation they have made besides modeling a mentorship guide.

The quote by Carol Burnett - 'when you have a dream, you've got to grab it and never let go' summed up the meeting. The young people felt that this meeting was a good demonstration that youth participation in leadership and commitment can make a big difference. Your kindness has made us walk this journey toward independence with the young people and I say, 'thank you for believing in us.'

#### Little navigators

Children mind are quite interesting and many times they wonder what the world is up too. With this in mind, I am glad to mention that they took part in a Psychosocial Support activity and had their best time.

During the training, they learned how to put their thoughts, feelings and emotions into drawing and storytelling. In addition they were taught games that can help them unwind. One participant called Ina\* said, 'these training and activities have helped me nurture my self-confidence. I feel I am a better person and can help change the world in my own little way.'

Lastly, is the story of Yma.\* He kept on going no matter the tough times. Kindly come along as you to read through.

#### A hard start

Two years ago, Yma's\* life drastically changed after his mother lost her job, which was the only source of income for the family. To add, his father passed on after a short illness. As the eldest child, he had no choice other than start doing menial jobs.



Yma\* says, 'I did casual jobs to help my mother feed my siblings and make some savings. The savings were to aid my going back to school journey because I had a thirst for education, which would help me succeed in life.'

#### Light at the end of the tunnel

A neighbour who had successfully excited from our community outreach program saw the problem in Yma's family. She referred them to the social worker who visited the family and found they needed support. These was the beginning of a beautiful journey for this family.

Yma\* enrolled at school after nineteen months out of school. On his first day, he went with his mother, which was an affirmation that she wanted the best for him. As a beneficiary, he had his school fees paid in full and assured of having all school materials.

#### A new lease of life

Yma\* was able to finish his secondary school studies and passed well. He joined university where he is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Education. He says, 'my life is a dream come true and I cannot believe how events have changed positively. I am pleased with the support accorded to me and my input is to work hard. I am thankful and happy.'

Through your support, Yma\* was able to turn around his life and his education will be the key to a good life in future. Your financial assistance helps us to reach the young people in need and give them a new lease of life and I thank you for that.

#### Child Care Status

SOS Children's Villages in Kenya is committed to working with the Government in the implementation of the Care Reforms Strategy. Many co-workers have been trained on the steps on how to implement the strategy while recognizing a safe and secure environment for the growth of the children and young people. In addition, we are partnering with other child organizations to improve and strengthen the care option.

At the moment, we are looking into the families of origin of the young people and children in our care. We want to find out about their family members, their situation, and whether it would be in the best interest for the child to live with them again. The emphasis is that every child is unique and every care need of the child should be met. Based on the outcome, we will decide whether children and young people will return to live with their family of origin.

In the meantime, the children and young people will continue to receive support and care. If the child or young person can go back to live with the family, we will support both sides so that they can get used to the changes coming up in their lives. As previously mentioned in our letters, if your sponsorship is affected in any way, we will let you know.

I wish you a happy holiday that is full of wonderful surprises, treats and lots of laughter. Merry Christmas to you and a prosperous New Year 2023.



\*No real names used because of data protection.

With warm regards,

**Gladys Mumbi  
National Sponsorship Co-ordinator**



# SOS Children's Village in Eldoret - 2022



Children playing board games during their leisure time.



Children and SOS Mother hand shelling maize harvested from their kitchen garden.



A Family strengthening beneficiary feeding her chicks a skill she learnt during the agri-business training.



Children displaying attires for different cultures in Kenya during the talent show.