

Graceworks

Hope Network for Children International

Dear friend of Graceworks,

Greetings! The summer is almost over and it is my hope and prayer that you are all having an enjoyable and restful time. As for me I am well and very grateful to God for His favor and grace, and to all of you for your friendship and support. I just returned home from an almost two months visit to Kenya and can attest to the wonderful things that are going on there because of your support. The children are thriving, the guardians are engaged, the staff and volunteers are working with great dedication and the facilities are beautiful. I wish that you all could get an opportunity to visit Kenya sometime so as to see for yourselves the difference you have made in the lives of so many. I also wish to convey the many heartfelt messages of gratitude that I was sent back with by the children, the guardians, the staff and the community of Rwika, Kenya.

It has been my great privilege and honor to be part of this amazing ministry called Graceworks, from the very beginning, and to see the faithfulness of God in my life and that of so many others. I am very grateful for each and every one of you for your past and continued support of Graceworks.

Blessings,

Dr. Susan Njemanze, Ed.D.

Graceworks Founder & President



Graceworks Annual Gala & Fundraiser

Many of you have reached out to us to inquire about the proposed date of our annual fundraiser/gala which usually takes place in the month of September. We therefore wanted to inform you that due to various facts including the current financial climate and very high venue prices in Orange County, we have decided to do things a little differently this year. Instead of a physical event, we will be asking all of you to send in a gift to support the ongoing work of Graceworks **from the comfort of your own home**, to help us continue to bring hope to orphans and vulnerable children in Rwika Kenya.

Please be on the lookout for an invite in the mail to our non-event fundraiser in September. Once you receive the invite, we hope that you will send in your support just as you would have for the annual fundraiser. We count on the funds raised at the annual fundraiser event to help meet the needs of the Kenya program including education support for our youth, facilities upgrades and staff salaries. It is our hope and prayer that you will respond generously. We are truly grateful for your past and ongoing support. You are making a difference. We could not do this without you.

We are very excited to report that as a result of your generous donation during last year's fundraiser 'Fund a Need', which raised some funds for a soccer/sports complex for the Kenya program, that work has already started and is well underway. The sports complex will be transformational not only for the hundred + children directly enrolled in the program, but for the entire community of Rwika. The goal is to help the Kenya program eventually become self-sustaining by opening up the facilities for use by the community and generate some income that way. The photos below will give you a glimpse of the progressing work of the sports complex project. The sports complex which includes a soccer field and courts for other sports is still in need of additional funding to complete construction.

Donate toward the completion of the sports complex at the Graceworks Kenya program at www.graceworkshopenet.org, or mail a check to Graceworks, P.O. Box 1239, Anaheim, Ca 92815.



Updates from Rwika

Education A basic tenet of the Graceworks Kenya program is making education accessible to orphans and vulnerable children who would otherwise not have the means to go to school. We believe that education is the key to breaking the cycle of poverty.

The Kenya program currently has a total of 104 actively enrolled beneficiaries, ranging from preschool to universities. Enrolled children are supported with school fees, supplies and other basic needs in order to maintain their education and well-being. The Kenya school calendar runs from January to December with month long holidays in April, August and December.

The education system in Kenya recently changed from the previous 8-4-4 system (eight years of primary, four years of high school, four years of college) to the current system: CBC (Competency-Based Curriculum). CBC is comprised of 2 years of Pre-Primary school, 6 years of Primary school (grades 1-6), then 3 years of Junior Secondary school (grades 7, 8, 9), and finally three years of Senior Secondary school (grades 10, 11 and 12). Following Senior Secondary school, youth are able to join tertiary institutions which include college, university and technical and vocational schools.

Now in a transitional period, Graceworks has students in both the old (8-4-4) and new (CBC) systems of education. The last batch of 8-4-4 secondary school graduations (students who are currently in grade 10) will be in December of 2028.



Child Sponsorship Child sponsorship is the primary way that Graceworks ensures enrolled children are consistently assisted, especially in the area of education.

We still have precious children who need sponsors. Sponsoring a child is a great way to support the work of Graceworks because not only does it ensure consistent means of getting a child's needs met, it also allows you to have a personal relationship with a particular child in Kenya through letter writing as well as the possibility of a face to face meeting during one of our mission trips to Kenya.

A child benefits greatly knowing that a particular person cares about them. You can sponsor an elementary school child for only \$50 per month (\$600 a year), or a secondary school child for only \$100 per month (\$1200 a year). To sponsor a child, please visit our website at www.graceworkshopenet.org, or mail a check to Graceworks, P.O. Box 1239, Anaheim, Ca 92815.

Orphans & Vulnerable Children Care The OVC care program seeks to holistically address the overall wellbeing of enrolled children and their guardians including physical health and psychosocial needs. This is done primarily through school and home visits by program staff, especially the two dedicated social workers, Sarah and Misheck. The children and guardian also attend monthly meetings at the Graceworks Kenya program facilities and engage in various activities including being fed and receiving take-home packages of food and hygiene items, mentoring and counseling sessions, recreation and sports. The monthly meetings also allow the children, guardians and staff to form strong bonds and provides opportunities for engagement with invited guests from the community to address various topics of interest.

In June, the monthly meetings took on a more festive tone because of visitors from California, including Dr. Susan, who visited the program and interacted with the children, staff and guardians. The visitors were also able to go on some school and home visits to see supported children in their environments. If you are interested in learning more about future planned trips to the Kenya program, please contact Dr. Susan Njemanze at (714) 932-5425.

Donate towards feeding, basic needs and mentorship activities for enrolled children at www.graceworkshopenet.org, or mail a check to Graceworks, P.O. Box 1239, Anaheim, Ca 92815.



Facilities Upgrades The Graceworks Kenya program is blessed to have a beautiful nine-acre plot of land in Rwika village to house its activities. Unfortunately, the facilities are very basic and do require constant maintenance, repairs and upgrades. Furthermore, as mentioned earlier, the program is in the process of constructing a soccer field/sports center with the goal of greater community outreach. Current pressing facilities needs include repair work on the borehole water wells which were dug some 14 years ago, the building of a larger meeting hall for the children's activities and reinforcement of the perimeter wall to improve security both for people and property. If you wish to give a donation towards facilities improvements for the Kenya program, you may do so at www.graceworkshopenet.org, or mail a check to Graceworks, P.O. Box 1239, Anaheim, Ca 92815.

Save the Date!

Please plan to join us on **Sunday October 5, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church in the city of Orange, California**, for a food packing event to benefit the Graceworks Kenya program. The food will be shipped to Kenya later in the year. The food packing event entails an assembly line style putting together of nutritious meal packets consisting of rice, dry vegetables and vitamin

supplements. We invite you to come and be part of this hands-on activity that benefits needy children and families in the village of Rwika, Kenya.



On that same day at St. John's church, **Graceworks volunteers will host a reception** where you will have the opportunity to hear some of the great things happening in Graceworks Kenya because of your support. Come enjoy some African snacks and also hear live reports from members of the recent (June 2025) short term mission group to the Kenya Graceworks program who will recount their experiences and interactions with staff and children at the program. There will also be an opportunity for sponsors to hear about the progress of their children to write letters to them. We hope to see all of you there.



Local Outreach - Orange County

In Orange County, Graceworks continues to partner with other organizations to provide assistance and support to orphans and vulnerable children in foster care and kinship care (care by relatives).

If you wish to learn more about this opportunity to support our local outreach efforts, please contact us at info@graceworkshopenet.org.

**Donations to Graceworks Hope Network for Children can be made online at www.graceworkshopenet.org
Or send in a check to Graceworks, P.O. Box 1239, Anaheim, CA 92815**

