

2016 TEAM AGAPE NLM IMPACT REPORT + CONTINUITY PLAN

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Team Agape - New Life Mission





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New Life Mission (NLM) was founded in Nairobi in 1978 by a team of Swedish missionaries who witnessed a crisis of need among the youth and young mothers of Kenya. Originally working in the Kenyan prison system, the team was challenged with finding a way to rehabilitate and support women while serving a sentence and after discharge. Various vocational training programs were created to support and empower healthy, educated families. A home for the children of imprisoned women was started to educate and care for the next generation.

An oasis in the midst of a vibrant, chaotic, and needy community, New Life Mission is 20km from the heart of Nairobi. The Mission has grown to two centers, various rehabilitation programs, multiple group homes for children, and dozens of social programs that continue to shape and transform Kenyan communities. The services provided are vast, but the main focus is to support the development of children through health and education.

Just four hours southwest in the heartland of tribal Kenya is a region called Mashuru, where New Life Missions' ministries focus on supporting Masai communities. A home for young orphaned boys and rescued girls provides opportunities to gain technical skills and education that otherwise would be impossible to attain.

In 2008, New Life Mission's director toured the U.S. in search of partnerships to support development projects in multiple areas including hygiene, health, education, and child rights advocacy. In response, a team of eight teachers and students from Sumner, WA travelled the following summer to Kenya. Upon return, the team started an official 501c3 non-profit dedicated to advocating and supporting the mission's work. Their chosen name, Team Agape - New Life Mission, references love in action.



IN PROGRESS

2016 Clean Water Tanks for Low Income Schools

New Life Mission (NLM) has carried out extensive development and human rights advocacy in Kajiado County for over 30 years. During this period NLM has consistently observed a critical shortage of access to healthcare and WASH facilities, particularly in rural schools and communities. Interviews with key informants and reviews of literature and data from the Kajiado County Integrated Development Plan reveal that lack of access to basic healthcare and hygiene services for vulnerable and underserved communities in Kajiado County is a major problem that needs intervention.

In response, New Life Mission seeks to increase the number of children accessing safe and reliable water for human consumption and domestic use in educational settings. Challenges that affect school attendance such as dehydration and water-borne illnesses are minimized when clean water is readily accessible. After final installation in May 2016, the Rotary-sponsored water storage tanks and rainwater collection systems will improve the learning environment and surrounding community in four needy schools throughout Kajiado County.

PROJECT GOAL

Provide children from four underserved schools in Kajiado West Sub-County with clean, accessible water sources to minimize illness and absenteeism.

▶ PROJECTED COMPLETION

With the donation of 5,000 USD from the Sumner Rotary Club, the project will commence April 2016 and will be completed May 2016. Final reports to follow.



PROJECT REPORT 2015 Latrine Project for Students with Special Needs

In 2003 the government of Kenya passed a policy for all public schools to establish special units for children with special needs to be accommodated within the formal school environment. Though many schools in Kenya seek to achieve the statutes outlined in the policy, government funding is frequently inadequate to meet the structural and educational demands for special needs students.

In June 2014, New Life Mission and affiliates began an outreach program targeting students with special needs in the poorest communities within New Life's scope of work. The project aimed to encourage parents of special needs students to support their son/daughter's educational pursuit; and develop infrastructure to create safe environments conducive to learning.

