

### **RECENT UPDATES FROM KEDHAP**



**MARCH 2025** 

#### **EMPOWERING VULNERABLE GROUPS IN KENYA**

The Kenya Economic Development and Human Advancement Project (KEDHAP) has been working tirelessly to uplift marginalized communities in Kenya, focusing on education, healthcare, economic empowerment, and gender equality. With the generous support of our donors, KEDHAP has transformed countless lives by providing access to essential resources, training, and support systems that foster sustainable development. This report highlights the progress made over the last year in our Women Empowerment and HIV Support initiatives, showcasing the tangible impact of your contributions.



Women who have participated in KEDHAP's programs report increased financial independence, improved household stability, and stronger community engagement.

### Women Empowerment Initiatives

Women and girls remain at the heart of KEDHAP's mission. Through targeted interventions, they are breaking cycles of poverty, improving access to education, and enhancing economic independence.

- Education Support for Girls: This year, 17 girls received full scholarships, and 3 girls
  achieved direct university entry grades (C+ and above) in their 2024 KCSE exams. A
  mentorship program was conducted through 22 sessions, equipping girls with life
  skills and career guidance.
- **Health & Hygiene Support:** 6,121 girls received sanitary towels and underwear, ensuring dignity and uninterrupted school attendance. In addition, 10 girls' health education sessions provided crucial knowledge on reproductive health.
- Economic Empowerment: 211 women received certified seeds to support agricultural productivity, while two women's groups (71 members) were trained in microfinance and agribusiness. (Photo: Border B Women's Group)



## "A Scholarship That Changed My Future"

My name is Rihana, and I recently completed my KCSE. Before receiving a KEDHAP scholarship, I struggled with frequent absences due to unpaid school fees, making it hard to keep up with my studies. Thanks to the scholarship, I could attend school consistently, access textbooks, and receive support from KEDHAP staff, who monitored my progress and encouraged me to succeed.

With this support, I gained confidence and improved academically, earning a C (Plain) in my KCSE. The mentorship sessions and sanitary supplies provided by KEDHAP also helped me stay focused. I now hope to pursue nursing in college and am deeply grateful for the generosity that made my education possible. Thank you for changing my life!









#### HIV Support Initiatives

KEDHAP's work in HIV/AIDS care continues to provide life-saving assistance and education to affected individuals and their families.

- PLWHA Support Groups: 411 members received monthly maize support to supplement ARV medication and improve
- Transportation for Treatment: All 411 HIV+ support group members received transport assistance to access clinics for their medication and care.
- HIV/AIDS Education & Awareness: 1,590 students and 290 adults trained in HIV prevention and care, reducing stigma and promoting early diagnosis.
- Comprehensive Care Clinics (CCCs): Two clinics (Tamu and Ogen) equipped with water tanks, improving sanitation for patients and healthcare workers.
- Adolescent Support Groups: 534 HIV+ adolescents participated in 16 group therapy sessions, fostering peer support and mental well-being.





Girls like Clara (14 Y) receive support from Ogen CCC

#### Loviance's Journey of Hope and Healing (1959)



My name is Loviance, a 17-year-old from Achego village. Living with HIV felt isolating, and before starting my ARV treatment, my viral load was over 2,800. Fear and stigma made it difficult to seek help, and my caregivers' threats to turn me away only deepened my struggles. Everything changed when KEDHAP stepped in, offering compassion, home visits, and guidance. For the first time, I felt seen and supported.

Through counseling and mentorship, I learned to manage my health and adhere to my ARV treatment. Today, my viral load is under control, and I feel stronger both physically and emotionally. I now encourage other adolescents living with HIV to seek help and know they are not alone. Thank you, KEDHAP, for believing in me and giving me hope for the future.



# LOOKING AHEAD



KEDHAP remains committed to expanding its reach and impact in women empowerment and HIV support. With the continued generosity of donors, we aim to:

- Increase the number of girls receiving scholarships and mentorship.
- Enhance economic opportunities for women through skills training and microfinance initiatives.
- Expand HIV education and adolescent support programs.



 $\int\limits_{\infty}^{J}$  Your Support Matters

As we continue to expand our reach, the rising costs of education, healthcare, and essential support services make it increasingly difficult to sustain these life-changing programs. Your generosity ensures that more girls can stay in school, women can gain financial independence, and individuals living with HIV receive the care they need.