



# **MAMA IBADO MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT**

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**MARCH 2021**

# MIC DISTRIBUTES COVID 19 FOOD HAMPERS TO VULNERABLE SENIORS IN ISIOLO COUNTY

One hundred and ninety four seniors from Isiolo County who are not beneficiaries of Mama Ibado Charity received Covid-19 food hampers. The food hampers that consisted of 2kgs Wheat flour, 2kgs Maize flour, 1 kg green grams and 500g salt were a donation from M.A Math Charitable Trust Kenya. The seniors who were targeted for the food distribution reside in Matabithi, Shambani, Kambi Juu, Bula Pesa, LMD and Bula Bao among other areas.

In addition to donating three wheel chairs, MA Math charitable trust Kenya through their white cane project donated white canes and food hampers to 30 of our visually impaired seniors late last year.

MIC is grateful to partners like MA Math Charitable Trust Kenya for their generosity and commitment to helping the vulnerable in the society.





Abdi Guracho has lived through a range of fragmentation and violence. To begin with, Guracho was a victim of the dystopic and terrifying shifta wars. His livestock was looted and his body was battered by the inexorable lashes of both the military and the dissenters. "For two days I had to run barefoot all the way to Isiolo," he said recalling his lucky escape from a concentration camp in Marti.

When the war ended and things seemed to settle down, Guracho secured a small farm for his family in Isiolo. Before he could reap the produce of his agricultural efforts, his first wife died. With three children under his care, Guracho did not last for long as a grieving widower. He married a second wife almost immediately and together they lived pinning their survival on subsistence farming.

In 2002, a rival clan attempted to strip Guracho's community of their autonomy and subjugate them to draconian tyranny. Bids of reasonable discourse seemed futile. As the tension and agitation between the two clans grew more intense, Guracho, for the second time in his life, experienced the anguish, grief and sorrow associated with the loss of a spouse. As he mourned her death, a decree of a violent response to the provocation from the rival clan was issued.

Unable to rationally cope with his wife's demise, Guracho channeled his wrath to the defensive force of protecting his clan's autonomy and capitulated to the loss of civility associated with manic bloodshed. Guracho and his clansmen secured their freedom and drove the rival clan to retreat.

A third encounter with the atrocities of violence manifested in Guracho's life. In 2005, his son-in-law fell victim to the machetes of cattle rustlers leaving behind a jobless wife and seven children. This tragedy ushered a new burden in Guracho's life as he became tasked with caring for his daughter and his grandchildren.

Unable to depend on food rations received from Mama Ibado Charity and his unreliable farm, Guracho has taken up a role as a night guard at a local shop. At 82 years, he remains the breadwinner of his family.



At only 16, Petrolina Shistuswa was forced to suppress the vision of life's possibilities. With her grandfather, her sole caretaker dead and her mother being jobless, she dropped out of school and migrated to Nakuru town tuning herself into working as a house help in various households for several years before finally being employed at a factory processing mosquito coils.

After working at the plant for a while, Shistuswa gave an opportunity to one of the male workers who had been yearning for her proximity. At 26, unable to resist his mundane flirtations, she married him and he moved her to his home village in Siaya. With their marital intimacy, she bore him four children and they lived well together.

However, upon his untimely death, Shistuswa felt remote and stranded. Further indenting the hollow wound in her heart, her husband's brothers desired to implement a culture considered a modern taboo. They metastasized her grief by clamoring to inherit her as part of their late brother's property.

Deluged with this unrefined tradition, Shistuswa escaped with her children and returned to her hometown Kakamega. She left the children under the care of their grandmother as she navigated through various jobs to make ends meet.

During this time, Shistuswa noticed a gradual incremental pain that incapacitated her and forced her into being hospitalized for six months in 2008. "Everyone thought I was dying," she recalled. The transient impermanent nature of human life dawned on her as she stared down the barrel of her mortality.

Dodging death, Shistuswa was discharged without proper diagnosis. For the next decade, she lived in jagged pain and her weight reduced to a shocking 35 kilograms. Going for a second diagnosis at a hospital in Kisumu town in 2018, various tests were done on her and the jarring news of having Spinal Cord Tuberculosis and HIV was revealed. Surprising all who surrounded her, Shistuswa channeled gumption to cultivate a positive and affirming outlook. She heeded the counsel given to her and began taking her medications religiously in order to remedy her malady.

Through her positivity, the 48-year-old mother has succeeded in her personal transformation from being underweight and nearing the nothingness of death, to living a vibrant and healthy life. "My appetite has even improved. I now eat like a pig," she said bursting out in laughter.





# BENEFICIARY MORTALITY

Unfortunately, in March 2021 we lost four of our beneficiaries from Isiolo and Kakamega Counties. This brings our total mortality since inception to 179 from both counties.

## ISIOLO



**78-year-old Galgalo Arero (K/173)** lived in Mabatini with no dependents. Mama Galgalo succumbed to age and health complications on 11th March 2021.



**73-year-old Mama Batula Issack (K/090)** lived in Kiwanjani with two dependents. Mama Batula succumbed to age and health complications on 10th March 2021.



**Mama Rumu Adan (K/130)** was 99 years old and lived in Bula Pesa with four dependents. Mama Rumu succumbed to age and health complications on 26th March 2021.

## KAKAMEGA



**Mama Mariam Mohamed (KK/043)** was 91 years old and lived in Lutonyi with four dependents. Mama Mariam succumbed to age and health complications on 28th March 2021.



***Restoring Dignity To Our Seniors***

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255 Duncan Mill Road,  
Suite 308, Toronto, Ontario, M3B 3H9  
TEL: 416-447-9334 ext. 2

P.O Box 205079-00603,  
Nairobi, Kenya  
Tel: +254-792-487422 /+254-745-807000  
Email: [info@mamaibado.org](mailto:info@mamaibado.org)  
Website: [www.mamaibado.org](http://www.mamaibado.org)