



# **MAMA IBADO MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT**

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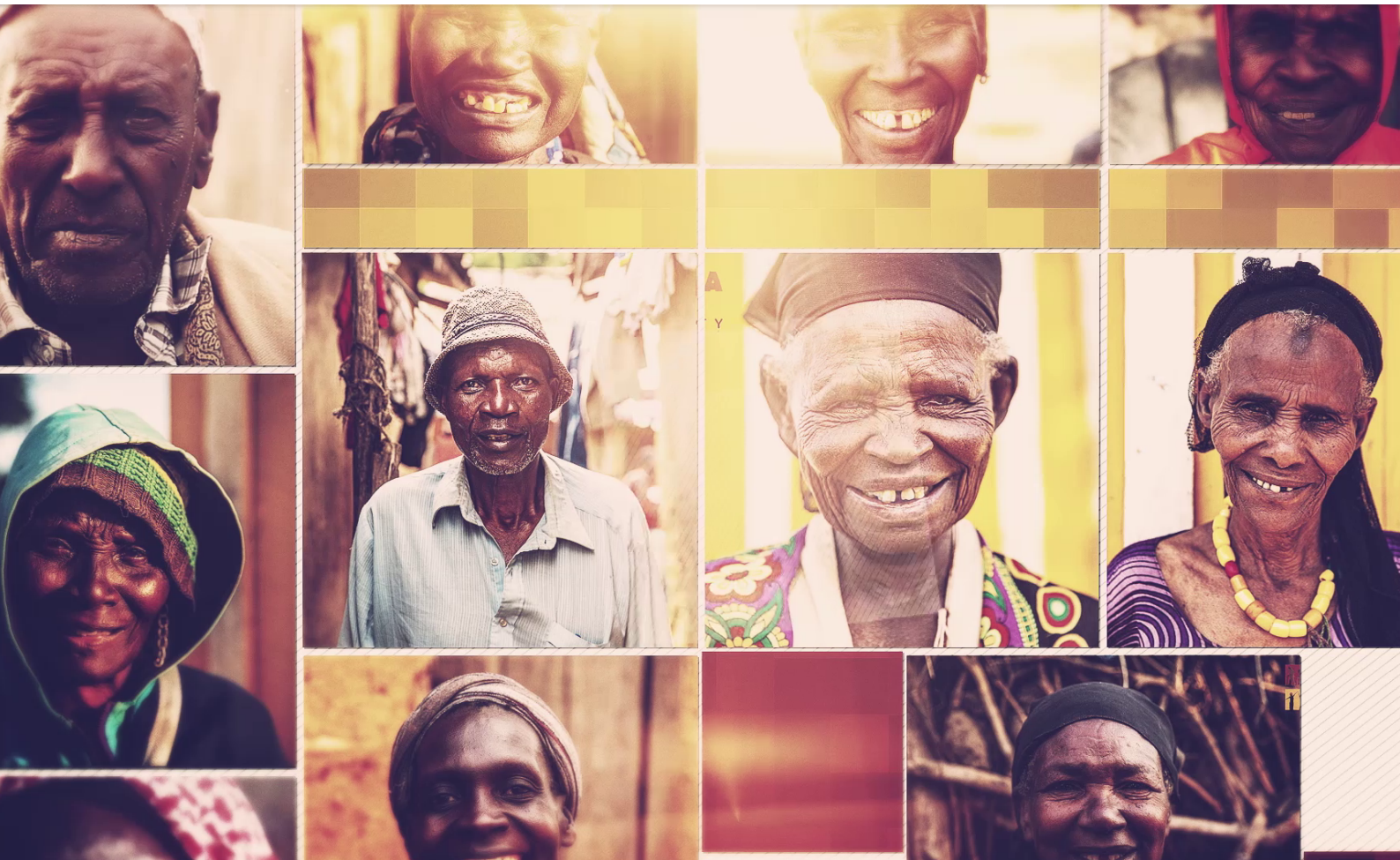
**JANUARY 2021**



# MIC CELEBRATES 10 YEARS OF RESTORING DIGNITY TO THE SENIORS

2021 marks a decade of MIC restoring dignity to 650 seniors in Isiolo and Kakamega through impact projects that include: seniors feeding programme, seniors housing programme and annual elderly medical camps.

To celebrate this milestone, the organization will implement a number of fundraising activities aimed at raising KES 25 million or USD \$250,000 for the seniors feeding programme.



# SENIOR 4 SENIORS FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN



A group of eight senior citizens known as Kiligrít embarked on a five-day hike to Africa's highest peak, Mount Kilimanjaro to raise KES 5 Million (USD \$50,000) towards Mama Ibado Charity's Seniors' Feeding Program.

The campaign dubbed as Seniors 4 Seniors, is an initiative between Mama Ibado Charity (MIC) and Kiligrít is scheduled to run from January 23rd to February 28th 2021.

Kiligrít team were officially flagged off by the Sports Cabinet Secretary & MIC Board of Director, Dr. Amb. Amina Mohamed from Bluebird Hangar, Wilson Airport.

Kiligrít members who participated in the expedition are; Col (Rtd) Hussein Farah, Major (Rtd) Hussein Mohammed, Col (Rtd) Abdulbari Abdirahman, Abdiwahid Biriq, Abdikadir Sheikh Hassan, Mohamud Duale, Hassan Shariff Alwy and Omar Megagg

By end of January, the campaign had raised nearly half of the targeted amount.





