



Kisumu Nkera Initiatives (KINI)

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"Rescue a Child – Rescue a Community"



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FROM THE CEO

As I finally get time to sit and write I wish to say something profound – and I found this quote "Your life is your message to the world, make sure it's inspiring".

As I share with you a glimpse of life here and the needs, I hope you may find a little inspiration to live your life to the full, and maybe inspire someone else to look beyond their own life to see the struggle many others have, just to survive as well as try to make a better life for their children.

The year is slipping away so quickly, and with 7 children in my home and the constant round of washing, cooking, cleaning, encouraging and trying to meet all their needs, as well as those of the community, I seem to rarely get time to do many of the things I need to.

Join my journey as I share some of my "adventures" here as well as the many needs.

With so many children now in my home plus Kelly will be with me full time from next month while his mum is doing a tailoring course (thank you to some wonderful sponsors), I am excited to now have my own room thanks to some generous friends.



Any building works here are always time-consuming and a stressful time trying to make sure the "fundi" comes every day to finish the job, cooking chai for their morning tea and cooking lunch as well.



Sunday afternoons ladies from the church meet in a home and drink tea and chat and pray together

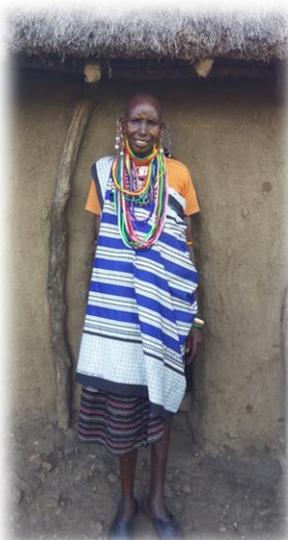


The children and I are very excited to now have a 5,000 litre water tank at the house with a tap, so we can have clean water to drink and bathe in. Luckily we have had some good storms and the tank was full. Thank you to my wonderful and kind friend Betty for making life a little easier for us and also ensuring we have clean water to drink.

With the rooms quite small **another bedroom** is needed as well as a **kitchen** for cooking as during the rainy season is difficult keeping a fire going outside.

My next project is to start a garden to have fresh vegetables available each day and have a more varied diet. But this is proving very difficult with the goats, cows, elephants and zebra always enjoying the compound. The only way to ensure we are able to safely grow anything is to have an **electric fence**. This is also important for security for myself and the children from other animals such as lions and hyena and any unwelcome visitors. **The cost would be \$3,000.**

We are also in the process of having beds made for the children so they don't have to sleep on the floor and they can have their own space. New **bedding and mattresses** will also be needed.



Normali lives alone with her daughter-in-law in the forest so was a great walk up and down the hill to her boma. We laughed together as she told us of how the elephants came into her compound and were eating the pumpkin vines and how she chased them away. She then needed to repair the break in the fence where they came in.

A very strong and brave lady who works to care for herself and grandchildren as well as sheep, cows and goats, as there are no men living there.

SCHOOL UPDATE

The school is doing well with the students' performance improving each week. We regularly have tests with other schools in the area to check our progress and are usually in second place, but are trying very hard to be in first!

Donors who built the library/offices visited last week and officially opened the new facilities.



The new office and library are very welcomed

To help students achieve their best, the school is now providing boarding for those in Classes 6 and 7.



Emmanuel (right), one of my original "cowboys" although in Class 5, needs to also board as he has to walk quite a long distance to school each day and it makes it impossible for him to be at the early morning classes and late afternoon preps as it is dangerous for him to be walking through the forests. As KINI fully supports him, a **sponsor** is needed to cater for his **boarding** requirements and boarding fees for the term. Fees are **\$100 per term** and boarding requirements (mattress, etc) are approximately **\$130**. Please consider helping Emmanuel to fulfil his dream of completing school. He is doing very well, usually in the top 3 of the class.

BOARDING SCHOOLS

The children in boarding are progressing well, and slowly improving their marks. Barbara has employed one of the teachers to tutor the children every morning during the holidays to help them where they are finding difficulties, especially in maths and languages. This has been an important and successful undertaking with the children already showing much improvement.

Schools at present are on holidays but return on **2 May**. For those sponsoring children please remember **school fees** need to be paid prior to the child returning to school or children are sent home until the fees are paid.

SEWING MACHINE

Barbara is kept busy mending uniforms and clothing for children and people from the community and is also looking forward to finding some time to do a bit more sewing and making some clothes for the children whose carers struggle to provide basic clothing needs for them.

They were very happy to receive a parcel from some friends in Australia who made dresses for the girls and shorts for the boys, and whose husbands bought T-shirts to match the shorts. Because there were a limited supply they were given to those found were the most needy.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

There are still many issues with early marriages and expectations of girls/women within the community and a high rate of drop outs from school, both girls and boys.

Barbara has joined with "Asante Africa" to coordinate the running of mentoring programs within schools which will see both boys and girls given opportunity to be part of a program where they can learn and participate in taking charge of their own future and their future families, especially in the areas of personal development and finances, including budgeting, etc.

It is essential the boys are part of these mentoring programs and also be involved in the training and discussion, as without their change in attitude from very traditional views, it is very difficult for the girls to progress and the community to move forward.

These programs will start during the new term, and Barbara is looking forward to working with the mentors and "Asante Africa" to see their success.

SPONSORSHIPS

It is becoming critical more sponsors are found who are willing to fully commit to either a monthly donation (as little as \$20 a month can be a great help - remember our goal of 100 sponsors giving one cup a coffee a day to support children in care and also pay school teachers and school fees).

To help a child attend school can be as little as **US\$10 PER TERM** (three terms a year). Boarding schools are also very reasonable and are usually below \$500 for the year. Enkereri School (where Barbara is located) is **\$100 per term** and KINI is

expecting to receive many requests for help with these children, as many are already sponsored by KINI and parents still struggle to pay the lower day school, fees.

If you are considering sponsorship and have not received the KINI Sponsorship proposal, please email KINI, and it will be sent.

Also please remember the **8 children** now in Barbara's care. These children are constantly in need of clothes and of course funds are always needed to care for their day-to-day requirements and food.

URGENT FUNDS NEEDED

A large anonymous donation was received by KINI which was partly used to set up some small businesses to help with generating a small income to support its work and care for the children. However these are taking a little longer than expected to be giving income and with the children home for holidays and the urgent need to purchase beds and other necessary items, funds are urgently needed to provide these necessities and buy food each day, which never seems to go very far.

PICS FROM AROUND



7 of the children at supper time crowding around the table waiting to be served.



The best place to lay an egg is on the boy's bed!! We have a number of our chickens setting so hoping for a nice number of females so our egg supply can be increased and we can all enjoy them each week.



Finally have a goat to milk and am enjoying creamed rice and sharing with Baby Mark when his mum is late.



Our latest addition – another lamb to increase the flock and provide an income for the future

Another nightly visitor, this time on my bed – not very welcome!



One of the beautiful nightly visitors



Attending a Baby Celebration where I was asked to be a "mother" for the baby.

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If you would like to be part of this exciting work please set up a regular donation directly into the KINI bank account (details below) or through RAWCS (www.kinikenya.com) if you would like a tax deductible receipt.

Bank: ANZ, Nambucca Heads
 Name: Kisaru Nkera (KINI)
 BSB/Account: 012754/204398639

Postal address:
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*Thank you for sharing in our dream.
 The sign of the saved is our love of the least – Max Lucado*