

OUR THEME:

BUILDING ON ROCKS

Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and put them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

Mathew: 7: 24-25

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- CONSTRUCTING
NEW MCO
- DISCIPLESHIP
PROGRAM.
- ECONOMIC
EMPOWERMENT
- SUCCESSFUL
STORY
- NEW KITCHEN

REBUILDING NEW MCO SCHOOLS.

MCO is calling upon partners, wellwishers and friends to help her rebuild the institution which has for the past 20 years have cared and supported the spiritual, education of over seventeen thousand children in the slums of Mathare.

The current MCO structures are in dilapidated conditions. The building were done using corrugated iron sheets. Most affected are the school buildings at MCO 4B, MCO Joy and MCO Secondary all situated within the Mathare slums. The classroom spaces are small hence no longer appropriate to accommodate the growing number of students. The school have been home to several poor students in the slums of Mathare.

The standard of education has been kept high

The current structures are prone to damage and fire. The need to put permanent buildings cannot be over emphasized.



Entrance to a classroom at MCO

The schools performance in national examination especially the Kenya Certificate of Primary Education has over the years remained impressive. This has triggered demand for admission . The current status is not only limiting extra admission but the structures are wanting.

We believe with better buildings, it will attract more students and in turn sustain the project activities. One great challenge has been sustaining the program activities. The running of the schools remain highly potential.

We are looking at approximately US \$ 1,000,000 or Ksh 100,000,000 to make this a reality. It forms part of MCO sustainable program. Your support is highly welcome.

DIRECTORS MESSAGE

EDITORIAL TEAM:

Editor In Chief

Bishop Dan Ogutu

Editor

Rodgers Ade

Contributors

Victor Okeyo

Beverlne Mosoti

Frankline Wanyonyi

Contact us:

Juja road No 10

P.O Box 71389-

00622

Nairobi

Once again I want to welcome you to our current issue of the Newsletter, as an organization we value our readers and partners

This newsletter normally allows us to connect with you and we continue to appreciate your comments that have been of great help to us. I want to take this particular time and on behalf of MCO fraternity to share with you one great challenge we would like to engage you for support

It is our wish to upgrade our current school physical structures and in particular our MCO Joy Primary and Secondary Schools located in Mathare slums. The buildings are in a dilapidated conditions having been built with corrugated iron sheet.

We need to replace the same with new building's done on stone, this will ensure that the hygiene and safety of both students and teachers are guaranteed

A simple research shows that when schools are built on stone, they attract more learners and more space is created ,especially in slums areas where space is limited. The schools academic performance has also been good with a number of parents seeking admission for their children.

Rebuilding our schools has been a major challenge to us and we thank God we already have a blue print on how we want it done. It is because of this that we humbly request for you for assistant in making this a dream. Currently, we are seeking help in raising funds that will make us realize this dream

DISCIPLESHIP CLASS 2017

Moriah School of Discipleship admitted the year 2017 students for a six month discipleship training. The students joined in the month of January. This is the fifth group to join the school since inception in the year 2013. A total of 21 students comprising 13 girls and 8 boys got admitted in the training .

The school which is located in Maseno, Kisumu County, trains young Christian leaders through and focuses on;

Discipleship & it's dynamics

Practical Life Skills – Creative arts

Basic Bible/Theology courses

Leadership Training

World Missions & Field Exposure

The objectives are;

Understanding that Jesus gave the Church just one command; to make disciples who can make disciples.

Make the definition of disciple clear and central.

Follow the model Jesus used in disciple making

The expected outcome will be two fold;

Participants: Deeper understanding of Christian living and a commitment to Biblical discipleship.

Servant leadership based on character and integrity.

Understanding of the contemporary issues of leadership.

Clarity of vocation.

Commitment to excellence and hard work.

Youth with a capacity to create employment and engage in income generating projects.

Increased food production in Maseno as the farm will also serve as a model farm.

Model responsible citizenship based on character, personal integrity & community Service.



ENHANCING ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT IN MATHARE SLUMS

On the 28th of FEB 2017 SFL carried out our 3rd Community Agents (CA) training that lasted four days. The event saw the training of 36 CAs successfully completed. The



purpose of the training was to impact both spiritual and

economic empowerment to the community agents who will in turn impact the knowledge to the community members.

The training covered different topics in depth which include; The importance of restoring the four key relationships that were broken during creation (man with: God, man, others and creation) and its connection and relevance to the SFL program, leadership and elections of SFL associations, the use and need of Social funds (micro-insurance), Development of group constitution, First savings meeting, First loan meeting and First loan repayment as well as share out and graduation. This was facilitated by the SFL staff and Courtney O'Connell SFL technical advisor. An introduction of SFL was made where the CAs were encouraged to see the program as holistic engagement where it changes the members spiritually, socially, economically and physically. There group activities were done to encourage team work, cooperation, leadership and other team building/personal skills.

These community agents are volunteer local community members who are well known to the community. Their duty is to reach out to the community and assist in the mobilization and formation of savings groups within the community on spiritual empowerment and economic independence. Each CA is expected to form atleast one group per month which will in turn enable us achieve our target of reaching 3000 members from our current 1500 by august

This goes for nine months until the group graduates to a new phase. The CAs are then compensated for the time and energy spent during this process with a small incentive.

