Photographer Kit Oates visited three Salvation Army projects in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. At Kwetu Mbagala Girls’ Home, Kit was struck by the joy and hope he saw in the girls and young women who had been sold into child labour or rescued from the red light district. ‘The girls loved showing me round their allotment where they all grew vegetables,’ he writes, ‘pointing out what they had grown.’

Through education and schooling these girls will have an opportunity to escape from poverty – and one day they could be the ones who are helping others.

Poem by Kevin Sims

One tiny seed of hope,
Planted in a place of safety,
Watered with tears of compassion,
Fed with God’s Word,
Tended carefully with unjudging love,
Will grow into a whole new creation
Becoming strong and wise and able,
And bearing fruit of experience and understanding
Which in turn can give up to others who are lost and forgotten
Many tiny seeds of hope

Photo by Kit Oates
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