

HOPE!

THE NEWSLETTER OF TEAMWORK CITY OF HOPE

BRINGING PEACE TO A BATTLEGROUND

The call of God to our co-founder, Dr. John Chacha, to be instrumental in bringing rescue, healing, and hope to the village of Ntagacha, Tanzania, could not have been clearer.

Yet this was a formidable challenge.

Ntagacha was a community wracked with extreme poverty. Many children were orphaned, abandoned, and vulnerable. Few kids had the opportunity for a good education. Numerous women were dying in childbirth, and unhealthy cultural practices put the wellbeing of many girls in danger. And the fighting between clans was intense and brutal. But Dr. Chacha's compassion, resolve, and desire to follow God's call saw the beginning of a remarkable change in Ntagacha. *And today, we look back and celebrate God's faithfulness as we see lives being transformed forever.*

Fifteen years ago, violence and murder between rival clans meant that people were afraid to sleep in their huts. Instead, they retreated to woodland and rocky hillsides in the chilly night air, listening to the sound of gunshots and waiting for the morning light.

The situation looked hopeless. But Dr. Chacha brought the clan leaders together, fostering new dialogue and reconciliation. He engaged local government, church

leaders, and other community elders to assist in these efforts. Attitudes began to change. The fighting died down. Cattle thefts – a significant problem – were reduced. And families could sleep in their homes again, no longer fearful for their lives.

The fighting was most intense in an area considered “no man's land.” Miraculously it was here that we were able to build our Amani Medical Center, which now serves these formerly contentious clans. This achievement brought national recognition – including a visit from Tanzania's former President Kikwete.

Serving more than 5,000 people last year, Amani Medical Center is saving lives! Our doctors treat people that have malaria and other diseases, safely deliver babies, and reduce infant mortality through our child health program. Community education programs provide training and guidance giving people the knowledge and tools to better care for themselves.

“Amani” in Swahili means “peace”. City of Hope is grateful for the opportunity to bring improved health, better security, and new peace to the beautiful people we serve in this region.



SPRING 2021

www.teamworkcityofhope.com

CELEBRATING THE PAST..LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Bringing HEALING to the orphan

The sight of orphaned and vulnerable children who had nowhere to go and no one to care for them broke Dr. Chacha's heart. He had to do something. And that something was the beginning of City of Hope.

Our home continues to be a place of safety for almost 100 children who have no other hope. With a cozy bed to sleep in, nutritious food, health care, and warm clothing, these children feel loved and cared for. Loving caregivers support and encourage them, helping them to heal. Educational opportunities enable them to flourish. And they are learning about an amazing Heavenly Father who loves them, has good plans for them, and who will never leave them.

Forgiveness and reconciliation are key themes here. Some of our children lost parents due to clan violence, killed by relatives of other children living in the home. Three siblings watched as their mother was killed before their eyes. Deep wounds like this take time, patience, and much counseling to heal. But it is beautiful to see God restoring lives as these same children live in community together, putting aside the bitterness and hatred that has plagued previous generations.

Bringing HOPE into the classroom



Imagine the scene: a school with only two classrooms – and nine hundred children wanting to learn.

That was the situation in Ntagacha a few years ago. And we knew that, if the chains of poverty were to be broken in this community, change was needed.

We started by coming alongside the local community school, building seven new classrooms, providing desks, and building a cistern. And then, in 2009, our own Destiny Primary School opened, offering quality education to more than three hundred children. The Dr. John Chacha Secondary School, which opened four years ago, followed. Both schools achieve outstanding results and are ranked among the top schools in the nation – a highly significant achievement. We are beginning to see our graduates go on to study in university, something previously unheard of for children in our region.

A core component of our curriculum is leadership development. Our vision is to see our young people become leaders and changemakers in their families, workplaces, churches, and communities across Tanzania and East Africa!



Dr. John Chacha in 2014



Bringing SAFETY to vulnerable girls

Navigating childhood in East Africa can be perilous – especially for girls. Early marriage, exploitation, and female genital mutilation (FGM) are among the many threats that young women in Tanzania and neighboring countries face. And this is an area where we have always spoken out and taken action. City of Hope provides refuge to girls who are at risk from harmful cultural practices. We seek to empower young women through education, leadership development, and skills training. And we fiercely advocate for those who are at risk and victims of abuse.

As a result, change is coming. In the past, every woman was expected to undergo FGM before marriage. Recently, three weddings took place for women in our community. None of these women had endured FGM beforehand. While this might seem to be a small thing, it is critical. Old mindsets are shifting. Our work with the local community to educate and speak up for vulnerable girls is having an impact!

We rejoice in the progress made so far – for the lives being transformed, and the ways we now see this community flourishing. And we look ahead with anticipation for what God has for us as we continue to grow!

