

# NewsLetter KidsCare Kenya



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Quarterly Newsletter to inform partners and other interested people about the work of KidsCare. For questions, remarks or information please contact our office.

## News from the Director

I am very excited that we can present to you our first Newsletter, hopefully many will follow!

KidsCare started in 2010 with 3 pilot villages in Lunga Lunga division of Msambweni District. By now kidsCare has spread to 16 villages in the same division assisting 80 homesteads and 375 children. The hard working staff have made it possible to reach out for orphans and vulnerable children suffering silently in their homes. Working together with the village administration, they have been able to restore hope in the livelihood of these

children and their guardians.

The realisation of the KidsCare Centre last year is also a mayor step to help even more children within the Lunga Lunga division.

We are very proud of the progress we made over the years.

This Newsletter is designed to keep everybody that works closely together with KidsCare informed about our programs and will appear every three months.

We hope you enjoy reading it!

Ali Mwaziro

## Community based HomeCare Program

The smile that radiates from Mary's face as she speaks leaves no doubt in any mind that indeed she is a happy mother. I meet the 26-year-old mother of four at the kiosk in LungaLunga. She is determined to sell her sukumawiki, tomatoes and the entire grocery to make end meet. Indeed she is a living testimony to many. Before she narrates to me her story with her children seated beside her, she first shows me pictures of the entire family a year ago and all I can do is to sympathise. "I was in bad shape. First I did not accept that I was HIV-positive. A new chapter was to be opened in my life as my other two children were also infected," she starts.

Mary says she never went beyond Class 4 and decided to marry off at a tender

stage in 2002. The following year she bore her now ten years-old first daughter, but her life started to change drastically after her husband who was a long distance truck driver started to be abusive when he came from his long trips. Though the abuses were increasing day and night she did not want to give up and this saw the number of her family also grow. She got two more sons and a daughter.

Her health began to deteriorate and with increased violence, she abandoned the marriage in 2010.

"All my children had stopped going to school and our situation was worsened. To sustain myself I had to do something to feed them and the only option was to start selling local



liquor,"she adds. Life was this way for her till she met Mr Ali Mwaziro; a director with KidsCare Kenya-a trustee that supports orphans and vulnerable children. Mary started to accept medication and the mother of four says that this and accepting her situation really gave her hope even to take care of her two children who are infected.

"I took my children back to school. And as long as I am alive, I promise to give them the best of my ability".

Success story of our HomeCare Program.  
Article written by Tobias Chanji  
Published in The Standard

*Did you know that  
\* we are setting up a  
sponsorsystem within  
Kenya? Read more  
about it in the next  
newsletter*

*\* at the moment we  
have two cows and four  
calves in our stables?*

*\* from this year we  
started with a  
scholarship program for  
secondary  
schoolstudents?*

## Centre based Familycare Program

On the 22nd of October last year we celebrated the opening of our KidsCare Centre. We are very happy that the governor was willing to perform the opening.

A couple of our partners, APDK, Public Health, officers of Agriculture and Livestock and th RedCross, introduced themselves by giving a workshop in the morning. A local dance group from Mwangwei and pupils from Bwiti Primary

made sure that is was a real party. For our kitchen it was a first time, but I think everybody loved our Pilau.

In the meantime different activities started at the KidsCare centre. We had trainings from the Public Health, 4Kclubs and even an assesment for handicaped children. We are still beginning, but the future looks brighth.

## Our first Kenyan Sponsor

We are very proud and excited to inform you all that we found our first Kenyan Sponsor, Base Titanium.

Base Titanium is one of the contributors to the last part of the KidsCare Centre. But we think this will not be just a one time thing. Hopefully we will be partners for a long time helping out a lot of children and their families.



## The KidsCare Team



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