

Fondation Eagle

Report Form

Fondation Eagle reference: FF646

Name of charity: Mary's Meals

Date grant accepted: 13th December 2022

Amount: CHF 51,000

Period of project: 12 months: 14th December 2022- 14th December 2023

Introduction:

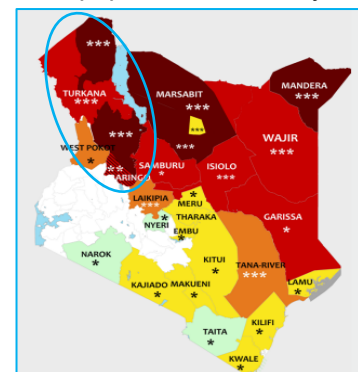
Fondation Eagle is financing a total of CHF51,000 for the school feeding programme for one year for young learners at Early Childhood Development (ECD) Centres located in Turkana, Kenya. School feeding will be delivered under this project from 14th December 2022 to 14th December 2023.

Details of the project:

Mary's Meals is incredibly thankful for the ongoing support of the Fondation Eagle. Your generous donation of CHF 51,000 has ensured we are able to provide our life-changing meals to thousands of children in Turkana, Kenya, bringing them hope during an extremely challenging time in the region. Your support has helped us strengthen and realise our vision that every child should receive a nutritious meal in their place of education every single school day, giving them a chance at a brighter future.

The need in Turkana that Fondation Eagle's funding has addressed:

There have now been five consecutive failed rainy seasons due to the ongoing drought. This has resulted in an unprecedented deterioration in food and malnutrition as the population, who rely on agriculture, have been unable to grow enough food due to lack of rain.¹ Additionally, food prices have skyrocketed, limiting purchasing power.² As a result, the region is facing 'Emergency' levels of food insecurity.³ This directly translates to the 'extremely critical' levels of malnutrition currently experienced by the population also.⁴ The malnutrition levels in Turkana compared to the rest of Kenya is indicated by the dark brown and red in the map on the right. As seen, the levels of malnutrition in Turkana are extremely high when compared to the majority of Kenya.⁵ Unfortunately, malnutrition is expected to deteriorate further as the region hurtles towards its sixth failed rainy season, compounding an already extremely alarming situation



Food insecurity and malnutrition is having a devastating effect on the children of Turkana. Many are dropping out of school due to reduced household income forcing them to hunt for food instead of being in school and causing family displacement from the drought as these nomadic communities search for water and food.⁶ Additionally, young children are particularly vulnerable to malnutrition and can suffer its effects in later life, as nutrition during their early years of life is vital for their development.⁷ More than ever, poverty undermines children's futures and impacts their opportunity to realise their full potential as they remain virtually helpless to the spiralling food insecurity unfolding before them as a result of climate change and inflation.

¹ Reliefweb, *Kenya: IPC Acute Food Insecurity and Acute Malnutrition Analysis (February-June 2023)*, Feb. 2023)(<https://reliefweb.int/report/kenya/kenya-ipc-acute-food-insecurity-and-acute-malnutrition-analysis-february-june-2023-published-20-february-2023>)

² Ibid

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ UNICEF Kenya, *Out of School Children in Turkana Country*, 2023. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fCjyh9nHZoY>)

⁷ UNICEF, WHO and World Bank Group, *Joint malnutrition global and regional dataset*, 2017.

At a time when the future for the children of Turkana is seemingly bleak, the support of Fondation Eagle has been of critical support to the lives of thousands of children in ECDs. You have ensured that more than 2,000 children receive a daily meal in their place of education. In a context where Mary's Meals is virtually the only safety net these children have in terms of secure access to food, the promise of a daily meal is a lifeline for the young children enrolled in the ECDs you are supporting.

The impact of your support in ECDs in Turkana

Fondation Eagle's funding has supported children enrolled in 11 ECDs across Turkana with a daily meal in their place of education. According to the latest enrolment figures, there are currently 2,139 children, including 1,108 boys and 1,031 girls enrolled in all 11 ECDs supported by Fondation Eagle.

Thanks to your generosity, each of the 2,139 children you have supported is promised a nutritious meal of maize and beans with oil fortified with Vitamin A and iodised salt. The picture on the right outlines children enrolled in Kakuma ECD learning under the shade of a tree, showing the true extent of difficulties children face in gaining an education in Turkana. However, with the promise of a daily meal provided by Fondation Eagle, each child you have supported is given sustenance to fuel their day and the reassurance that they have not been forgotten during such challenging circumstances.