The training was successful and we thank God for both financial and spiritual support. We look forward to a new growth in terms of members from this new team of CAs.

RAGEN PROJECT

The Ragen Project is located in Nyakach district, Kisumu county.

The Ragen program forms part of the sustainable projects plans earmarked by the institution. The project sit on a three acre space.

The site is to host a church, prayer center as well as a discipleship school. This is our key focus. We need to construct various buildings to host the church, students dormitory, prayer rooms and hostel. Such a combined facility is lacking in the area. As we pray and look for partners to support us make it a reality, already fish farming has been started after the construction of 4 ponds with a total capacity of 8000 fish. Each pond carries 2000 fingerlings. First harvest is expected form the month of June.

Clean water was drilled in the site and need to bottle water has been mooted. It produces over 10,000 littles of water each day and the water is pumped using solar. The government chemist has certify the water as fit for human consumption. We are looking for interested partners for this highly potential program. Initial cost to purchase bottling machine and incidental costs at approximately Us \$ 6500.

The fish and water to help sustain the work.

**SCHOLARSHIP UP-
DATES:**

-Several scholarship students are expected to graduate end of this year 2017

-New recruits for 2017/2018 has been collected to join colleges and Universities

GIVING BACK

-Students that have passed through the program undertake community give back through voluntary services at MCO and also to gain experience necessary for future job placements.

STAFF CHANGES:

Miss Evelyne Mbita has joined the Savings for Life (SFL) team as a field officer. She is expected to give additional input to enhance the success of the program.

BRIGHTHOPE SCHOLARSHIP SUCCESS STORY

Lizz Adhiambo Obambo is a beneficiary of the scholarship program. She was among the 2011 group. Before joining college to pursue accountancy course, she served as a volunteer class teacher at MCO primary school. After finishing her first level of accountancy training, she was employed in MCO in accounts department where she served diligently until she got employment in an audit firm in 2013.

She continued with her accountancy training paying the fee on her own. She now live in her rented house and has taken in her brother and sister to live with.

During her service at MCO she saw how parents would struggle to pay school fee hence her decision to give back to society by paying school fee to a needy child in Mathare.

She is also a strong member of praise and worship team at OCC church No 10.

Lizz can be described as a success story. She got support through MCO from primary school, to high school and finally college. Now she is able to support her siblings and support a needy child in Mathare slum. Through the scholarship program, she chose a career path and is now a fully qualified accountant.

We appreciate Bright hope international for the partnership, to give opportunity to students to pursue their desired careers.

We appeal to all other well-wishers ready to support a needy student pursue a professional course to contact us.

Praise & Prayer Items

-We thank God for the successful closure of Maseno Land Court Case and the bus case in our favor.

-We give God all the glory for the good results for our pupils who sat for the Kenya Certificate of Primary Education.

-We give thanks for the treatment and healing of our administrator Mr Gilbert Osumba. And also Pastor Vitalis daughter Naomi.

Prayer Item

-Prayer to raise adequate funds from partners,wellwishers for rebuilding MCO

-We pray our students undertaking discipleship training at Moriah School of Discipleship.

-We pray for peace and unity among tribes in Kenya as we face the election year.

- Pray for the proposed Church and prayer center at Ragen in Kisumu county.



Mathare Community

CONTACT US

ADDRESS

P.O.Box 71389-00622

Phone: 0722750084

E-mail: info@matharevalley.ngo

ovc@matharevalley.ngo

Our Vision

Responsible communities empowered for the glory of God.

The **Mission** of MCO is:

To reach out to communities in poor circumstances; provide spiritual, educational and physical support to the associated children so as to help them become responsible and empowered adults for the glory of God.

Empowering Communities one child at a time



NEW KITCHEN

MCO Joy primary school and MCO 4B School had new kitchen built in each of the school courtesy of Tumaini Afrika group to the tune of ksh 380,000. The old kitchens were in bad shape, smoky, hot, rusty and leaked during rainy season.



The

staff would sit outside as they cook since the smoke emitted was unendurable. Daraja another team had built eco savings stoves in each of the kitchen again to our delight.

The stoves consumes very little firewood. The floor of the kitchens are well cemented that allows the kitchen staff to easily clean them. The drainage system has also been improved.

The only challenge remaining now is to fit in sinks

and fix running water plus drawers for keeping plates. We are looking for approximately Ksh 120,000 or US & 1200

The kitchen staff now work in comfort. The food is prepared in time to serve one thousand one hundred students each day.

Interesting the new kitchen has attracted even the community members who wants to get in and have a look.

Its only our school Kariobangi primary still with an old, smoky and small kitchen . We are also looking for funds to the tune of US \$ 2,500 to put up a new kitchen.

We highly appreciate both Dajara and Tumaini Afrika for your support. Your support was never in vain. It has brought a huge difference in our institution and the lives of the children we serve in Mathare slums. We hail you as true agents of change.