



April 2020

It's All About the KIDZ

1ST QUARTER UPDATE

COVID-19 IN KENYA

Many of you have asked how our kids are doing in Kenya and how the population in general is faring with the COVID-19 pandemic. Thank you for asking. While our remote location has often felt like a curse, it's been more of a blessing during this time. Being located far from the city, we are fairly well

insulated from the disease. Schools were closed several weeks ago, and all our children are safe at Namayiana, along with our staff who live onsite. So far we haven't been impacted by any shortages, food or otherwise, and we pray this continues to be the case. The virus has just arrived on the African continent, so it remains to be seen what the future holds. Our greatest concern is that if the disease is not contained, it will spread unchecked given the high density of people in the cities, especially in the slums. Kenya's health care system is grossly understaffed and under-resourced, so the impact could be devastating. Even in this situation, our children should be safe as long as we can continue to provide food and supplies, but of course we may not be able to travel to Kenya anytime soon.

EMPOWERING
KENYA'S
ORPHANED AND
VULNERABLE
CHILDREN TO
THRIVE AND
ACHIEVE THEIR
HIGHEST
POTENTIAL

Kenya's Kidz

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KenyasKidz.org



Between social distancing and the stay-at-home order, many of our fundraising events have been canceled. While we are making every effort to reduce expenses, we need your help in order to continue to meet the needs of the children and pay our staff.

Would you consider giving to our general fund during this time? Your contribution would be greatly appreciated. Donations can be made on our website or mailed to the address to the left. See the information about the CARES Act at the end of this update.

CHILD SPONSORSHIP

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Every child deserves a loving, nurturing environment. Sponsors are the lifeline of Namayiana Children's Home and ensure that we are able to maintain our high standards. Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to those of you who are currently sponsoring a Namayiana child. For a child who has been abandoned, abused, and unloved, a sponsor sends the message that someone a world away cares and believes in them. We are currently seeking sponsors for the five new children that have joined the Namayiana family in the past few months. Meet two of them...

ELIJAH

Elijah is about 5 years old. He is just starting school, the equivalent of our preschool. His two older brothers and sister have been living at Namayiana for some time. Elijah was living with his elderly grandmother, in very dire circumstances. He had skin infections all over his body, was malnourished and in a general state of neglect. But as you can see by the picture, Elijah had a complete transformation after he arrived at Namayiana.

Elijah is an energetic boy, who wants to join in every activity. He loves to play with trucks and is giving soccer his best effort. Elijah has a ready smile for everyone he meets, even though he is behind in social

development. He has quickly enamored himself to the rest of the Namayiana family.



JACKLYN

Jacklyn is 11 years old, in grade 4. Her mother is HIV+, often very sick and unable to provide for her daughter. Jacklyn's father's whereabouts are unknown. When she came to us, she was not eating regular meals, nor was she regularly attending school.

Jacklyn is a shy, quiet girl, but is quickly making friends and working hard to do well in school. She enjoys playing jump rope and soccer. The Namayiana family is helping her feel welcome and accepted.

We will monitor her mother's health, allowing Jacklyn to visit as circumstances allow and providing assistance to her when we can.



'Orphans are easier to ignore before you know their names. They are easier to ignore before you see their faces. It is easier to pretend they're not real before you hold them in your arms. But once you do, everything changes.' ~David Platt

Child sponsorships include the cost for school fees, uniforms, basic medical care, and food. For a little over \$1 a day, or \$40/month, a sponsor ensures that the child's needs are met. Contact us at gloria@kenyaskidz.org or call 303.972.7705 to inquire about children available for sponsorship. Requests for a particular age and/or gender of a child will be accommodated, if possible.

**COVID-19
CARES ACT**
(CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND
ECONOMIC SECURITY)

The CARES Act allows for a \$300 above-the-line deduction for cash charitable contributions made to 501(c)(3) organizations for taxpayers who take the standard deduction in the 2020 tax year. The act also relaxes the limit on charitable contributions for itemizers - increasing the amount that can be deducted from 60% of adjusted gross income to 100% of gross income. Check with your tax accountant for more details.