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HOPE CAN CHANGE A LIFE!

HOPE 4 KENYA, INC (H4K) finished 2022 with a big step forward. As we look forward to the 2023 New Year, let's review some of the accomplishments H4K made in 2022. Our goal is to assure that that each one of our donors know that the strides made were possible through their support. The last couple of years have been very hard on communities in Kenya, and the appreciation that H4K received on behalf of our donors, regardless of the size of the gift, was heartwarming.

Why we do what we do! At the end of each day, H4K works to leave everyone we contact a little better than when we met them. I know from experience that each person I meet fills my soul a little more and lifts my spirit with God's grace and mercy. We began the year with goals to help H4K grow and reach as many people in the community as possible. Let's see how we did to meet those goals.

Our 2022 goals were developed to help H4K build from the ground upward. For example, one of our major goals was to have H4K registered in both the US and in Kenya. This goal was met in a couple of ways. On July 13, 2021, H4K was Registered in North Carolina as a Non-Profit Hope 4 Kenya, Inc. Following this H4K prepared and filed 501(C)3 documents to register officially as a Non-Profit. On February 2, 2022, H4K received the official designation as a charity 501(C)3. This provides us with numerous benefits including tax exemptions and tax deductions for both small and large contributions. In addition, persons wishing to assist on the ground in Kenya with missions, can utilize all travel, meals and supplies as Charitable 501(C)3 deductions. This is extremely important for large donations from business and companies providing grants and in-kind financial support. In December 2022 Hope Everywhere 4 Kenya was granted a NGO Certification as a Non-Profit in Kenya. Many of the same financial benefits are afforded in the Kenya Tax Laws.

Another goal for 2022 was to work with and connect local groups that support the citizens in Nakuru and surrounding areas. This was accomplished through collaboration and support of the following groups:

1. **Springs of Hope Foundation (Kijiji Mission):** H4K has worked as a consultant for this wonderful organization since Spring 2020 due to Covid. The Director Jennifer Hughes was stranded in Australia and ask if I would assist with computers and hiring a new manager. Many young girls have moved to success through this tailoring program.

And the king shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it until one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

Matthew 25:40

- 2. <u>Israel Faith Children's Home</u> a long-time partner of H4K. Home to approximately 70 orphans from ages 2 to 18, H4K has supported this facility with food, clothing, and fun days for the children. In 2022, H4K volunteers were joined by students from <u>Jomo Kenyatta University</u> coordinated by one of our board members. Fun was had by young and old alike.
- 3. <u>Food Distribution</u> H4K provided needed food and sanitary supplies to the elderly, disadvantaged and young mothers in Umojo and Kiamunyki areas. In addition to food and sanitary items, H4K working with <u>Rani Ramchandani Initiatives</u>, coordinated the distribution of wheelchairs and crutches to several special needs persons. Some of these PWD were in the community unable to get assistance and others were working with another of our partner groups <u>The Malaika Initiative for Persons with Disabilities.</u> Working with <u>Kijiji Mission</u>, food supplies as well as washable diapers were distributed to the children at Malaika. a hugh blessing for the mothers.
- 4. <u>Sanitary Pad Distribution</u>: one of the major projects in Kenya is the distribution of sanitary napkins to the young girls in school. Many girls do not have the ability to purchase pads monthly. This leads to high school dropout rates for girls, early pregnancy, STD's and contributes to the lifelong poverty of the families. H4K distributed over 1000 packages of sanitary pads to the girls in schools.
- 5. Scholarships: H4K continued our scholarship support to disadvantaged students at the *Menengai High School*. Several additional students referred by local school officials were also provided with scholarship funds to help them remain in school. We had the opportunity to meet with one of our previous scholarship recipients as she prepared to enter the University.
- 6. One of our new projects in 2022 was the distribution of Geometrical Sets to 325 graduating Class 8 students as they prepare for the KCPE exams. The sets are mandatory to sit for the exams and many students are unable to purchase them. *Baraka Primary* and *Lanet Umoja Primary* schools are in densely populated areas that provide services to vulnerable youth. H4K was greatly blessed to connect with these institutions to support the students.
- 7. H4K was blessed to connect with a new Orphanage in 2022 through one of our board members. *Jammi Home Care* is currently home to 36 children ages 4 to 18. The home provides home, food, education, and direction to the children.

Hope 4 Kenya, Inc is proud of the small steps taken in 2022. At the end of the year, Betha Akoth, Program Manager, and I set out on a mission to locate a vulnerable community for project growth. The area identified is called Mzee Wanjama and is located about 30 minutes outside of Nakuru on the south side of Lake Nakuru. As we surveyed the area, we did not pass one clinic, only one primary school, and one what we thought was an unofficial day care center with about 30 children running around. We continue to gather information on the needs and vulnerability of the area as we look to expand our projects.

Hope 4 Kenya, Inc. moved into 2022 with numerous projects and will end 2022 in the same manner.

Some Kenya Facts

Population: 54,985,702 million as of World Bank 2021

Culture Name: Kenyan (Jamhuri ya Kenya) Taken from Mount Kenya, located in the central highlands.

Ethnic Groups: Kenya has over 40 ethnic groups with the largest of these being Kikuyu at 20%. The five largest groups include Kikuyu, Luhya, Luo, Kalenjim and Kamba, making up 70% of the country population.

Language: Both Kiswahili and English are official languages in Kenya and both are required in Kenyan schools.

Location: Kenya is located on the equator in Eastern Africa and shares borders with Somalia, Ethiopia, Sudan, Uganda, Tanzania, and the Indian Ocean and covers some 224,961 square miles.

Capital: Nairobi is the largest city and Capital of Kenya

Deaths in Kenya: As of 2021 HIV/AIDS remains the leading cause of death in Kenya with 104 deaths per 100,000 followed by cardiovascular disease, respiratory infections, and tuberculosis. Contributing to these is a high rate of both hypertension and diabetes.

Religion: Approximately 82% of Kenyans are Christian with Muslims making up another 10% of Kenyans.

Government: Kenya was approved for independence from England in 1963 and Jomo Kenyatta was named as Prime Minister in December 1993 and elected as the first President in 1964 serving for the next 15 years. His moto "harambee" meaning "Let's all pull together" was a cry for unification and reducing tribalism throughout the country.

Tourism and Exports: Tourism remains the second largest industry in Kenya following agriculture, with over 40 national parks and conservancies. Agriculture remains the primary source of exports with over 70% of the country being rural. Coffee, tea and spices account form 21.8% of exports followed by live trees, plants and cut flowers with 11.9%. Other exports include vegetables, fruits, nuts and mineral fuels. However, most small farmers live on very little income selling at the local markets with the overall average income being approximately 634 dollars per month down in 2021 from \$651.

Lets all visit Kenya for giving back to the vulnerable and disadvantage and raising hope for a better future. And of course, the Big 5, African Elephant, Leopard, Lion, Rhino and Cape Buffalo.

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