The table below outlines the current number of children enrolled across all 11 ECDs at the mid-year point of the grant compared to the beginning of the grant:

Name of ECD	No. children enrolled Oct 2022	No. children enrolled mid-year (May 2023)	% Variance
Catholic Morulem	244	239	-2%
Daraja	230	155	-33%
Kaayen	250	119	-52%
Kakuma Arid	217	201	-7%
Kakuma Mixed	221	224	1%
Merier Ecde	216	193	-11%
Nakalale – I (Previously named Lokori ECD)	206	222	8%
Nakwamekwi	210	219	4%
Nationokar	255	297	16%
RCEA Lomunyenakwan	243	120	-51%
Tiya Kag	208	150	-28%
Total	2,500	2,139	-14%

There has been a reduction of 361 children enrolled in ECDs supported by Fondation Eagle. This is due to major variances in enrolment between the beginning of the grant and the mid-year grant in ECDs including Daraja ECD, Kayeen ECD, RCEA Lomunyenakwan ECD and Tiya Kag ECD. Project schools outlined that the main factor in major variances in enrolment was due to pastoralism, which meant that the number of children fluctuated considerably as communities migrated with their livestock. Nomadic pastoralism is a very common part of the culture in Turkana due to the arid and semi-arid landscape of the region. These migrations are outside of Mary's Meals control, but we always engage with communities on the importance of enrolling their children in education, no matter their way of life.

The impact of Mary's Meals in ECDs funded by Fondation Eagle continues to be significant as many communities in drought-ravaged Turkana are facing famine conditions. By providing nutritious meals, packed with the vitamins and minerals children need to grow up healthy and strong in both body and mind, we're helping to give vulnerable pre-school children a better start in life. The benefits of school feeding as a form of early childhood intervention have been proven to lead to increased survival rates, and better health, growth and brain development and reverse any development delays caused by early malnutrition.⁸ The picture on the right outlines the children you are supporting taking part in an ECD class where they learn through creative play, making them more prepared for primary school.




Additionally, the school feeding programme encourages parents to send their children to preschools, safe in the knowledge that they will receive a healthy meal which will help their brains and bodies to grow and develop during this crucial time. This is seen through the significant enrolment increases in Nationokar ECD, with a 16% rise in the number of children enrolled and receiving a daily meal, a noteworthy achievement. Additionally, enrolment increases have been observed in a number of other ECDs supported by Fondation Eagle, including Nakalale and Nakwamekwi with each ECD experiencing an increase over the reporting period. The picture on the right outlines just one of the young children enrolled at Kakuma Mixed who will feel the long-term benefits of a daily meal in such an early stage of their life.

Significantly, girls make up 48% of the total number of children you support. This is extremely encouraging as girls are faced with competing priorities and cultural barriers that make it difficult for them to access education, with statistics from the County Government of Turkana showing that girls are 1.3 times more likely to miss school than their male counterparts.⁹ As such, the daily meals Fondation Eagle so generously provides are playing a crucial role in allowing equal access to education for over a thousand girls who hope for a better future. The picture on the left outlines a girl enrolled in Kakuma ECD, who can participate in education because of a daily meal.



Numbers only tell one part of our story, the testimonies from the children directly supported by Fondation Eagle speak volumes to the impact of your funding, as making sure their voices are at the heart of everything that we do. We spoke with James, pictured right, and Saum, who are enrolled at Kakuma ECD. They both spoke of the meal they receive each day thanks to Fondation Eagle. James said, *"I love the food we eat here in school, it is good and satisfying."* Saum also added: *"I like the food."* They also commented on the frequency of the meal. James said, *"I like my school and that we have the opportunity to eat in this school."* Saum also comments, stating. *"The food is available everyday, and my sister and I get to enjoy the meal."*



⁸ UNICEF, *Early Childhood: Why Early Childhood Development?*, 2013.

⁹ <https://kenya.savethechildren.net/news/accelerated-learning-program-gives-hope-older-children-turkana>



Thanks to Mary's Meals' community ownership approach, we can ensure that we are making a promise to the children supported by Fondation Eagle. Without the close relationship between communities and Mary's Meals, we would not be able to deliver such a high-impact programme in such a challenging area. Thanks to the training delivered by Mary's Meals School Feeding Officers, they can serve a daily meal that is consistent, hygienic and orderly. The picture on the right outlines community members serving the daily meal to the children you have supported over the last six months.

