



Winter 2017

*Partnering with Communities,
Expanding Opportunities.*

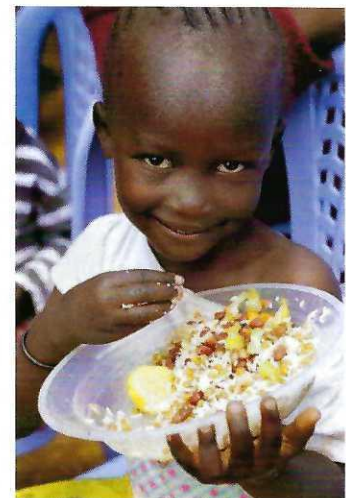
ICT Center to Link Kenya to a World of Possibilities

In rural Homa Bay County, Kenya, where the future ICT center will be, exist 12 secondary schools, 28 primary schools, more than 10,000 students and zero computers. In response to this great need, Kenya Works has partnered with Moriah Resource Centre (MOREC) to bring the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) program to Homa Bay County. While ICT implementation is a major effort of the Kenyan government, there has been little penetration into rural communities. Through our partnership with MOREC, we will connect the students and community members to the vast resources of the Internet, bringing ideas and perspectives to the people of Homa Bay from far beyond their immediate environment.

The goals of this initiative are to improve ICT literacy of teachers and students, to provide training to unemployed youth and adults, and to build the ICT capacity of the region by creating a hub for computer and communication services. ICT is an essential instrument for economic growth and a prerequisite for active engagement in the modernization of our world. Together, we will shrink the educational gaps that remain between rural and urban Kenya as we bring ICT to the communities that need it most.

Your End-Of-Year Gift Can Make New Beginnings

Kenya Works is dedicated to fighting poverty and social injustices. We place special emphasis on investing in women and youth, because we see firsthand how their empowerment benefits whole communities. In 2016, Kenya Works worked in more than 20 counties in Kenya with lifesaving poverty-fighting programs, focusing on education (youth and adult), food security, economic self-sufficiency, safe and effective menstrual management and more. We are listening to the communities and finding ways to partner for positive, empowering change. Please, continue to invest in the Kenya Works mission of developing and cultivating long-term solutions that support self-sufficiency while reducing poverty. Together, we are truly changing lives.



Did you know?

- ✓ Kenya's economic blueprint, Vision 2030, identifies Information Communication Technology (ICT) as a key to achieving its goals.
- ✓ Kenya Works is investing in an ICT Center in rural Kenya that will serve the local communities in Homa Bay County and play a major role in realizing Vision 2030.
- ✓ Ethnicity is diverse in Kenya with more than 40 different ethnic groups living in Kenya today.
- ✓ Kenya Works is collaborating with communities in Kenya on projects that frequently unite leaders of various ethnicities to work toward common goals. The result has been a fundamentally improved attitude toward other ethnic communities.
- ✓ The Kenya unemployment rate is hovering at 40 percent.
- ✓ Kenya Works facilitates community entrepreneurship and business training activities which promote self-sufficiency.
- ✓ Girls and women are subject to restrictions in their daily lives simply because they are menstruating. Besides health problems due to poor hygiene during menstruation, the lack of appropriate sanitary products may push menstruating girls temporarily or sometimes permanently out of school, negatively impacting their education.
- ✓ In 2016, Kenya Works partnered with 133 schools and women's groups to provide more than 11,300 girls and women with our reusable, eco-friendly, safe and effective Makini Pad. Our goal for 2017 is 15,000!
- ✓ Electricity access in Kenya is minimal, despite the government's ambitious target to increase electricity connectivity from the current 15 percent to at least 65 percent by 2022.
- ✓ Kenya Works has been involved in the purchase and distribution of portable solar lanterns to students, schools, slums and rural homes supporting a safe and efficient light source for students and families.

Kenya Works Community Works

Since 2014, more than 300 community leaders from 20 Kenyan counties have participated in the Kenya Works Training of Trainers (TOT) workshops on gender-based violence awareness, positive parenting and community building. Participants return to their communities and advance the message of awareness, communication and empowerment. Building positive partnerships and parenting practices within the family systems and community benefits everyone. With this knowledge, we are renaming our TOT workshops "Community Works."

When communities identify issues, work toward understanding and respect human rights for all, community works. Kenya Works will continue this important initiative so that individuals and their Community Work can thrive.



Transform A Person Africa



Kenya Works partners with organizations in Kenya to sponsor dignity initiatives that help Kenyans to improve the lives and self-sufficiency of people within their own communities. Our collaboration with TAPA is a remarkable example of the power of partnership, where our coordinated efforts are achieving and sustaining positive impact for the TAPA community.

Johnson Migwi, the founder and director of TAPA, explains the program and his organization's partnership with Kenya Works:

"Transform A Person Africa (TAPA) was founded in 2007 as a non-profit, charitable organization. Based in the Kibera slum of Nairobi, Kenya—the largest slum in Africa. Our organization seeks to address the plight of orphaned and vulnerable children, youth who have dropped out of school and poor women, especially those living with HIV/AIDS. The people of the Kibera slum lack the necessities for survival. They struggle to live in an abysmal environment: among filth, in dilapidated shacks, without a sewage system or clean drinking water. The unemployment rate is at an inconceivable ninety percent. For the children, the only hope for a way out of the slum is education."

Based on the understanding that human life is valuable and that everyone has a right to live a dignified life, TAPA strives to ensure that the poor children of the Kibera slum can access affordable education and that their parents are given technical knowledge through income-generating projects as a means to sustain themselves and their families.

Through the manufacture and sale of our school uniforms, we are able to generate seventy percent of our operating budget, which in turn feeds our children daily, pays for teacher salaries, school books, learning aids and medical care for the students. We also provide employment to men and women from the Kibera slum, positively impacting the whole family. Children who graduate to primary school from TAPA receive a free uniform from TAPA at the beginning of every year and are given free school supplies, a daily evening meal and tutoring support.

Kenya Works has generously and compassionately supported TAPA since 2008 with our school's construction, school infrastructure and raw materials for our income-generating activities. Their efforts help TAPA generate adequate revenues to support this important project.

Violet, who joined TAPA at age four for her pre-primary education, speaks to the power of their support:

"I live in a very dirty environment in Kibera with my mom and other siblings and was so happy to study in a clean environment with clean water and toilets. When I had to leave TAPA, because it is a centre for preschool, I cried. TAPA continues to be a part of my life, providing free school uniforms, books and other supplies. I also come to TAPA every evening to eat a nutritious meal and get tutoring help. Even though I am no longer a student here, they care for me and love me so much."



The TAPA school motto, "Linking children to their potential," and the Kenya Works motto, "Partnering with communities, expanding opportunities," are supporting initiatives that together are bringing communities the tools to forge lives of dignity and hope.



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