

# RECENT UPDATES FROM KAGAN, SHELTER OF HOPE

AUGUST 2024

## Overview of Key Activities

Shelter of Hope School in Kagan has seen significant progress and achievements over the past quarter, ensuring the continued delivery of quality education and essential services to its students. The first term of the year concluded successfully in March, with all staff salaries paid on time, contributing to the dedication and improved performance of the teachers.

- The students received two meals daily throughout the term, leading to improved regular attendance. The school also experienced a boost in enrollment, attributed to an expanded catchment area made possible by the donation of a van for transporting children.
- Shelter of Hope continues to receive recognition from the government, including a recent donation of Lifestraw equipment to provide clean drinking water for the children.
- In February, the staff participated in a retreat at Whitestone Beach Resort, a well-deserved reward for leading nearly 50 schools in last year's national exams. This event fostered team bonding and strategic planning for the future of the school.
- In April, the ministry hosted the "Raising a Woman of Distinction" conference, attended by over 100 delegates and representatives from the Homa Bay County Government.



Children at Shelter of Hope School enjoy their daily meal, ensuring they have the energy and nutrition needed to focus on their studies.

## Education Updates

- **Increased Enrollment:** The school recorded an increase of 35 students in the first quarter, bringing the total enrollment to 180 students. The goal is to reach 200 students by the second quarter.
- **Academic Performance:** There has been a general improvement in academic performance, with positive deviations observed across all levels in the three exams conducted between January and March.
- **Junior Secondary Education:** The school faces challenges with enrollment in junior secondary education, with only 15 students currently enrolled. This low number is concerning, as it necessitates the employment of at least five graduate teachers to cover these grades.
- **ICT Integration:** The school received a donation of 10 laptops to support computer literacy, a key component of the competency-based curriculum. Plans are underway to formally begin computer classes once the full infrastructure for the laboratory is in place.



## Health and Nutrition

- **Meal Provision:** The school continues to serve two meals daily to all 185 students, ensuring that each child receives a nutritious mid-morning breakfast and lunch.
- **Flood Impact and Precautions:** The recent flood situation in Kenya has affected food supply, as many farms were flooded, leading to a food crisis. Despite these challenges, the school implemented health precautionary measures to ensure the safety of all students. *(Photo: The floods caused a food crisis in the area.)*



## Infrastructure and Resources

- **Building Progress:** The second floor of the ongoing school building project is now fully plastered. The remaining work includes painting the entire backside view and sideways.
- **Transportation:** A school van, donated by a partner from Germany, has been instrumental in easing transportation for learners from distant areas.
- **Security Enhancements:** A new school gate has been constructed, significantly improving the security of both learners and school assets.
- **Digital Literacy:** The introduction of computer lessons for all learners is a priority, with 10 computers already donated. The school plans to start these lessons by July 2024, with ongoing efforts to secure additional computers and establish a temporary computer laboratory.



Building Progress Thanks To Donations



Staff Retreat



School Van For Transportation

### Praise Points

Heavy rains in mid-April caused severe flooding across Kenya, displacing over 60,000 people and devastating livelihoods. The residents of Nyora were particularly affected, with many forced to seek refuge in nearby schools. In response, Shelter of Hope organized a relief mission, distributing food and essential supplies to those in need. Despite the challenging journey, which involved navigating through flooded roads and rivers, the mission was a success, providing much-needed support to the flood victims.

### Prayer Points

- The school urgently needs two additional pit latrines, as the prolonged rainfall rendered the current facilities unfit for use.
- There is a need for two water tanks to enable rainwater harvesting, which would supplement the school's current dependence on borehole water, prone to breakdowns and expensive maintenance.
- More support is required for the feeding program as the number of needy students continues to grow each term.
- Additional computers are needed to enhance the digital literacy program.



### FUTURE PLANS

- **Water Tanks Installation:** The installation of two 10,000-litre water tanks to harvest rainwater for safe drinking and kitchen use is planned.
- **Computer Literacy Expansion:** With 10 computers already in place, the school plans to start computer lessons for all learners by July 2024. Efforts are ongoing to secure more computers and create a temporary computer lab.
- **Solar Power Installation:** The school is exploring the installation of solar power as a reliable alternative to the frequently disrupted electricity supply.



We need your help to support the children at Shelter of Hope!

Shelter of Hope has made incredible strides in providing education, nutrition, and a safe environment for the children in Kagan and Nairobi, but the journey is far from over. To continue this mission and address the pressing challenges ahead, we need your help.

By giving today, you are not just supporting a school—you are investing in the future of these children, empowering them to break the cycle of poverty and build a brighter tomorrow. **Will you join us in making this dream a reality?**

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