

# HOPE!

THE NEWSLETTER OF HOPECO



## YOUR KINDNESS HELPS CHANGE LIVES FOREVER!

### *“Please care for my children!”*

This was the plea of Rose\*’s mother as she lay on her deathbed. Sadly, within days she died. And then a few weeks later Rose’s father passed away.



Rose and her three brothers were already familiar with suffering. Living in extreme poverty they watched their parents struggle to provide life’s basic necessities – nutritious food, warm clothes, medical care, and education. And now they were orphans. Fear overwhelmed these young children as they found themselves all alone.

But the final plea of Rose’s mother to City of Hope did not fall on deaf ears. Rose and her brothers were quickly rescued by our staff. Once again they had a family that loved them!

Rose made friends quickly at City of Hope and soon a beautiful smile replaced her serious expression.

She is now in second grade at our school and eager to learn! A budding artist, she also enjoys dancing and singing. She joined the church choir and also attends the weekly prayer meeting. Rose is so happy that she and her brothers can stay together, and they love their new home!

This is what City of Hope is all about: rescuing children from hopelessness and despair, meeting their needs, providing an education and training that will empower them to thrive – and letting them know they have a Heavenly Father who will never leave them!

Through your prayers, giving, and kindness, you are helping to provide hope and a future to children like Rose and her brothers. Young lives are being changed forever.

**Thank you for your partnership!**

\*Name changed to protect privacy



# HopeCo

# PURSUING OUR VISION: Transformed Lives...Flourishing Communities

## Faith

### Jesus Christ is our example

At HopeCo, we believe that Jesus Christ alone changes lives forever. That's why we keep Christ at the center of all we do, in every program we run, guiding every decision we make. Our goal is to help each student know and embrace the love that their Heavenly Father has for them, and then live out His unique plan for them.



And we are thrilled to see our kids doing just that! *"I want to do whatever God has for me,"* says Judith. *"I plan to become a nurse practitioner so I can help people and share about what God has done in my life."* Julianna wants to start a school in her home village in Tanzania, because *"girls there are forced into marriage at a young age, but if I can get them into school, they can get an education, learn about Jesus, and do the things they dream about."*

**Young women like Judith and Julianna are responding to the call and example of Jesus!**

***"Today, our students are fasting and praying together. This is all their initiative. Our children are on fire for the Lord!"***

Hudson Mahare, Regional Director – February 13, 2022

## Empowerment

### Speaking out and seeking justice

In many areas of East Africa, girls and young women face a destructive and growing wave of sexual violence, teen pregnancies, and early forced marriage. Although it is illegal, female genital mutilation is still a significant problem. And as the sole breadwinner, widowed and abandoned women struggle daily to feed their children. Fear and despair reign.

HopeCo is committed to speaking up about these issues and helping effect lasting change. Girls and young women in our programs are empowered to get an education, say "no" to harmful cultural practices, and develop leadership skills. As a result, we've seen attitudes towards female genital mutilation changing in communities where we serve. And our new Home of Comfort in Kenya will be a safe haven for girls rescued from traumatic abuse.



***"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute."***

Proverbs 31: 8-9 (NIV)

Josephine\* was forcibly married at the age of 16. This mother and her three young children were later kicked out of their home by her husband so he could marry another woman. With no education or skill of any kind, feeding her children was an uphill battle every day.

When Josephine heard about our Women's Empowerment Program, she showed up at our door the very next day. *"This is a great opportunity,"* she says. *"I can now earn an income, provide food for my family, and pay school fees for my children. I make dresses, shirts, and skirts, and plan to open my own workshop after I graduate."*

**By empowering women, families flourish and are changed forever!**

## Partnership

### Learning and growing together

Partnerships are at the heart of all that we do at HopeCo! So much more can be accomplished when we join hands with others and serve together. Children, families, and entire communities are transformed. We treasure the healthy partnerships we have (and the new ones yet to come) with the communities we serve, government agencies, other nonprofits, churches, and each of our supporters around the world.

We are especially encouraged by one of our church partners, Community Church in Ashburn, VA. Lead Pastor, Charlie Whitlow, (pictured below) reflects on his visit to City of Hope... *"The entire atmosphere speaks hope! Miracles are happening... Dreams are coming true. If you can, go there and see it yourself – you will be inspired!"* We are delighted that a team of nearly 15 members from Community Church is taking Pastor Charlie's advice and will be serving on a mission trip to City of Hope in Tanzania this summer!

Interested in how your church can partner with HopeCo? Contact [matt@joinhopeco.com](mailto:matt@joinhopeco.com) to get the conversation started!

**Let's watch what God will do when we join hands and serve together!**

***"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."*** African proverb

## Leadership

### Growing local leaders

As our work has grown in Tanzania, and expanded into Kenya, we have seen the truth of this statement lived out through the capable, dedicated, and passionate local leaders God has brought to HopeCo. And, we are committed to developing more leaders – among our staff and children – who seek God daily, who demonstrate humility and integrity, and who are devoted to pursuing justice for the weak and vulnerable.



***"Everything rises and falls on leadership."***

John Maxwell

**We look forward to seeing how the children and young people we serve today will grow and mature to become the godly leaders and changemakers of tomorrow... In their families, workplaces, churches, communities, and nations as they pursue what God has for them!**

**Growing leaders is integrated into everything we do!**

**Please pray with us that even more lives will be transformed, families restored, and communities given hope!**



## Seeking justice for defenseless girls

Fourteen-year-old Nancy\* was rescued last year from a living nightmare. She had been horribly and repeatedly abused with no hope of escape... until our staff rescued her! With tender-loving care, counseling, and support, her life is being transformed daily. She has returned to school and is excited about her future. And, her abuser is behind bars, never to be released.

### Tragically, many other girls are still living a similar nightmare.

That's why we are opening our new safehouse in Kenya – the Home of Comfort! Here, vulnerable girls will be safe and out of the reach of predators. Here, they will receive love, trauma-informed care, and healing. Here, they will come to learn that they are precious, beautiful and valued – created in God's image.

### You can be part of their hope story, today.

It will take 100 people, praying and giving \$20/month, to provide 10 defenseless girls with food, clothing, medical care, counseling, education – and the hope of a new beginning.

Will you be a HOPE AMBASSADOR? Will you be one of 100 who will push back the darkness and bring new light and hope into these girls' lives?

Scan the QR code to sign up today.

**Thank you for partnering to rescue and restore defenseless girls!**

**“Seek justice. Defend the oppressed.  
Take up the cause of the fatherless...”**

Isaiah 1: 17 (NIV)

\*Name changed to protect privacy



## OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

At HopeCo, we recognize our responsibility to steward the financial gifts received from you with integrity and accountability. We are therefore committed to:

- Using your gifts wisely and effectively, and in the ways you intend
- Reporting with transparency about how your gifts are used
- Being truthful in all our communications
- Praying for you

This promise to you is reflected in our accreditation from the Evangelical Council of Financial Accountability (ECFA). We have also been awarded a Platinum Seal of Transparency from GuideStar (now called Candid).

*When you give to HopeCo, you can trust us to act responsibly, truthfully, and with integrity!*

