



Interim report to Fondation Eagle – May 2020

Covid 19 emergency: providing emergency food aid, hygiene products and clean water to support vulnerable street children and families in Naivasha, Kenya

Fondation Eagle Reference: FF 534 -20

Name of Charity: Footsteps International (UK registered charity number 1091026)

Introduction

On 1st April 2020, Fondation Eagle awarded a grant of £27,388 to Footsteps International in response to the Covid 19 emergency, to provide emergency food aid, hygiene products and clean water to vulnerable street children and families in Naivasha, Kenya. The grant arrived on 3rd April, 2020.

The first case of Covid 19 was recorded in Kenya on 13th March, and the ensuing lockdown resulted in immediate mass unemployment as the flower farms shut down, tourism stopped and schools and children's institutions were closed.

The 140 (former) street boys that Footsteps International cares for had to return to their homes, putting them back in the situation they ran away from, and increasing the chances that they would revert to the streets .

The grant from Fondation Eagle has enabled us to mount a rapid and effective emergency aid programme. We issued a short progress report to show what we achieved in April, and this is an update on further achievements during May 2020.

Sunshine street boys Rehabilitation Centre:

Budget ref 1.1, 1.2, 1.3: Following the establishment of a successful and safe method of distributing emergency food and hygiene products in April, we repeated the process in May.

In total we reached 102 families of our street boys, stabilising them and minimise the risk that boys will migrate back to the streets. The total beneficiaries reached from the Sunshine Rehabilitation Centre was 669; again, we provided transport to make sure the packs arrived home safely.



Social worker Simon Kuria ready to distribute May's food and hygiene emergency packs from the Sunshine Centre



Former street boy Daniel Kiminda gets a lift to ensure his emergency pack arrives home safely



Former street boy Victor Ochieng collects a pack for his family (he is cared for by his aunt as he is orphaned)



A head of household poses for a photo with her emergency pack, which includes vegetables from the Centre's farm



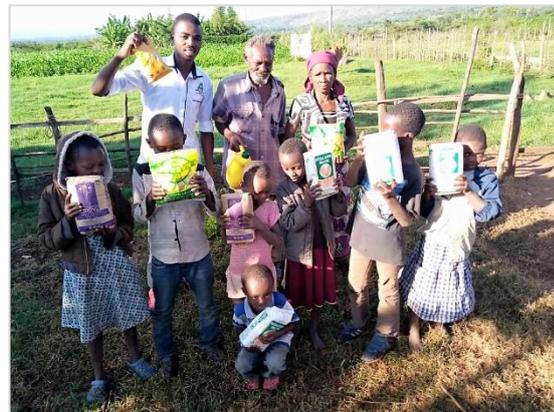
John Njuguna (back left) and Peter Mutegi (back right), at home with their brothers and their family emergency pack. Their mother is HIV+

Street boys often migrate across the country so some of our boys' family homes are a long way from Naivasha in places such as Oyugis, Rongai, Sagana, Molo, Kuresoi, Subukia, Ndeiya and Nanyuki, providing a significant problem in getting help to them. In April, our team delivered emergency packs in vehicles, but this is expensive and, with increased travel restrictions, became impossible in May.

Our team solved the problem of reaching these remote families by sending money to food stores near the boys' homes using Kenya's Mpesa (cash via mobile phone) system. The money arrived within seconds, and the families were then notified to go to collect their (already paid for) emergency packs. The photos below illustrate some of the families we reached this way.



Former street boys James Keoch (grey T shirt) and Moses Wambua (yellow T shirt) with their family and emergency pack in Subukia, 120 km from the Sunshine Centre.



Kelvin Kiplangat's (back left) home is in Rongai -120 km from the Sunshine Centre. He is with his parents and brothers and sisters, holding up their food supply for the month.



Left: Peter Kariuki is delighted to pick up his family emergency pack in Kuresoi, 170 km from the Sunshine Centre



Centre: Samuel Kamau in the supermarket in Kiambu



Right: James Mwangi and Duncan Kiama at home in Gituamba, 65 km from the Sunshine Centre in Kiambu County.

Budget ref 2.2, 2.2, 2.3: Our second aim was to increase crop production at the Sunshine street boys Centre by planting, installing drip kits for irrigation and bringing storm damaged greenhouses into service. This will provide additional fresh vegetables for our street boys and their families, and support vulnerable households in the vicinity of the Centre.

In May, the repaired greenhouses and the land with the newly-installed drip hose were planted out, and by the end of the month, the crops had begun to grow.



Naivasha Technical Training Institute (NTTI)

Budget ref 1.4, and 3.1-3.3: Our target was to provide free sanitizers / soap for 100 vulnerable households in Naivasha town, and to issue water to encourage hand-washing.

In May, we repeated the emergency aid distribution, reaching 100 families (536 beneficiaries in total).

Once again, the details of each beneficiary were recorded before they were given hygiene advice and issued with food and hygiene products.

Director Rev Simon Kinyanjui with May's emergency packs at NTTI.





Beneficiaries receiving hand spray on arrival to collect their emergency packs from NTTI.



A mother and an unemployed man heading home with their emergency packs for May.



In common with governments around the world, the Kenya government has been promoting hand-washing as an effective method of combatting the spread of Covid 19. For poor people, this adds an additional financial burden that they can ill-afford.

During May, we issued free water from the NTTI borehole to disadvantaged families. Over 23 days, families collected with 1,840 jerricans of fresh borehole water, a total of 36,800 litres.



The economic hardship caused by the response to Covid 19 was made worse for some in Naivasha when the low-lying slum area of Kihoto was flooded after a period of heavy rain, raising the risk of disease as pit latrines overflow. Twelve of the families we supported with emergency packs and fresh water came from this area (a total of 70 beneficiaries).



Bishop Wambari Girl's School:

Budget ref 2.4: The target was to install 2 rainwater collection tanks to boost vegetable and dairy production on the school farm plot, which will provide food and milk to vulnerable families near the school.

In May the tanks were full and operational, and the ground was put under cultivation. The school principal, Mr Samuel Njugi, also took part in the emergency food distribution from NTTI.



Farm preparation at Bishop Wambari Girls School



The Bishop Wambari Girls School Principal Mr Samuel Njugi delivers emergency aid to a vulnerable family.

Acknowledgment

We are enormously grateful to Fondation Eagle for responding so quickly to the Covid 19 emergency. Your support has enabled us to take rapid and effective action to minimise the impact of the pandemic for 200 vulnerable families (over 1,100 people in total) in Naivasha, Kenya.

As well as providing vital food, water and hygiene products, you have reassured these people that they are not abandoned and forgotten.