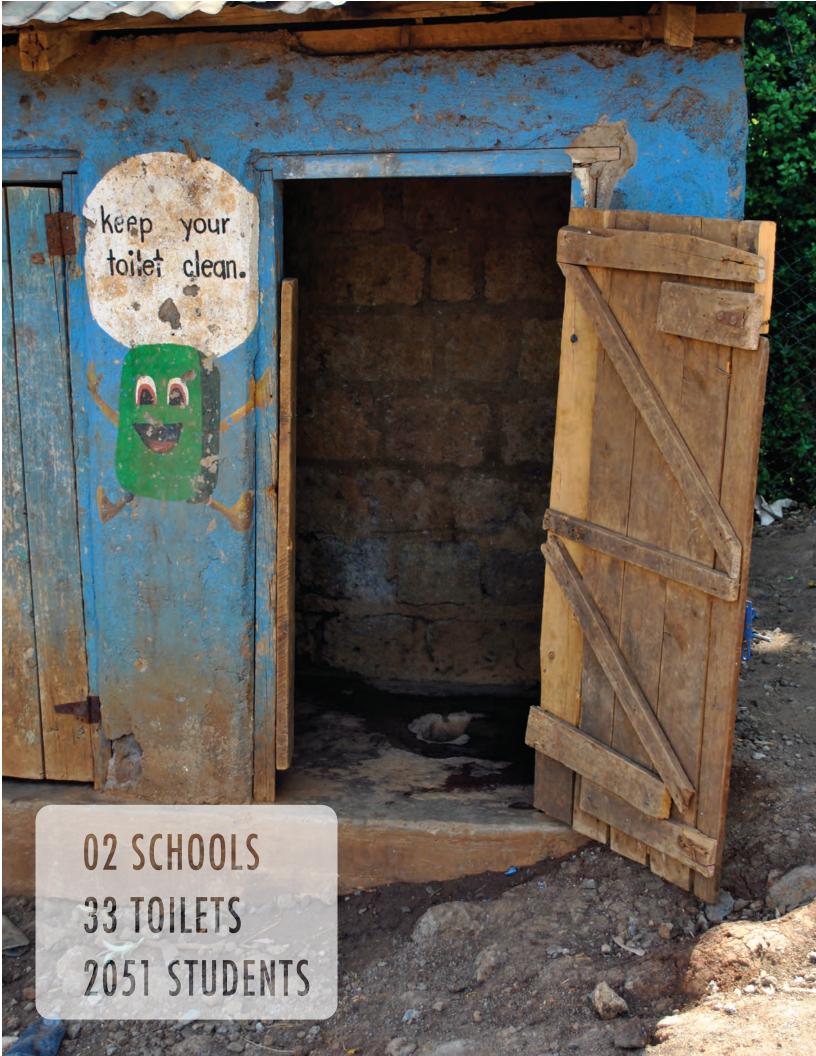
In the needs assessment, NLM found that special needs students were unable to utilize the existing latrine facilities due to physical handicaps and time restraints on teachers to assist individuals. The facilities were not maintained to comply with hygienic standards; thus, a number of special needs students frequently dismissed opportunities to use the bathroom, leading to increased risks of infection and illness. Days of class missed due to health factors impacts learning, therefore building handicap-accessible infrastructure to support learning became the primary objective of this project.

NLM identified two primary schools within the County of Kajiado in need of support for children with special needs. Nkaimurunya and Kiserian Primary Schools host 46 children with special needs, ranging from 6 to 16 years of age. Of the 46 children, 15 are girls and 31 are



boys. Prior to the construction of the latrines in 2015, the special needs students at Kiserian Primary shared 16 female and male latrine facilities with 1,800 peers. Special needs students at Nkaimurunya Primary shared eight male and female latrines with 1,251 peers.

The chart (left) illustrates the total number of students with specific special needs in both primary schools.



PROJECT GOAL

Improve learning environment for children with special needs by meeting established sanitation and hygiene standards within the target schools.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

To improve safety and access to basic hygiene facilities for children with special needs through construction of pit latrines at the target schools.

PROJECT OUTPUT

Constructed two latrines, each with seperate toilets for girls and boys with special needs in Kiserian and Nkaimurunya Primary Schools.

