



**EMPOWERING THE VULNERABLE IN KENYA**



The Kenya Economic Development & Human Advancement Project (KEDHAP) continues its unwavering commitment to empowering vulnerable communities in Kenya to break the cycle of poverty. Through its multifaceted ministries, including Education, Women Empowerment, Food Security, and Peacebuilding, KEDHAP endeavours to bring about lasting positive change in the lives of individuals and families in Songhor and its surrounding areas. Despite facing challenges, the organization remains steadfast in its mission to uplift and transform communities, one life at a time.

Despite facing personal challenges, KEDHAP staff have remained resilient and committed to their work. Tragically, the organization recently experienced the sudden loss of Timothy's father. Timothy was actively involved in food security and income generation efforts. Staff members continue to prioritize their work and maintain a strong sense of community. Daily fellowship and prayer sessions provide spiritual support and guidance, fostering a supportive work environment even amidst economic challenges.



Children enjoying a moment of laughter, their lives brightened by the impactful initiatives of KEDHAP

Overview of Recent Progress

- **Education:** KEDHAP's efforts continue to yield impressive results, with a significant number of girls graduating from primary and secondary schools. Notably, some schools have achieved unprecedented success, producing female graduates eligible for university admission for the first time. KEDHAP's sponsorship programs have played a pivotal role in empowering students and opening doors to higher education opportunities.
- **People Living With HIV/AIDS (PLWHAs):** KEDHAP's support has enabled adolescents living with HIV to access timely ARV medication and attend group therapy sessions. The organization is encouraged by the positive impact on these adolescents' lives, with 99 percent achieving viral load suppression, a critical milestone for their health and well-being.
- **Food Security:** Empowering vulnerable community groups in the Food Security Ministry remains a priority for KEDHAP. Despite challenges such as rising costs of farm inputs, the organization has supported three model groups with certified seeds and fertilizer for the new planting season. However, the affordability of these inputs remains a concern for many farmers in the community.

Helping Vulnerable Girls Find Purpose

The success story of female empowerment within the project area is truly remarkable. Over the past few years, there has been a significant decline in the number of vulnerable girls dropping out of school or facing early pregnancies. For instance, Nyando Secondary School, **which previously saw 38 girls experiencing pregnancies just three years ago, has reported only one pregnancy since the beginning of this year.** This remarkable reduction underscores the positive impact of the initiatives on female education and empowerment. The school management at Nyando Secondary School and others have commended the KEDHAP Foundation for its efforts in training girls on life skills, empowerment, and providing essential sanitary products. **By equipping vulnerable girls with these resources, such as sanitary pads and panties,** the foundation has enabled them to stay in school and focus on their education.



Putting heads together in a Life Skills Session

## Over The Last Quarter

- Supported 35 students in Secondary Schools with payment of school fees.
- Provided sanitary pads and panties to 3,590 vulnerable girls, ensuring continued attendance in school, reducing risk of teenage pregnancy.
- Educated 164 girls and 97 boys in schools on HIV/AIDS, including adherence to ARTs.
- Supported 2 community day schools with textbooks and installed 2 pieces of 5,000 ltrs water tanks for clean drinking and cooking water.
- Recorded academic success among girls in end-year exams, with many members of schools' peace and life clubs excelling in KCPE and KCSE exams.
- Initiated 3 new peace and life clubs in 3 schools, with 126 members trained to be ambassadors for values, morals, and principles
- Facilitated 241 adolescent children from 7 Comprehensive Care Clinics to access ARVs prescription medicine, along with supplying maize and conducting group therapy health talks.



HIV+ Adolescents at the Ogen CCC being supplied with maize

### Praise Points

- Improved academic performance among sponsored students, with notable achievements in secondary school exams.
- Reduced dropout rates and pregnancies among vulnerable girls, attributed to KEDHAP's menstrual hygiene support and empowerment programs.
- Enhanced food security and agricultural productivity among community groups, leading to increased harvests and self-sufficiency.

### Prayer Points

- Continued financial challenges amid rising costs and reduced support from donors.
- Health and well-being of KEDHAP's team members, especially as they navigate the strains of their work.
- Sustained partnership and collaboration with ImpactHope to overcome current obstacles and plan for the future.

## Sustainable Solutions For Empowering Widows

In the Female Empowerment Ministry, Jackline, a member of the Border B Women Group and a widow, shared her inspiring testimony. As a beneficiary of seed and fertilizer donations from KEDHAP during the last planting season, Jackline depended on manual labour to support her family. Struggling to afford certified maize seeds after her husband's passing, Jackline expressed gratitude for the support she received. The seeds enabled her to work diligently on her farm.



L: Jackline at Kopere market where she sells farm produce, R: Jackline, Christine (a KEDHAP staff), and another group member bring in a harvest of maize.

For the first time since the death of her husband ten years ago, this resulted in a harvest of 12 sacks of maize - the most significant yield she had ever obtained. This harvest not only provided sustenance for her family but also allowed her to sell surplus bags, expanding her farming activities. With tears of appreciation, Jackline thanked KEDHAP for the transformative impact their support had brought to her life.

**More about the Women's Empowerment Program on our Blog - <https://impacthope.ca/equalpayday/>**



We need your help to support KEDHAP's vital projects!

KEDHAP is **facing a financial challenge this year due to reduced funds**. The project's staff and Board are discussing its future and considering purchasing a tractor for income generation and sustainability. To make this possible, KEDHAP needs additional support from donors. Your contribution as a generous individual is crucial for KEDHAP to continue its impactful programs.

**Can we count on you to help KEDHAP overcome this financial hurdle and sustain its vital projects?**

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