

OKOA TOTO

CHILDREN'S HOME

Inspired by Compassion. Rooted in Community.

LUMAKANDA, KENYA

To create a future for Kenyan Children in Especially Difficult Circumstances by providing a safe, nurturing, sustainable home environment that is rooted in community and inspired by compassion. With a nurturing home, nutrition and education, 12 children have the opportunity to grow into contributing members of the community.

Dear Friends,

Okoa Toto is building hope, dreams, and a brighter future.



Faith, age 5, grew up in a slum in Kambi Moto village. Her mother worked washing clothes and weeding, not enough to feed their family. Faith and her siblings would often beg in the streets. Faith dreams of becoming a teacher, and to help street children who are in dire need of education.



Gabriel, age 8, was never able to go to school due to a lack of tuition. Gabriel and his mother lived in her grandfather's home where he could not care for everyone's basic needs. Gabriel dreams of becoming a doctor. He wants to ensure a future where no children die of malaria.

Faith and Gabriel are just two of the children supported by Okoa Toto. Together, we are making a positive difference - one child at a time.

We couldn't do this important work without you and now with COVID-19, your ongoing financial support is needed even more. Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution today by sending a check, or donate online at www.okoatoto.org.

On behalf of our Okoa Toto staff and children - Abigail, Wesley, Joy, Faith, Mary, Melvin, Gabriel, Michael, Brightson, Jian and Ramsey - please accept our most sincere gratitude.

Warmest regards,

Kathy Schmitz, Board President

The Gift of a Young Girl Named Mercy



In December, we celebrated the one-year anniversary of Okoa Toto. Never did we dream that when Okoa Toto was founded in 2018, that only three years later, thanks to you - our sponsors, donors and friends, that 12 children who came from extreme poverty are now enjoying three nutritious meals a day, living in a safe environment, and receiving a life-changing education.

This past year, in partnership with local government officials, social services, and under the guidance of the Okoa Toto Advisory Council, we had the distinct opportunity to welcome and help an additional young girl, Mercy, who was in need of immediate foster care.

Although Mercy's time at Okoa Toto was short, having stayed just five short months, we were delighted when she was happily reunited with her mother. During those five months, Mercy was a pure joy to have with us. The Okoa Toto staff and Advisory Council continue to keep us updated on her progress.

Your Support Helped to Fund Critical Water Infrastructure

Broken pipes that connected the Lumakanda's water supply to Okoa Toto resulted in water being a precious commodity for our home. After much thought on how to best protect the home and children in the future, the Advisory Council decided to construct a second water tank to harvest rain water during the rainy season. They also made plans to construct a second bore hole or well. Both of these measures should ensure an ample water supply if the city's water system would fail in the future.



Adjusting to COVID-19 Strengthens Bonds

Surprise boxes of arts and crafts from the United States, sponsor letters, home schooling, and day-to-day chores continued to inspire and nurture the bonds among the children and staff even during the pandemic. A very special thanks to Okoa Toto friends and donors Carol and Chuck Weck who purchased and shipped the boxes of arts and crafts to Lumakanda!



Can We Count on You to Make a Monthly Donation?

During COVID-19, to ensure steady funding for Okoa Toto's mission to help break the cycle of poverty in Lumakanda, Kenya one child at a time, we would like to enlist a Recurring Donor Team of new monthly contributors.

Can we count on you to be part of our committed team?

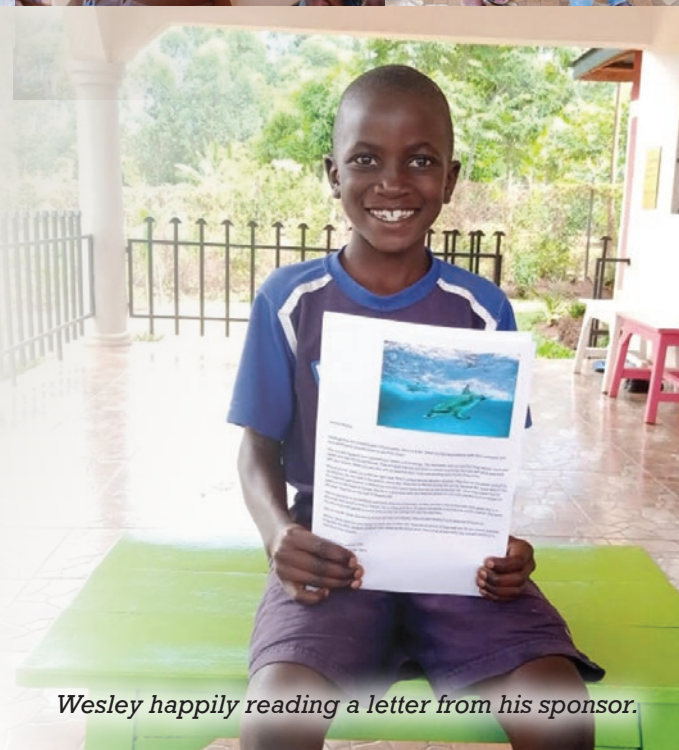
You can contribute whatever amount is meaningful to you,
and that works in your budget

(\$10 to \$25 dollar monthly gifts are great!).

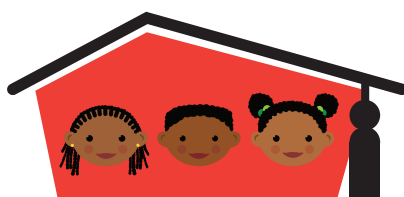
You may cancel at any time.

Every dollar makes a big difference and is deeply appreciated.

Visit okoatoto.org to learn more and to join our team!



Wesley happily reading a letter from his sponsor.



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