



September Feeding Program Report



INTRODUCTION

September brought a nationwide challenge in which we had to respond quickly in order to continue providing nutritional diet to the children. Some encouraging news as one boy was able to go back to school through a hardship grant. Continued community generosity continued and through the school meals program we identified several new boys who had challenges at home and opted to leave school and start street life. There was an increase of households in our food bank.

CORE INDICATORS



18,300

meals served in the
month of September



7

new households
were supported
through our food bank



6

boys, identified to
have dropped out of
school and 3 are
back to school

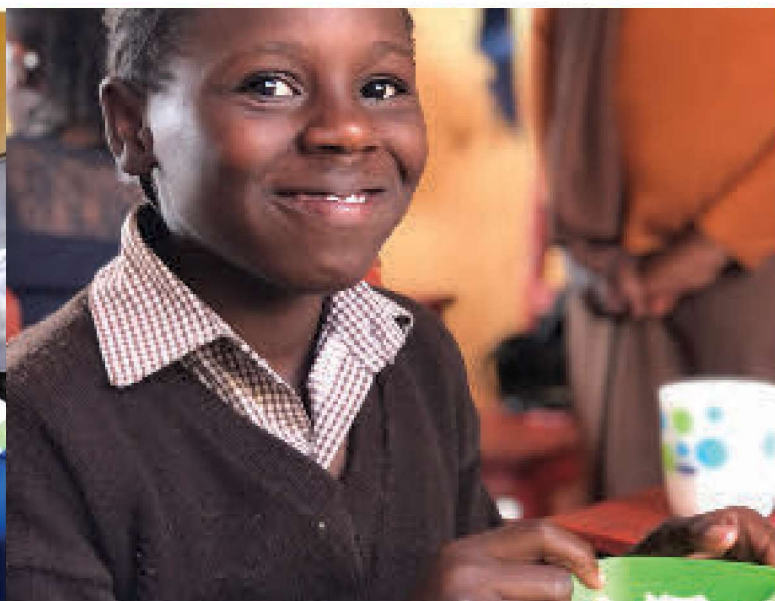


535

children receiving
hot meals daily



**Donation of 1 pick-up
of firewood**



1.

MENU ADJUSTMENT: Responding to a National milk shortage

A national milk shortage this September affected the amount of milk used in our kitchen. To make sure children were not missing out, we provided eggs as a substitute to ensure the ECDE children continue to meet their RDA (Recommended Dietary Allowance) for protein and essential vitamins. We are now serving breakfast, hot black chocolate daily with eggs twice a week and ripe banana for three days in order to achieve adequate intake of Micronutrients among the children. This ensures the nutritional integrity of our feeding program remains fully intact.

2.

PROGRAM PROGRESS

The program continues to feed 535 children everyday across our five centres providing 915 meals (380 breakfast and 535 lunches) each school day. The scale has been maintained without interruption through September, even as we manage the milk shortage.

This amounts to 18,300 meals delivered to children who would go without a reliable meal during the month of September.



535

children

served everyday
across our five centres



915

meals

each school day
(380 breakfast and
535 lunches)



**MONDAY
TO FRIDAY**

meals served
during the holiday



4

schools

served during
the term



18,300

meals delivered

to children who would
go without a reliable meal
during September



3. COMMUNITY GENEROSITY

Support from our community continued into September. We received donations of:

- 1 pick-up of firewood from Mr. Paul Nyaki
- Clothes donation from several well wishers

Contributions like firewood continue to ease pressure on the kitchen budget. We acknowledge and appreciate the community for their continued support.



1 PICK-UP
of firewood
from Mr. Paul Nyaki



CLOTHES DONATION
from several
well wishers



4. A FOOD BANK FOR FAMILIES IN CRISIS

Our food bank support continued to grow in September. We identified and supported seven further households facing hardship.

HOUSEHOLD	FAMILY MEMBERS	QUANTITY PER FAMILY	CIRCUMSTANCES
Mama Aoko	4 children and 2 grandchildren	4kgs beans 4 kgs maize	Single mother and lives in the slums with no stable income
Mama Robert	4 children	4kgs beans 4 kgs maize	Single mother with no stable income
Mama Patience	3 children	4kgs beans 4 kgs maize	Has health challenges and lives in the slums
Mama Kaleli	2 sons and 2 grand children	4kgs beans 4 kgs maize	Has health issues and lives in slums
Mama Nimu	3 children	4kgs beans 4 kgs maize	She lives in the slums
Mama Brian	4 children	4kgs beans 4 kgs maize	Ran away from gender-based violence and now lives in the slums
Vyonne	2 children	4kgs beans 4 kgs maize	Single mother and her 1st born who is 3.7 years enrolled to Kathita ECDE Centre and benefits from our school meals

5.

NEW ARRIVALS AT THE RESCUE CENTRE

During the month, several boys came to the rescue Centre during lunch time, most after difficulties at home which led them to run away from home. Our team followed up on each situation individually, working with parents, guardians, local leaders, church leaders and teachers where needed. They are as follows:

- Kelvin, aged 13 years, is navigating a difficult custody situation between separated parents, compounded by family poverty and unwelcoming step mother which has left him bitter and at risk of dropping out of school despite him being a bright capable student who thrives well in a supportive environment. He is now back to school after interventions from our team and some church leaders.
- Charles ran into conflict with his guardian and ran away from home in his school uniform, walking about 15KM to come to town. A good Samaritan found him sleeping near our Centre and requested if we could offer food because he looked hungry and weak. We listened to him and with support from our football coach, the area chief and the head teacher from his school, we were able to reconcile him to his guardian and he's now back in class.
- Caleb, from Shauri slums has been out of school due to school fees. We traced the parents and they promised to make commitments to the school fees.
- Safari, a grade six boy, has been out of school since January and we have traced the mother, who has separated from his husband due to gender-based violence in Kitui County. We are working closely with the family as we have enrolled them into our food bank support program.
- Brian, grade 10 from Ena, ran away from home and did not share much about his situation. He has avoided coming back to the rescue Centre but we are keeping track of him.
- Martin, grade 7 from Kiangima ran away from home and did not disclose much about his situation. He also has avoided coming back to the rescue Centre. We are keeping track of him.



5.

LOOKING AHEAD.

Looking forward we will continue to be guided by these priorities:

- Keeping meals reliable even when supply is not. Whether it's the milk shortage or rising food costs, our first commitment is to make sure disruptions outside our control don't become disruptions in what children actually eat.
- Reaching beyond the classroom to the households. Our food bank has shown there is real need among families connected to our program who aren't captured by attendance.
- Following through when hunger isn't the only real barrier. Some children who reached us aren't struggling because of hunger only. They are also struggling with unpaid fees, family conflict or unsafe homes. This requires for us to respond with the basic principles of child protection- safety, family tracing and reconciliation where appropriate, and referral to the right support.

It is only through the continued generosity and trust of our donors that we are able to meet children where their needs actually are and we hope you will consider standing with us even more closely as this work grows.



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