

Newsletter

Fall 2024

Thank you for making the work of Help a Child possible. Enjoy these highlights from our project partners and learn about some of the impacts of your prayers and support through child sponsorship!

Mwalweni – Malawi “This gives us hope that things will continue to improve”

A new opportunity for Mary...

The first years of 3-year-old Mary's life were not easy. “Mary was born with a paralyzed leg and a paralyzed hand. Because of this, she had difficulty eating and walking. She mostly just slept at home,” says Mary's mother, Lekani. But a disability is not an inability! After the start of the village program, Mary was invited to attend the preschool/kindergarten. There, she received special care and interventions, made possible through partnerships with local faith-based organizations. The caregivers practiced regularly with her. The impact on Mary is hard to overstate. She can now walk, hold an object in her left hand, and play with other children. Lekani is grateful for Mary's progress: “Even at home, Mary is now able to walk, eat, and play. This gives us hope that she will continue to improve.”



Mary (in her red dress) plays at home with friends.

Busia – Kenya Against the odds



Phanice persisted and now has a beautiful piece of land.

When Phanice (26 years old) started using new horticultural methods on her piece of land, people around her laughed. Why wouldn't she stick to traditional methods? But Phanice persisted. She took training courses in the village program, and gradually more vegetables appeared on her land. Each season, Phanice honed her skills while connecting with other farmers to exchange tips. Her community was impressed. Phanice's work now provides enough for her family to live on. But it didn't stop there. Today, her piece of land is also a place where young people come together to gain knowledge and skills in modern horticulture techniques. And her community? They now proudly support her and her green oasis!

“I want to inspire other girls”

Deborah had dropped out of school and thought there was no hope for her future. “But you saw something in me that I didn’t see,” she says. “Potential.” Through the village program hosted by local churches, Deborah took classes in hairdressing and makeup training. “This was just the beginning. We formed a group of five women who went from house to house with a mobile beauty salon. With what we earned, we bought new products.” At one point, Deborah was even able to take a course in the capital, Kampala. “I never dared to dream that I would get such opportunities. I want to share my knowledge with girls at home who can no longer attend school. I want to give them hope and inspire them; with support and determination, anything is possible!”



Deborah practices a new hairstyle.

Asiku mobilized his entire village

“In 2019, I attended a meeting of parents of sponsored children,” says Asiku. “That changed my life.” He heard about the importance of education for young children and decided, together with his church, to start a preschool/ kindergarten. Asiku says, “We started with 25 children but dreamed big. In 2022, volunteers helped us start building a school. The entire village had prepared for this. In December 2023, we had a building with three classrooms, an office, and storage space. We called on parents to enroll their children in school, and the response was overwhelming: in January 2024, we had 172 enrollments! The development I now see in the children reminds me of the power of collaboration. Education is the key to a better future, and we are determined to make that future a reality for our children.”



These happy farmers are almost ready to harvest.

Sanyasi has a small piece of land where he grows rice as the climate allows. He lives with his wife and three children in a small house with a thatched roof and struggles to make ends meet. Sometimes he travels for months to find work and earn some extra money—a great sorrow and loss for his family.

Along with sixty other farmers, Sanyasi is now part of a farmers’ group. They received training to grow sunflowers, which has turned out to be a profitable project! The sunflowers are almost ready to be harvested. Sanyasi says, “I can now stay with my family! Once I sell the harvest and have an income, I can pay my children’s school fees and ensure they have clothes. My goal is to renovate our house!”

Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me”

Matthew 25:40

Thank you for your support and prayers for the children and families served by Help a Child. This help is still very much needed!

Want to send a card to your sponsored child or family? Send it to us at the address below or email a message and we will write it in a card on your behalf. Thank you!