



kidsalive
INTERNATIONAL

KENYA

Kids Alive Boys' Home

Located near Mt. Kenya, Kids Alive Boys' Home provides residential care to almost 70 boys between the ages of 4 and 18. In three separate houses, they experience a loving, stable home environment. Each boy also attends a local school and most of them graduate from high school.

In addition to education, they have opportunities to be involved in sports, music, and other activities that help them to become well-rounded individuals. And we facilitate skill-building that will be valuable to them when they leave our residential care and live independently. Various farming activities, especially dairy farming, are primary ways the boys learn real-life responsibility.

An important part of our work is helping the government to identify the boys' families and support them as they build relationships with carefully identified relatives. This is critical for purposes of personal identity (a cultural necessity) and support as they fit back into their communities. And our Keeping Families Together program currently supports 35 kids.

We recently had several boys graduate from high school or vocational school, and one young man graduated from university. Another great joy was seeing 25 baptized after professing faith in Jesus. Objectives for the coming year include improving our farming projects so that we can increase our food supply while reducing costs, and implementing a thorough remedial academic assistance program. All of our work is done with the goal of bringing hope to every boy in our care.

Hope Changes Everything...

AT KIDS ALIVE BOYS' HOME!

Joseph* came to the Kids Alive home three years ago. He had been living with his mother and siblings in one of the slums of a nearby town, where he was typically out begging in the streets just to find food. Most of the time he was absent from school. Then his mother died, leaving him with an elderly grandmother who did not have the ability to care for him adequately, so Kids Alive was asked to help.

Since his arrival, Joseph has greatly improved in his health and his outlook on life. He found a loving family, knows that he is safe, and is enjoying getting to know the other boys. Despite being so far behind academically, he is doing well in school. And he joined our Sunday school team, where he loves singing and was recently baptized. Joseph's situation could easily have ended in hopelessness, but once he was offered love, attention, and safety, his whole world changed. The future is looking bright for this precious young boy.

*name changed to protect privacy



"Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord."

Psalms 31:24 (NIV)

What's happening...

IN KENYA?

Kenya is home to nearly two million orphans, many orphaned because of the tragic HIV/AIDS epidemic. Malnutrition and malaria plague hundreds of thousands of children, and one million primary-school aged kids are not in school at all. Extreme poverty means that more than 25% of Kenyan children work in forced labor, often in dangerous situations. These realities are heartbreaking, and we want to bring the hope of the Gospel to each child.

Kids Alive is currently serving more than 400 precious children. Half of those are in residential care, living in family-style homes with loving house parents. We also reach out to community kids in many ways, through education, nutritious meals, medical care, and sharing the love of Christ. And our Keeping Families Together program is always working to strengthen families and communities.

The academic growth among our children has been exciting to watch. This year, 46 students graduated into either high school or vocational colleges, and 35

finished high school and entered college. We offered these graduates transition training, equipping them to live successfully outside our direct care and support. And we saw two alumni graduate from college, one with a mechanical engineering degree and one with a diploma in social work. God is at work in our students in Kenya.

Just a few years ago, more than half of the kids in our care didn't know who or where their relatives were. We've been able to reduce that to just 10 students, and our goal is for the number to soon be zero. We're also working to fulfill new and often stressful education requirements from the Kenyan government, including retraining all teachers, purchasing expensive IT equipment, and building required facilities.

Though there is still work to be done, we remain committed to bringing hope into the life of each Kenyan child we encounter. As we care for their physical, emotional, and educational needs, we will also share with each one how much Jesus loves them.

God is working at Kids Alive Boys' Home! Please pray for:

- Medical and education solutions for our boys with special needs
- Funding for restructuring our houses to facilitate family-style care
- For our land to be fenced and put into good use for the boys in our care

Partner with us in prayer...