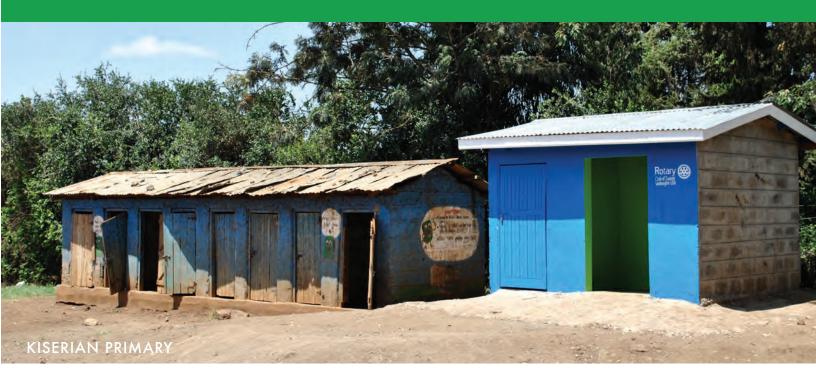
BENEFICIARIES

At the beginning of the year in 2015, 46 special needs children were the target beneficiaries at Kiserian and Nkaimurunya Primary Schools. This number is expected to grow as a direct result of these facilites, and both latrines are fully functional as of Spring 2016. Special Needs teachers at the schools integrate basic hygiene practices into their classroom curriculum and are overwhelming grateful for the support from Rotary donors. The new facilities are checked for maintenance once per month by New Life Mission.

OUTCOMES

Latrine Project for Students with Special Needs











"These [special unit] children take ownership for this facility. When you own something, you take care of it and it is important to you. We are grateful that our special needs students have something they can call their own. They even put a fence of thorns around the toilet to protect it while they are in class! They will take good care of it."

Nkaimurunya Head Teacher



PROJECT UPDATE 2014 Latrine Project for Rural, Low Income Students

Since 2011 New Life Mission has organized health-related programs in 20 schools in the Mashuru region, including daily nutrition and feeding programs. Nutrition and hygiene/health are among the most common factors influencing drop-out rates in Mashuru. Lack of clean water and facilities continues to impact children, resulting in preventable health issues such as



as as diarrhea, cholera and other hygiene-related illnesses.

The aim of the latrine project at Kalembwani Primary School was to promote health, hygiene, and education to a low income audience of students and families. With the funding that NLM received from Rotary of Sumner, two facilities were constructed serving approximately 200 girls and 150 boys. Education on sanitation and health is an area in which New Life Mission seeks to expand their support for incorporating simple lessons into the school curriculum. (continued next page) Photos: Front and back of the boy's latrine facility.



(Continued) Kalembwani Primary serves a population of students from multiple tribes in Mashuru. Many do not have access to latrine facilities in their own homes, so implementation of basic santitation practices proves difficult without reinforcement in the classroom. Educating students at school empowers the next generation, who will carry these skills into their homes. Focusing on the future, New Life Mission recognizes improved hygiene education as an area for growth in this specific project.



PROJECT UPDATE 2011 Oloisidan Shallow Water Well Project

Following a needs assessment of the educational challenges in the remote Oloisidan community, New Life Mission identified clean water as a critical obstacle hindering school attendance. Student health was widely impacted by water-borne illnesses such as typhoid, cholera and diarrhea. Here and in surrounding communities women and children made trips lasting up to ten hours collecting clean water for their families, which lasted only a few days. Prior to the construction of this water source, many children in the arid region were forced to share drinking water with livestock, collecting rain water from puddles and suffering from dehydration. Education became a low priority for many families without access to clean water.

Community health is directly related to school attendance, and the Rotary Club of Sumner brought opportunity to Oloisidan through the construction of a centrally located shallow water well. Today, the well sees up to 50 visitors on a daily basis with transportation conducted by foot or donkey. One trip to the well provides water for approximately eight family members, averaging 400 beneficiaries of clean water per day.

The well remains in good condition and is functioning properly. The fencing and sign post surrounding the well have partially deteriorated, but this does not impact well function. The simple construction of the manual pump is well matched to the rural environment, harsh climate, and numerous visitors. It is expected to last for many years to come.

50 AVERAGE DAILY USERS 30KM FARTHEST WALK 400 AVERAGE DAILY BENEFICIARIES



CONTACT



Team Agape - New Life Mission is a U.S. based, non-profit organization dedicated to supporting New Life Mission to provide a place of comfort, love, and care for the children of Kenya. Contact Team Agape - NLM for more information on current projects and ways to get involved in the cause.



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