

# HOPE!

THE NEWSLETTER OF HOPECO



## SEEKING JUSTICE FOR THE VULNERABLE

***“Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.” – Isaiah 1:17***

Justice is a central theme in the Bible. This verse clearly describes one of God’s priorities for how His people should live their lives. Pursuing justice involves placing God’s value on all people everywhere, regardless of their race, religion, ethnicity, or social standing. It’s about seeing others as God sees them – people created in His image. **Doing justice means restoring broken relationships and loving others well.** It requires us to do what is right, speak out against oppression, and stand up for society’s most vulnerable.

HopeCo is an organization committed to pursuing justice. How do we do this?

**We defend the oppressed,** like 14-year-old Nancy, who was horribly and repeatedly abused by a man in her community. Our staff rescued Nancy from the abuse and the threat of child marriage, and she is now protected and safe. Nancy has returned to the classroom and is beginning to heal. And her abuser is now in prison, where he will never have the opportunity to hurt another precious girl.

**We take up the cause of the fatherless,** like seven-year-old Samuel, who never knew his father and was neglected, hungry, and fearful when our staff first found him. Now, at City of Hope, he is healthy, a big fan of soccer and ugali (a traditional African dish), and an enthusiastic participant in church every Sunday morning!

**We plead the case of the widow,** like Agatha, who was struggling to provide for her children alone. Agatha recently graduated from our women’s empowerment program, where she has learned practical skills and received mentoring and care. She can now earn an income, feed her children, and send them to school. Agatha has new hope!

**May we each allow God to stir our hearts for the poor.** Let’s be courageous and show the same compassion that Jesus had for the weak, the suffering, and the lost. And let’s be encouraged that God equips us so that we can serve others and be generous. Together, we can make a difference in His world and for His glory!



# HopeCo

# Help kids in East Africa finish this year strong!

## Your generous gift today will give hope and a future!

In 2023, with your help, HopeCo provided quality education and care to 520 children in Tanzania and Kenya. Thousands of people received vital medical help. Girls were rescued from abuse. Young moms were empowered. And lives were changed *forever* by the gospel!

**And in 2024, we are going to do EVEN MORE!** Here's how your special gift before December 31 will help give precious children hope and a future:

### RESCUE AND A LOVING HOME FOR AT-RISK KIDS



*More kids need our help!* At least 15 new abused or abandoned children in Tanzania and Kenya will be rescued and have their physical, emotional, and educational needs fully met. Most importantly, these kids will learn about how much God loves them!

A gift of just **\$175** will provide a rescued child with a bed, textbooks, school uniform, medical check-up, and a Bible – or the cost of meeting their complete range of needs for an entire year is **\$1,900**. Please join the rescue team for children who need a loving home today!

### A TOP-NOTCH COLLEGE EDUCATION FOR GIFTED STUDENTS



We will have more than 50 young people in college in 2024, studying to become teachers, nurses, accountants – and leaders in their communities! That's exciting!

A donation of **\$200** will purchase a college student's schoolbooks – and **\$2,500** will cover their tuition and costs for a whole year. Why not encourage one of our students as they pursue their dreams and reach their full potential?

### LIFE-CHANGING TRAINING AND HOPE FOR YOUNG MOMS



Another 20 young moms will be trained to sew in our women's empowerment programs in 2024, allowing them to get a job or start a business and provide for their families. *These resilient young women are incredible!*

It costs **\$180** to purchase a sewing machine and only **\$800** to train one young mom for a whole year! Your generous gift will give them the hope they need for a better future!

**You can give easily online at [JoinHopeCo.com/2023](https://JoinHopeCo.com/2023) – or scan the QR code!  
Thank you for caring!**



# “Serving on a team has changed me forever!”



This year, we had more than 70 volunteers from the US serve with us in Africa! Most were part of mission teams from our partner churches and organizations, and they did a fantastic job in running vacation bible school programs, leading sports activities, providing training to our staff, carrying out practical projects, serving in our medical clinic and schools, and helping with our child sponsorship program. What a blessing they have been to our children and staff!

Here's what three of these team members told us:

- *“You come here thinking you will share God’s love, only to realize that you are on the receiving end of the blessing!”*
- *“I loved the atmosphere of peace and joy. HopeCo has set the bar high for combining love, justice, and evangelism!”*
- *“Seeing God’s work in action was such a gift. Serving on a team has changed me forever!”*

At HopeCo, we are committed to pursuing excellence in our mission team program, and we were recently accredited by MissionExcellence ([missionexcellence.global](https://www.missionexcellence.global)) for the high standards we set! Their director reported that:

- *“In addition to meeting the standards, HopeCo has a commitment to excellence and continuous improvement in all areas. They are a Christ-centered organization that puts high value on deep relationships and partnership, and they have a culture of collaboration.”*

