

# MEDICAL TEAMS WORLDWIDE: PANDEMIC FOOD RELIEF SPRING 2020



## KENYA : FOOD INSECURITY AND HUNGER

Kenya is a Third World country whose economy has 2 sectors, Informal and Formal. The informal economy has 85% of the work force (12 million people) who depend on temporary jobs. Their wages range from \$50-250 dollars a month. This informal sector is composed of street vendors, domestic workers, mechanics, building laborers, cleaners among others. These are subsistence jobs that are taken while the workers are waiting for jobs in the Formal Sector (2.4 million workers) that give the included worker job security and twice the wages. All the main open markets in the cities are run by informal workers. At those locations a worker usually purchases the daily food for their family on the way home from work, as refrigeration is a luxury in Kenya. Informal workers often live in crowded cramped living conditions. The average family size is approximately eight people.

On March 13<sup>th</sup>, the first COVID-19 virus case occurred in Kenya. Five days later the government locked down the country by closing all the open air markets, (thus closing the main food source for many people), all large gatherings and closed the airports. The enforcement of the lock-down initially was quite brutal with the police force attacking any large gatherings using clubs. The lockdown is still in place today. There is no movement into or out of Nairobi, the capital. After the onset of the lock-down, panic buying occurred. Food shortages developed, and now widespread unemployment. As Kenya has no social safety



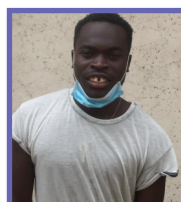
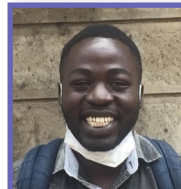
50% of the informal workforce of Nairobi lives in Kibera slum ; 80% of residents have no electricity



Kenyan Informal worker washing vegetables for sale



Homeless street children picking up a weeks worth of food







## Medical Team Worldwide is feeding over 200 people including homeless street children with food distributions for the duration of the Pandemic Crisis



nets, no unemployment insurance, no social security, many people have problems being able to purchase food even if they found a store open. Due to the country wide shutdown, there is significant food insecurity for a large amount of population and hunger has become very common. Medical Teams Worldwide is presently feeding 200 people for the duration of this Pandemic Crisis.



*"Thanks for food stuff basket we have received it with great joy in our hearts."*



## FOOD AND MEDICAL RELIEF FOR KAKUMA REFUGEE CAMP CHILDREN



Kakuma refugee camp is home to more than 194,000 refugees and asylum seekers in Kenya's remote northwest. The refugees are mainly from South Sudan and Somalia. Kakuma is at the end of a single highway that connects the camp to the rest of Kenya. Some local leaders have complained "What World Food Program gives us for two months actually lasts about two weeks". Medical Teams Worldwide is planning to again co-laboring with Charis Ministries to initiate a deworming project for 2,000 of the children in Kakuma Refugee camp. We are also planning to distribute 14 days worth of vitamin packets for the children in Kakuma Camp. Finally, if logistics permit, Medical Teams Worldwide is working to deliver some basic food relief to the families in the Kakuma Refugee camp.



IF YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTNER WITH OUR MEDICAL AND RELIEF PROJECTS,

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO MAKE A TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION TO:

MEDICAL TEAMS WORLDWIDE, 7245 164TH AVE NE, SUITE 145-241

REDMOND, WASHINGTON, 98052

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [www.MTWW.net](http://www.MTWW.net)