Our vision for transformed lives, flourishing communities

In 2007, Dr. Chacha's heart broke as he witnessed the desperation of vulnerable children, their families, and communities in his native Tanzania. His burning passion to see lives changed forever and whole communities thriving – through education, healthcare, economic health, and spiritual growth – continues at the heart of our vision today. And so, driven by our faith in Jesus, we steadfastly pursue our mission to see transformed lives and flourishing communities in the years ahead.

Planning for future generations

The Board and leadership of Teamwork City of Hope have been praying and seeking God's will together, and we are excited to share with you four exciting goals we feel He has laid on our hearts as we grow our impact in East Africa:

1. We will continue to develop our current City of Hope programs in Tanzania, including the addition of a nursing school and increasing our vocational training options.
2. We will expand our work into new countries in East Africa, starting in Kenya, where we will continue our focus of addressing suffering vulnerable girls and young women.
3. We will relentlessly continue to pursue excellence by implementing the best possible approaches for meeting the needs of vulnerable children and others that we serve.
4. We will grow our relationships with churches, other organizations, and supporters in the US, building a committed team of partners who are just as passionate about accomplishing our mission as we are.

Undergirding all these efforts will be three values that have been hallmarks of our work to date. **Our faith is at the core of who we are**, and the call and example of Jesus motivates us and guides all we do. **Our dedication to building strong partnerships** means we are willing to learn from and collaborate with others. **Our commitment to the empowerment of those in need** means that we speak out, encourage, and seek justice on their behalf. 🏠

“We will change a village to reach the nations by developing generations of leaders, with a profoundly Christian character and worldview, who will lead diligently in wisdom and truth” – Dr. John Chacha

NEW NAME – SAME MISSION

We are delighted to announce that we will be adopting a new name and brand as we move forward with implementing this vision and mission. From July 1, 2021, we will be called HopeCo. Our new name reflects our calling to share transforming hope with those we serve and to do this together, in community, with our supporters and those we work alongside in East Africa.

This doesn't mean that we are completely saying goodbye to the “City of Hope” name – our flagship program in Tanzania will continue to be called City of Hope – but HopeCo will be our overarching name as we expand our locations and programs!

WHY HOPECO?

We exist to bring hope and transformation to the lives of suffering children, families, and communities with compassion and excellence.

We believe in the power of a vibrant, living Hope that brings rescue and restoration from violence, abuse, poverty, and despair.

We accomplish our mission as we serve and grow together, sharing our faith in Jesus, nurturing healthy partnerships, and empowering the weak. Together we will see new hope flourish. Together we are HopeCo.

We will be sharing more details with you in the coming months about our future plans and our name change. In the meantime, do contact Matt Parker at mparker@teamworkcityofhope.com if you have any questions! 🏠



TWO BIG PROJECTS WE CAN ACCOMPLISH TOGETHER IN 2021!

As we grow and strengthen our programs, there are two significant projects that we need to accomplish this year!



A new tractor

At City of Hope, we already grow many crops: corn, beans, bananas, and other staples. We also have milking cows that are a valuable source of nutrition. Our farming programs reduce our food bill and provide vital life skills and training for our children.


We plan to expand our farming program further using 40 acres of land that we own. One possible option is growing tea and coffee. However, as in any successful farming operation, a robust tractor is vital to increasing productivity, feeding more children, and reducing expenses.

Our goal is to purchase the Massey Ferguson 4700, renowned for its reliability, ruggedness, and fuel economy. The cost of \$65,300 includes import from Kenya, registration, and insurance.

A new school bus

Every day, City of Hope provides care, education, and support to hundreds of children in our school programs and our children's home. Our campus is a constant hive of activity!

As our program grows, we need a reliable vehicle to safely transport groups of community children to and from school, on field trips, and to various activities. Our goal is to buy a 36-seater model that is renowned for reliability, ruggedness, and fuel economy. In addition to funds already received, we need to raise \$84,000. This cost includes import from Kenya, registration, and insurance.

Would you be willing to help us care for our children by giving a special gift toward the purchase of our new school bus or tractor? 

OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

At Teamwork City of Hope, we recognize our responsibility to steward the financial gifts we receive with integrity and accountability. As one of our financial supporters, please know that we are therefore committed to:

- Using your gifts wisely and effectively, and in the ways that you intend us to
- Reporting back to you, with transparency, about how your gifts are used
- Being truthful in all of our communications with you
- Praying for you

This promise to you is reflected in our recent accreditation from the Evangelical Council of Financial Accountability (ECFA). They have recognized our commitment to high standards of financial management, board governance, and how we steward the gifts we receive. *When you give to Teamwork City of Hope, you can trust us to act responsibly, truthfully, and with integrity!*

