



kidsalive[®]
INTERNATIONAL

KENYA

Hall Mead School

Now almost 12 years old, Hall Mead School offers a quality, Christ-centered education to 373 at-risk children. While some of them are in residential care at Karundas Home, the majority are from the surrounding communities, where many children work in dangerous manual labor just to survive. Sadly, these children are often breadwinners for an entire family unit, and many have found our school simply by wandering inside to find a meal or receive help for a dying relative.

In addition to an education, they receive a nutritious breakfast and lunch, school uniforms and supplies, and basic medical care. And when we learned that some kids were walking two hours each way to attend school, we purchased buses to help with transportation. Our goal is to offer them much more than they were seeking, including the good news of the Gospel.

We have seen 116 students complete the national exams, and we have alumni studying in universities and vocational programs all over the country.

Because of recently updated government regulations, we have retrained all our teachers, and we have adopted the required curriculum changes through 3rd grade. In March we celebrated the completion of Melby Hall, our much-anticipated multipurpose building. And our goals for the coming year include finishing curriculum updates through all our grades and developing ways to improve our holistic care for each child. In everything we do, we pray that God will help us offer hope to these precious children, showing them how valuable they are.

Hope Changes Everything...

AT HALL MEAD SCHOOL!

If you saw the sweet smile on Caroline's* face today, it would be quite the contrast from the sad face that she wore last summer when she arrived at Hall Mead. Less than two months before she came to us, her single mother was found dead in a nearby slum where they rented a tiny wooden house. She has relatives who can care for her, but her aunt brought her to our school for academic help. Not only was this precious girl sad, she was also timid and completely lacking in confidence.

The change in Caroline has been dramatic! She is happy, always wearing a smile, and eager to make friends with her classmates. Even her confidence has improved now that she sees her potential and knows we believe in her. Despite the tragedy in Caroline's short life, she now knows that there is hope for her future. We pray that God will continue to provide for her needs and that she will come to love and trust in Christ, the only true source of hope.

*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 Hall Mead School! Please pray for:

- Funds to fully mobilize operational and facility changes due to the new government education requirements
- Our staff to feel encouraged and to stay with us
- Students to learn the skills they need to prepare them for productive, independent lives

Partner with us in prayer...

