



**kidsalive**<sup>®</sup>  
INTERNATIONAL

## **KENYA, Mitaboni Children's Home**

Our Mitaboni Home has 60 boys and girls, ranging in age from 5 to 18, who have found a safe place to live where they are loved and accepted. Most of them are orphans who came from extreme poverty and often didn't receive even one meal a day before coming to Kids Alive. We not only provide nutritious meals, but also care for their emotional, educational, and spiritual needs.

In addition to our residential program, we also reach out to needy kids in the surrounding community. Mitaboni has developed farming projects that provide food for children in our home as well as extra that we can offer to neighbors. We grow tomatoes, maize, pumpkins, potatoes, watermelons, and bananas.

We are committed to caring for the children's spiritual needs, and not only are they growing and learning to serve God and others, but the older ones are beginning to help lead and teach younger children. This kind of servant leadership is a blessing for us to witness.

This past year we've seen academic success in many of our students as well as the provision of college tuition for two of our girls. In the year to come, we look forward in faith to several goals at Mitaboni. Reinforcement of the fence around our property and installation of a fish pond are projects we hope to accomplish, along with seeing more of our students graduate.

Our mission is to care for each child's needs and reach them with the good news about the love of Jesus. The love among the children here is evident and contagious, showing how Jesus brings hope, healing, and transformation.

# *Hope Changes Everything...*

## **AT MITABONI CHILDREN'S HOME!**

Mary's\* story is one of despair turned to hope. After her mother died, she and her four siblings were left in the care of their father. Not only was he an uncaring man, but he did not work to provide for her needs, leaving her sad and confused. Her life became even worse when her father married three women, all of whom mistreated her, causing her to withdraw from everyone else in the family. Thankfully, a good neighbor noticed the abuse and came to Mary's rescue. Kids Alive was notified and was able to offer her a safe, loving home at Mitaboni.

When Mary first arrived, we took her to the doctor for a checkup because she was weak and severely malnourished.

But after consistent, healthy nutrition and some medical treatment, she has improved tremendously. She is a diligent student, always working hard at her academic studies, and has begun to make good friends. Without intervention, Mary's future would surely have been bleak, but we are confident that she will not only succeed but also be a great influence on her community in the years ahead.

\*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 Mitaboni! Please pray for:

- Good health for our kids and staff
- Open doors of employment for our graduates
- Increased farm produce to provide nutrition to our kids

# Partner with us in prayer...

