



Children enjoying some food at our August Children's Meeting!

QUICK UPDATES

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

Dr. Susan was present at the October children's meeting and what a joyous celebration it was. Between fellowship, singing & dancing, they also heard from motivational speakers, ate together, and got to take home food & hygiene products!

PROJECTS & MAINTENANCE

Lots of activity on Graceworks property! Work is being done on a new main gate to provide easier access when the container arrives. A new firewood shelter & water well repairs are also currently happening on campus.

SPONSORS NEEDED!

We currently have 22 students in need of a sponsor. If you currently do not sponsor a child/youth, or want to sponsor more children, please contact us today for more information.

ANNUAL GALA GRATITUDE

The annual Graceworks fundraiser Gala was held September 19th at Tustin Ranch Golf Club. Our theme was "Emerging with Hope and Strength." The event created a wonderful opportunity for nearly 150 community members to come together in support of the organization and the children it serves. A diverse silent auction and child sponsorship opportunity display welcomed guests, followed by dinner where a live auction and fund-a-need garnered additional funding for project needs in Kenya. Entertainment by "Africa in America" and a moving update on our Kenyan families rounded out the evening. We were so thankful to be able to gather again. We truly appreciate all who supported this important event.



Graceworks Board Members 2021

YEAR END GIVING

Please consider joining with us during the season of thanks and giving. Consider an end-of-year donation to support:

- Increasing food costs, medical attention, shelter, and clothing.
- Students who are in need of a sponsorship annual commitment. We currently have 22 students in need of a sponsor.
- Ongoing costs for construction projects which ensure that families can have the nutritional, instructional, and wellness support that the community center offers.
- Our local program here in Orange County. Graceworks provides support for kinship and foster families Caregivers Day Off, children's holiday activities, and food donations.

We are grateful for all those who come together to bring hope and a better future to neglected, abused and vulnerable children.



Demolition of the old gate to accommodate new main gate to allow easy entry when container arrives.

DEAR FRIEND OF GRACEWORKS,



The holidays are a time when we pause to reflect on the year that is almost gone, and to look forward to the next. As we are all aware, the last couple of years have taught us that these are not “normal” times, and hopefully, we have also learned to be more appreciative of each other.

We at Graceworks wish to take this opportunity to tell you just how much we do appreciate you, and how grateful we are that you have continued to support our work, even in these challenging times. Because of you, orphans and vulnerable children in the village of Rwika Kenya have been fed, clothed and sheltered. They have also been enabled to go to school and get an education to help break the cycle of poverty by providing opportunities for a better future. Locally in Orange County, Graceworks has continued to work in collaboration with other organizations and entities to assist children in the foster care system.

We are very thankful that you have helped us continue to fulfill our mission of bringing hope and changing children's lives, one child at a time. **We could not do what we do without you. You make a difference! Thank you!**

On behalf of the Graceworks Board of Directors, I also take this opportunity to wish you and yours a happy, healthy and blessed holiday season.

Dr. Susan Njemanze Ed.D. Graceworks founder/President.



Dr. Susan visited Kenya in October.
Above Susan with Gift M.



Every time Dr. Susan visits, she meets with the girls from class 6 and gives them enough personal hygiene items for a whole year. It helps boost the confidence and self-esteem of our girls!

Thank you for your continued support!
For more information or to donate please visit www.graceworkshopenet.org.

GRATITUDE FOR SPONSORS

There are not enough words to express our genuine appreciation of the support from our child sponsors. Sponsorships greatly contribute to the improved health and well-being of many children in the Kenya program supported through Graceworks. In a community under the oppressive influence of abject poverty, sponsored orphans and vulnerable children are afforded the opportunity to dream, aspire and to achieve goals. They receive assistance with education, food, medical attention, and other basic needs and are guided and encouraged in areas of character building, diligence, determination, community responsibility and accountability. Above all, they benefit greatly by being shown that they have value.

A great example of the impact of child sponsorship is the case of Beatrice, an orphaned girl now in secondary school form three. Beatrice, who is being raised by her grandmother after the death of her parents some years back, has been sponsored for several years by Cindy, a St. John's Lutheran church member. Although Beatrice has special medical as well as mental health challenges that sometimes affect her performance at school and home, she has, with the help of Graceworks, been able to overcome many of those challenges. Last semester, Beatrice was 2nd in her class of 43 students! Her grandmother recently went to thank the Kenya program staff for not giving up on her. It is only with the help that we receive from sponsors like Cindy that praise reports like this one of Beatrice are possible.

The Kenya program currently has many orphans and vulnerable children on the waitlist. One of Graceworks goals for the year 2021 was to add 30 children to the program and to find sponsors for them. We have been able to add 25 children so far, and while some of those have already been sponsored, many others are not. If you would like to sponsor a child/children, please contact us today for more information. Our goal is to give EVERY child in need of a sponsor one in 2022 and we hope that you will help us make that goal a reality. Thank you!



School Visit!
From left is
Cynthia, Mary,
Timothy, Lucy
& George.



Thank you for your continued support!
For more information or to donate please visit www.graceworkshopenet.org.

PARTNERSHIP GRATITUDE



St. John's Volunteers packing food to fill the container to be sent over!



Board member Robin & many others also joined in on the fun of packing meals!

Many thanks go to St. John's Lutheran Church, Orange, for their ongoing partnership with Graceworks. St. John's has not only continued to provide financial support for the Kenya program, but is also in the process of sending a donated container full of food and playground equipment, which is scheduled to arrive in Kenya early in the Year 2022. The food will be a huge help to the Rwika community which is experiencing severe drought and food shortage. The playground equipment will be donated to the local primary school where many of the children in the village attend.

This Season of Gratitude and Giving!

As this year draws to a close, and during this season of thanks and of giving, we hope you will consider a gift to Graceworks by making a donation in honor of someone on your gift list, and/or including Graceworks in your year-end giving. There are many opportunities for support available at all levels. For the Kenya program, we have children in need of annual sponsorship, and there are also ongoing needs of support for facilities upgrade projects and for staff. This ensures that the children and their guardians receive the ongoing educational, nutritional, and emotional wellness support they need. You may also designate your gift to help local kinship and foster care families that Graceworks supports here in Orange County.

We are very grateful for all of you as we continue to work together to help bring hope and a better future to orphans and vulnerable children in our world.

"A Hundred years from now, it will not matter what my bank account was, the sort of house I lived in or the kind of car I drove. But the world may be different because I was important in the life of a child."

-Forest Wircraft



Raphael excited and ready for college after receiving his school shopping items. Raphael secured a place at Teachers Training College!



Kids eating breakfast at the children's program in October!



Graceworks kids being silly and playing on the playground at after a fun day at the Children's Program!



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

The Graceworks Board of Directors

Dr. Jay Bauman, Alison Conard, Andrea Dabrow, Dr. Darrell Dudley, Megan Gjersvold, Theresa Hines, Michelle Levesque, Robin Lyall, Dr. Susan Njemanze, Sharon Portman, Stephanie Van Blarcom

Thank you for your continued support!

For more information or to donate please visit www.graceworkshopenet.org.