We also spoke with teachers at Kakuma ECD. Mr Suleh, pictured right taking a class, the ECD teacher for the children supported by Fondation Eagle outlined the difficulties that children and their families face in Turkana. He said, *"Most of the parents would not be able to afford food as a lot of them are do not have reliable income."* He outlined the impact of Mary's Meals on the children enrolled in Kakuma ECD *"The school feeding programme is indeed impactful. The pupils have the energy to learn and play. At the family level, the children look healthier and there is less absenteeism."* This impact was also echoed by the headteacher of Kakuma, Mr Akokure, who stated, *"The school feeding programme has been instrumental in student enrolment and retention of our learners. We have seen attendance and participation in class steadily increase."* The impact that the school feeding programme has had on enrolment and participation in education is evidenced through a 5% increase in enrolment in Kakuma ECD in the reporting period. In the harsh conditions of the Turkana region, Mary's Meals has made it possible for children to go to school.



The testimonies above highlight the impact that Fondation Eagle's funding has had on some of Kenya's poorest children and most remote communities. It is evident from each testimony that Mary's Meals is attracting children into the classroom, reducing hunger for each beneficiary, and is allowing the most vulnerable children the chance of a life-changing education.

Expenditure summary:

Mary's Meals has announced a new Cost Per Child in 2023. This was not a decision that Mary's Meals took likely, however, feeding millions of children in the context of the current state of inflation and the financial challenges experienced globally has meant that Mary's Meals has had to consider our costing. In 2022 alone, the main input costs for our school feeding programs have risen dramatically, with food costs rising by 20%. As we remain committed as ever to keeping our promise to the children we serve, Mary's Meals has had to increase our cost to feed a child for a whole school year to meet these soaring costs. In accordance with this increase, the cost to feed a child for an entire school year has increased from 20.40CHF to 24.50CHF. As a result, the overall cost to deliver the project has increased. Based on the current enrolment in May 2023, the cost to deliver the project is outlined in the table below.

School Name	Baseline enrolment	Actual enrolment – May 23	Actual cost per school per year (CHF)*	GBP**	KES***
Catholic Morulem	244	239	5,855.50	5,136.40	829,426
Daraja	230	155	3,797.50	3,331.14	537,913
Kaayen	250	119	2,915.50	2,557.46	412,978
Kakuma Arid	217	201	4,924.50	4,319.74	697,551
Kakuma Mixed	221	224	5,488.00	4,814.04	777,370
Merier Ecde	216	193	4,728.50	4,147.81	669,788
Nakalale – I (Previously Lokori ECD)	206	222	5,439.00	4,771.05	770,430
Nakwamekwi	210	219	5,365.50	4,706.58	760,018
Nationokar	255	297	7,276.50	6,382.89	1,030,710
RCEA Lomunyenakwan	243	120	2,940.00	2,578.95	416,448
Tiya Kag	208	150	3,675.00	3,223.68	520,561
Totals	2,500	2,139	52,405.50	45,969.74	7,423,193
Project budget spend			51,000.00 CHF		
Spend incurred December-22 to May 2023			25500		
Remaining spend			25500		

*based on 2023 cost per child of CHF24.50

CHF to GBP MM budget exchange rate 1.14 *GBP to KES MM budgeted exchange rate 161.48

Although the enrolment reported for May 2023 at the mid-year reporting is lower than the budgeted 2,500 children to be fed by Fondation Eagle due to pastoralist factors outside of Mary's Meals' control, enrolments are subject to fluctuation and we are pleased to see enrolment increase from April 2023 and are hopeful this will increase throughout 2023.

In line with the updated overall programme cost, the amount to deliver this project and deliver a daily meal to all children enrolled in 11 ECDs has increased. Extrapolating May enrolment for the entire year, the project would cost CHF52,405.50. Should enrolment increase back to baseline enrolment of 2,500 the project would cost CHF61,250. All additional funding contributions will be provided by Mary's Meals. We deeply appreciate Fondation Eagle's understanding during this time and are so grateful that your generosity continues to allow us to reach children in the most challenging and in-need places.

Conclusion:

The cycle between hunger and poverty is unrelenting, but thanks to the support of Fondation Eagle, Mary's Meals' school feeding programme is having an extremely positive effect on thousands of young children you have supported across 11 ECDs in Turkana. Mary's Meals is making a significant impact, bringing measurable change, and increasing access, engagement and progression throughout primary schools and ECD centres. By providing a daily meal, the school feeding programme has acted as a powerful incentive for families to enrol their children in school where they can have the chance to gain a life-changing education. In doing so, these young children stand in good stead to cognitively develop and have greater opportunities in life. Thank you for your continued support to the children of Turkana.

Signature and date:

Jeanne Golen

June 2023
