



Annual Report 2019-2020

Meru site Meru, Kenya



Chalice began working in rural Meru county with the Good Shepherd Sisters in 1999. In three communities, the site assists children and families living in both rural villages and urban slum environments. About 80% of the population in the municipality of Meru are low-income earners who experience poverty. The Meru sponsor site focuses on supporting children to achieve high academic performance and reducing school drop-out rates, supported by school farming and daily school meals programs supported by Chalice. Through agricultural programs, the site works to increase the family food production at the household level, which also improves their economic stability and food security.



Child

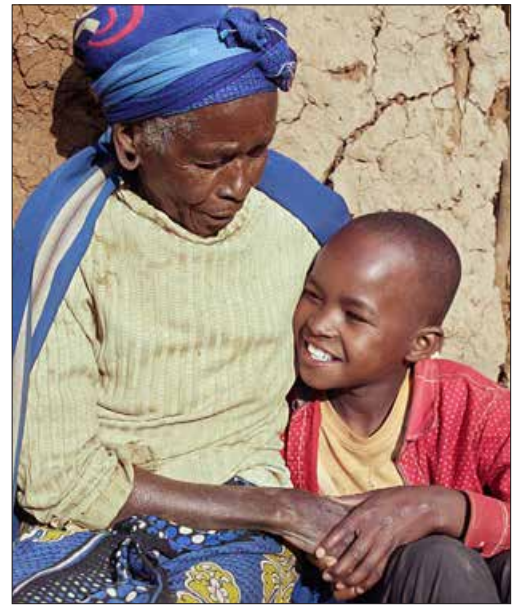


- 99% of students and pupils attend school regularly.
- This was due to school feeding program, regular follow up by social workers working closely with teachers in schools and homes and timely disbursement of sponsorship funds, ensuring parents pay school fees on time.
- 70% of sponsored children were trained on leadership, career path awareness, self-awareness . This improved self awareness and self esteem.
- Meru site was able to provide a good learning environment by providing new infrastructure and furniture in school through the help of gift catalogue and school to school grants.
- The schools that benefited from this assistance witnessed improved performance, the children are now comfortable in classes as there is less congestion and it is easier to maintain cleanliness.



Family

- 40% of parent-run small businesses have recovered from the impact of COVID-19 restrictions.
- The site began bead-working training with groups of women from a marginalized community.
- Meru site runs adult literacy classes for 100 adults and elders.
- Through the gift catalogue, 15 small business owners now have wheelbarrows to help them transport their goods to the market.



Community

- The site provided school furniture learning materials and school lunch materials to several schools across their region. This includes:
 - More than 150 desks to various schools
 - 83 office and teachers tables among 7 schools
 - 2 computer lab tables, 12 chairs, and sports equipment for Chugu primary
 - Kitchen utensils for Kandubai primary.
- The site also improved infrastructure at several schools, constructing:
 - 3 classrooms, a dining hall, and a kitchen and store for Rikiau primary,
 - a kitchen for Kandubai primary
 - Modern toilet facilities at Chugu and Ntui Primary Schools
- Renovations on two classes and staffroom for Chugu primary offices and the staffroom for Kamuketha primary,
- Meru site also supplied water tanks for Rikiau primary, St. Joseph's dispensary and Kiegoi church among many others.