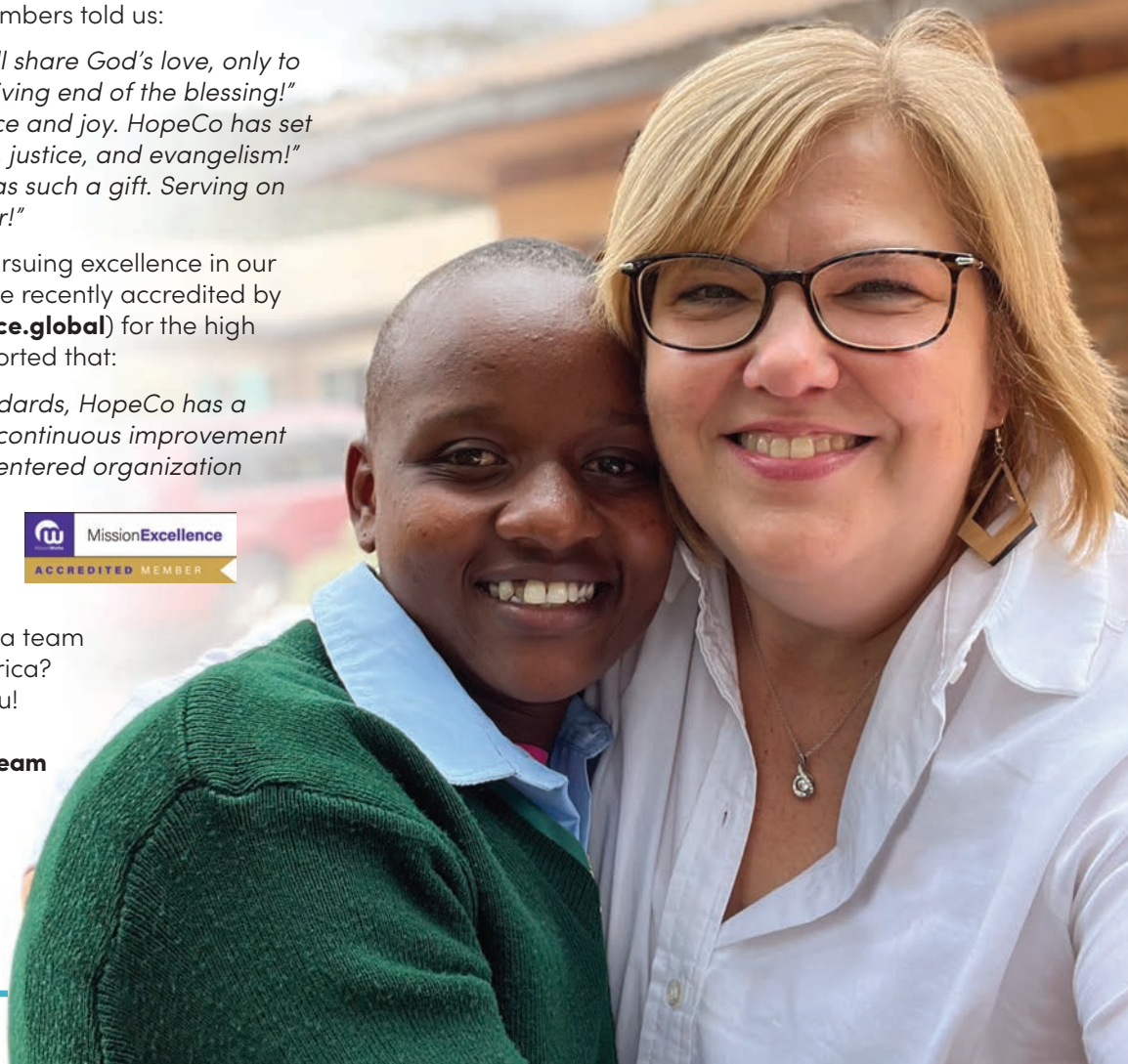


Is your church interested in sending a team to serve our kids and staff in East Africa? If so, we would love to hear from you! You can find more information at [JoinHopeCo.com/go-on-a-mission-team](https://JoinHopeCo.com/go-on-a-mission-team) or contact Kristi Smith, our Mission Teams Administrator, at [kristi@joinhopeco.com](mailto:kristi@joinhopeco.com). We look forward to hearing from you!

## “I know God is calling me to serve in Africa!”

As well as hosting teams, we have enjoyed having several interns serve with us in 2023 – and now we have a long-term missionary as part of our team in East Africa, too! Brenda Smith has a strong call to serve God in Africa and is passionate about seeing vulnerable kids and young women thriving and becoming all that God intends them to be. In 2018, she visited Kenya on a mission team – and knew immediately that God was calling her to return and serve for longer-term! Brenda will be mentoring some of the older girls and young women in our program, supporting the growth of new projects in Kenya, and assisting in hosting mission teams and with child sponsorship. We are delighted to have Brenda on the HopeCo team!

**Could God be calling you to serve with us?** We encourage you to contact us so we can talk about the exciting, challenging, and rewarding work!



## Join us in thanking God for...



- The commitment of our staff in Tanzania and Kenya to care for our children with compassion and excellence.
- The progress we have seen in so many of our children this year – and especially for those who have given their lives to Christ.
- The enthusiasm and impact of our volunteers who have served with us on mission teams or as interns.
- Growth in the number of people we have served in our medical center, schools, and our women's empowerment programs this year.

## Partner with us in prayer for...



- Our children, that each one would flourish, reach their potential, and come to know Christ in their lives.
- God's protection, wisdom, and strength for our leadership and staff in East Africa as they "seek justice" for children.
- The resources needed to complete several projects and care for more children in 2024.
- New child sponsors and program partners willing to walk with us as we serve vulnerable kids.
- A new ministry serving children and families in Mitaboni, a village in Kenya, that we will be developing in 2024.

## Our Three Big Commitments to YOU!

### We will:

1. Keep **CHRIST** at the heart of all we do
2. Relentlessly pursue **EXCELLENCE** that honors God
3. Continue to grow our **IMPACT** for God's glory

Through your prayers, sponsoring children, giving financially, or serving on a mission team, you see lives transformed and communities flourishing.

### Thank you for caring!



## WE USE YOUR GIFTS WITH INTEGRITY!

At HopeCo, we recognize our responsibility to steward the financial gifts received from you with integrity and accountability. We are therefore committed to:

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

This promise to you is reflected in our accreditation from the Evangelical Council of Financial Accountability (ECFA). We have also been awarded a Platinum Seal of Transparency from from Candid (formerly GuideStar).

*When you give to HopeCo, you can trust us to act responsibly, truthfully, and with integrity!*

