

Kenya: Support for orphans and vulnerable children affected by HIV and AIDS

Kenya is home to 1.2 million children who have been orphaned by HIV/AIDS, and hundreds of thousands who are infected with HIV themselves. High levels of poverty mean too many of these children lack access to the treatment and support they need.

Right now, **less than half of the estimated 160,000 HIV positive children aged 14 or under in Kenya have access to life-saving antiretroviral treatments.** This project aims to change that.

1.2 million
children in Kenya
have been
orphaned by
HIV/AIDS

What your support could achieve

Working with local partners across Kenya, we will reach more than **170,000 children** with urgently needed health treatment and support services including education, nutrition, psychosocial support and protection over the next five years, ensuring they are provided with everything they need to thrive. Key activities will include:

- ▶ Providing medical support including HIV testing, counselling and life-saving antiretroviral treatment
- ▶ Ensuring children have birth certificates and other vital documentation which is required in order to access healthcare and other services
- ▶ Providing educational materials for children and vocational training for young adults
- ▶ Working with schools and health services to provide age-appropriate nutrition

We recognise that poverty is a major barrier for many families in Kenya when it comes to accessing the services they need. When families are faced with choices around whether they have enough food to eat or whether they can get health treatment for their child, difficult decisions have to be made. Therefore, this project will also support families - including child-headed households - affected by HIV and AIDS to earn more money through:

- ▶ Providing training in contextually appropriate income-generating activities such as horticulture and bee-keeping
- ▶ Setting up savings and loans groups to help grow small businesses and generate additional income
- ▶ Providing support in accessing markets so that families get the best prices for the goods they produce



Aged just 15, Jackline Adhirrbo was left to care for five children when their mother died from HIV. *"It has been difficult because the food is not always there. Sometimes you have to go without food, and sometimes the children just cry"*, she says.

Thousands of children in Kenya like Jackline must take on the responsibility of caring for siblings after losing their parents to HIV. This project will provide them with the comprehensive support they need to thrive.

Thanks to a generous matched funding partnership with USAID, every £1 you give to this project will be worth £20 - so a donation of:

£100, worth £2,000, could pay for 133 children to get tested for HIV, ensuring their families know whether they then require treatment and support

£500, worth £10,000 could ensure 666 orphans and vulnerable children receive nutritious food for one month; good nutrition is especially important for children with HIV

£2,500, worth £50,000 could support 112 orphans and vulnerable children to go to school for one year

Thank you for your kind consideration of this project