## **MIC DONATES MASKS & OTHER HYGIENE ITEMS TO KAKAMEGA TOWNSHIP PRIMARY SCHOOL**

On the 25th January 2021, Mama Ibado Charity donated 10 water points, 6 Thermo guns, 700 pieces of re-usable face masks and 60 litres of hand washing soap to Kakamega Township Primary School.

This initiative will supplement the Ministry of Health's COVID-19 fight in schools, whereby more than 600 learners will effectively adhere to recommended hygiene practices and measures aimed at minimizing the spread of the pandemic.

MIC has also been providing lunch every day for students at the school for the last two years which has led to increased enrolment rates as well as improved cognitive functions among the students.

In the dusty yellow-leafed grassland of Shambani in Isiolo County, resides a Turkana woman endearingly known to the locals by the appellation 'mother of dogs.' Her actual name is Gasike Ekitela. As you walk into her compound, you will spot her on a straw mat with legs stretched out. On her aged face she wears a beaming smile characterized by a lovely gap between her upper incisors. Either her grandchildren or her dogs keep her company. The love she has for her descendants can easily be attributed to the abstract notions of blood linkage and duty to lineage but the love she has developed for dogs has a more identifiable root.

The circumjacent parts of Ekitela's mudhouse has always been infested by cankering hyenas who made their way into human settlements and menacingly fed on defenseless goats. On one occasion, the hyenas devoured two of Ekitela's goats. Driven by a fantasy for revenge, Ekitela pledged to confront the hyenas next time they show up.

Her desire materialized as one stray hyena limped and laughed its way into Ekitela's compound. When she saw it, an alarming wail escaped her terrified lips. The scavenger jumped on her and before anyone came to the rescue, the hyena chewed off half of Ekitela's left middle finger. Granted the hyena faced its death at the hands of the infuriated neighbors but from that moment, Ekitela knew she required reliable security.

She pragmatically adopted stray puppies and began raising them, patiently waiting for them to blossom into fierce carnivores. What began as necessary domestication burgeoned into long-lasting intimacy. "I love my dogs and they love me. No one is allowed to beat them or harm them," she said.

Every morning and evening, Ekitela prepares a very odd meal for dogs; porridge. Despite food being a struggle in her own household, she has ritually fed her dogs for nearly a decade now. Once they are fed, the dogs roam about the compound watching out for any hyenas. Ekitela on the other hand, basks in the sun and entertains her grandchildren. When the heat from the scorching eye of heaven becomes severe, she moves over to the shed of a nearby tree and silently repeats the same prayer she's been saying for the past few years, "Dear lord, please do not take me away from these orphaned children. I am all they have."



Recalling his childhood, Dickson Olukhalo reveals a narrative of teamwork with his five siblings. With no gradient of privilege and their parents unable to provide for them, this team consisted of individuals sharing the same genetic material and a symbiotic clarity of their desire to survive. They traversed through various farms in Kakamega, hunkering down in labor for a wage of KES 6/= each. In the evening, they coalesced their combined wages to buy food.

Olukhalo was however more ambitious. Acknowledging that he needed radical reordering in his life to escape this uncertain collaboration with his siblings, he decided to educate himself and was successful enough to complete high school.

Burdened with being his own guardian, a young and poor Olukhalo miraculously managed to take himself through a polytechnic and within three years, he was ready to face the world with the skills of masonry at his disposal.

In 1978, at a salary of only KES 14/= a day, Olukhalo began the strenuous duties of being a stonemason. Bending, kneeling, lifting and constructing various structures, Olukhalo's manual dexterity was untethered. Covered in dirt and dust, Olukhalo soldiered through his job. Regardless of the exposure to cramping fatigue, he could not fathom leaving masonry for any other job.

Despite the slow senescence that crept up in his life, Olukhalo continued building layouts, framing, sheathing, and roofing structures. In the recent past, he stepped up to earning KES 700/= a day, a hefty amount compared to his starting wage. However, the coronavirus crisis affected the 63-year-old. With the majority of construction work being halted, Olukhalo was forced to take a break.

Downheartedly acknowledging the grim reality of lack of opportunities, Olukhalo strolls around town paying visits to his friends in hopes of gaining some assistance from them. His family now rely on his wife, who earns a scanty KES 100/= a day doing mundane chores such as washing clothes and utensils in neighboring homes. Thankful to her, Olukhalo describes his wife as God-sent saying, "God guided me to her. Without her I don't know what we would do."



# BENEFICIARY MORTALITY

Unfortunately, In January 2021 we lost five of our beneficiaries from Isiolo and Kakamega Counties. This brings our total mortality since inception to 171 seniors from both counties.

## ISIOLO



87 year old Mzee Boru Abdu (K/235) lived in Kula Mawe with no dependents. Mzee Boru succumbed to age and health complications on 9th January 2021.



98 year old Guyo Mamo (K/315) lived in Bula Pesa with 3 dependent. Mzee Guyo succumbed to age and health complications on 19th January 2021.



Mama Amejan Lokwawi (K/267) was 91 years old and lived in Kula Mawe with no dependents. Mama Amejan succumbed to age and health complications on 22nd January 2021.

## KAKAMEGA



Mzee Jela Abdala (KK/013) was 87 year old and lived in Majengo with no dependents. Mzee Jela succumbed to age and health complications on 19th January 2021.



75 year old Mama Joyce Kaleki Chisienya (CK/083) lived in Shivakala with 4 dependents. Mama Joyce succumbed to age and health complications on 28th January 2021.



***Restoring Dignity To Our Seniors***

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