# Protect the children of Kenya

Help remove a child from forced labour and put them back into education



## **Corporate Support Programme**

Irish business people are making lives better for children and their families by supporting **Protect** in delivering education and promoting an entrepreneurial spirit.



#### About us.

Founded in July 2013 to support voluntary work by Claremorris lady Janet Corbin Hinchion in the elimination of child labour in Kitui, Kenya. Janet has been working voluntarily in Kitui since 2008 and her work is supported by the local community and companies.

Supporters wished to become more involved with the work of Janet in the prevention and elimination of child labour in Kitui and so came about **Protect**.

**Protect** is established to relieve poverty in the developing world with a particular focus on the issue of child labour. This is being done by increasing awareness of the issues around child labour and its impact on the child and family.

**Protect** helps to keep children in Kenya out of child labour by providing financial support to deprived families to enable them send their children to school and to commence full time skills training. This involvement includes paying residential school fees & expenses and personal items for the children.

**Protect** educates families and communities about the concept and consequences of Child Labour. Both group and individual parental training is provided bi-weekly for the parents of the children engaged in our programme.

**Protect** also provides weekly group life skills training and individual mentoring to each student during the academic year and during holiday periods. The progress of individual students as well as parental interaction is continually monitored and further support provided as required.

**Protect** encourages The Self Help Approach as this is a successful method of combating poverty and it helps people to live dignified lives. Our programs encourage individuals to develop positive attitudes and behaviours, to become active members of their communities and to explore income generating activities to support their families.

### How to help as a company.

Companies understand that engaging with a charity affects their internal (employee engagement, productivity, turnover rate) and external (increased sales, customer loyalty, brand awareness) growth. By creating and participating with charity initiatives, companies have the opportunity to showcase their core values and create trust among employees and buyers.

Fundraising is a great way to get your employees and customers involved with your corporate responsibility strategy. It can raise valuable funds for the charities close to their hearts and demonstrates your company's commitment to the community.

The simple act of including a brief description of our work with a link to our website in the signature of all your company emails can go a long way to helping to promote Protect.

# Advantages of corporate support.

- Increased employee satisfaction.
- Improved public image.
- Increased customer loyalty.
- Increased creativity.

"My life has changed completely since I was withdrawn from child labour in 2012. I now have dignity, support and a future" says Jackson.

This 16 year old orphan was found gathering scrap metal in the town of Kitui.



#### How we prevent child labour:

- PROTECT provides financial support in full time Government recognised residential skills training programmes for children removed from child labour by their parents and the local administration together with providing mentoring and psycho-social support.
- Educates families and communities about the concept and consequences of child labour.
- Assists very poor and deprived families by paying secondary school fees for children who would otherwise become engaged in child labour.

### Some facts and figures about our work

Since 2011, **twelve children** have been given certification by the Kenyan Industrial Training Authority for competencies in skills development areas of mechanics, carpentry, hospitality, hairdressing, beauty therapy, fashion design & dressmaking, electrical, and welding. All the youths are now self-sufficient and living a life of dignity, some now have young families of their own.

**Six students** are in final year of studies in areas of masonry and construction, electrical applications, hairdressing, and beauty therapy.

Many children are orphaned, left alone, or cared for by their ageing grandparents and need support. PROTECT began supporting **two such families** in 2009.

We have educated more than **60 key members** of community groups on the concept and consequences of child labour.

Since 2009 long-term educational support has been provided for an orphan boy being cared for by an elderly grandmother.

Between 2013 and 2020 **five girls** from poverty-stricken families were assisted with school fees for their secondary school education and subsequently for a certified computer course thus preventing them from becoming involved in child labour. Two are attending University, another is employed as a secretary and two are still attending school.

Parental & Guardian Training have been in operation since 2017 for the parents and guardians of the children involved in the rescue programme. **122** children have been provided with life skills training since 2011.

### Protect the Children of Kenya

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HELP A CHILD NOW BY MAKING A DONATION WITH THE DONATION FACILITY ON PROTECT'S WEBSITE.

www.protect-children.ie