



## Empowering Children – Reducing Poverty

# News Update Spring 2020

### Our Purpose



At EACP we work with very poor communities in East Africa to reduce poverty by empowering very deprived children, including orphans, through education, training, and community support. We are a professionally run community organisation and 95% of our funding goes direct to our projects, ensuring that all donations have maximum impact.

### Our Work

We support small-medium size manageable projects in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. We believe that working together with long-term trusted partners produces the best results, drawing on their initiative and participation, and on shared learning. Our projects are managed by local leaders working within their communities to achieve real change. We believe in consistently improving.

Through regular monitoring and long-term evaluation, we ensure that our work has the greatest impact.

EACP invests in families and communities. By cultivating a sense of ownership, as well as promoting accountability and responsibility, our projects seek to achieve sustained local development through training, work and health awareness. From our experience, we are confident that this comprehensive approach produces sustained long-term benefits. Since our last Summer 2019 Newsletter, we have been working on a number of new projects that have changed lives and enabled deprived communities to improve health and welfare.

### Schools and Education



**Orphan Accommodation** - A new dormitory for up to 60 girls living at Joy Children's Centre (Nairobi-Kenya) is now completed. Joy is a community-funded primary school for 300 deprived children aged 4-13, and also home to around 70-80 orphaned, abandoned, or abused children. As numbers increase, facilities become stretched and girls often shared a bed in cramped dormitories. In the new dorm, girls are much happier, and their learning and school attainment improves. More importantly, these girls are safe and not at risk of abuse, domestic violence or living on the streets.

Joy has been an EACP partner since 2010 and EACP Trustees regularly inspect the Centre. On our last visit in June 2019 we were again highly impressed with the provision and the very good support provided to children living there, despite limited resources. The School produces excellent teaching and learning

outcomes. A high proportion of children living at Joy do well in their exams and obtain competitive places both at secondary school, and later at college. In East Africa compulsory state education finishes at the end of primary school when children are aged around 13.

**School Attendance and Street Children** - School tuition costs are State supported in East Africa, but families still have to pay additional school fees and for uniforms, stationery and books. This can be a real challenge for very deprived families who are often unable to afford to send their children to a hard won place at secondary school or college. EACP, along with local community support, assist Joy's academically able orphans to continue their education. In January we also assisted 18 orphans and deprived children to attend secondary school in Musoma, Northern Tanzania by purchasing school uniforms and textbooks including maths, English, and science. These children are mentored by HRCO, our community development partner since 2013.

**Solar lamps** - In February we funded 40 lamps for children and families supported by HRCO. Families in East Africa spend up to a quarter of their weekly earnings on kerosene. Kerosene lamps are dangerous, expensive, and have serious adverse health and environmental effects (WHO, 2020). A small solar study lamp is great for a schoolchild, while a larger lamp will light a whole family room. Solar lights improve education and family productivity, and make people feel safer after sunset.



**IMPACT CALCULATOR**

**£5** Your donation will result in:

1	Solar lights
4	People reached
£145	Saved by families
1006	Extra hours of child study time
1.1	Tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub> emissions averted
2	People experiencing better health

## Community Development



**Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)** – Poor water quality, combined with poor hygiene and sanitation practices, causes illness and death among many families in East Africa. One fifth of all deaths of children under 5 years could be prevented with adequate WASH. (WHO, 2019). In 2019 EACP, in partnership with HRCO, delivered a household hygiene training programme in northern Tanzania. This project was supported by a major grant awarded by a large UK Charitable Trust. HRCO organised a 3-day training course for 30 local community representatives on effective WASH practices within households. These 30 trained representatives then became ambassadors to promote the dissemination and application of WASH knowledge and understanding to around 600 households (or around 3,000 people) in their local communities, including young people and children, improving household hygiene and reducing illness and disease from contaminated water.

The WASH programme, combined with the use of locally made bio-sand water filters (BSWFs), has been so successful that HRCO has received full Tanzania Accreditation to provide WASH projects nationally. Due to international interest in the project, HRCO was also funded by NGOs in South Korea to present at a conference at Yonsei University South Korea (THES World Ranked 251-300) on hygiene and water filtration. HRCO, with its deeply rooted knowledge of local communities, customs, and practices, has since been supporting research collaboration between Yonsei University and Tanzanian Universities.

As a result of this WASH project, combined with growing awareness of water filter technology, around 200 bio-sand water filters are currently in operation in the area providing water to around 2,000 beneficiaries. Water filters are regularly and independently tested by regional water authorities and have proven to be highly effective in producing potable water for household consumption.



**Covid-19 Response** - The school closure programme in East Africa has caused a cash flow problem for many schools. This has been particularly challenging for two of the four primary schools we support as they are also home for 120 abandoned orphans or abused children. During the crisis we have been supporting them to provide food for these children. EACP have also provided HRCO with a small grant to purchase soap making materials to enable them to provide soap, along with hygiene guidance, to the most deprived local households they support during the pandemic.

**Other Community Projects** – HRCO provides training schemes for deprived and unemployed young people. In recent years we have supported

the establishment of a garment making training programme. Many of the young women on these courses were young teenage mothers, and are seeking additional skills to support their young families. In early 2020, EACP funded a new water pump to support the work of HRCO in training young people and educating the local community in developing and maintaining sustainable vegetable gardens.



## Looking Ahead

We are currently working on several new project proposals which we hope to develop and complete in the coming months. These include:

**Mains sewerage and sanitation** – We are currently connecting the Joy Centre to mains sewerage and building a new toilet block for the new girls’ dorm. This project was supported by another major grant awarded by a large UK Foundation and it will improve hygiene for the children and also save money on waste disposal.

**New 4-classroom school block** - With our long-term partner school in Busia, rural Uganda, we hope to support them to build a new 4-classroom block to improve children’s learning. This block represents a major improvement on their current, poorly built accommodation with earth floors, often infested with dust mites, and no doors to keep out wind and rain.

**Eco-brick toilet** - With another partner school in rural Uganda, we hope to support them to build a new toilet block for the school using eco-bricks. These will use recycled plastic waste, including bottles, as construction material. This helps deal with plastic waste in villages while providing essential new toilets with good washing facilities.

**School food projects** - We are presently considering a number of proposals from our partner schools to expand school breakfast and lunch provision using school food growing programmes. The evidence is clear that better nutrition improves educational outcomes for deprived children (World Bank, 2012).

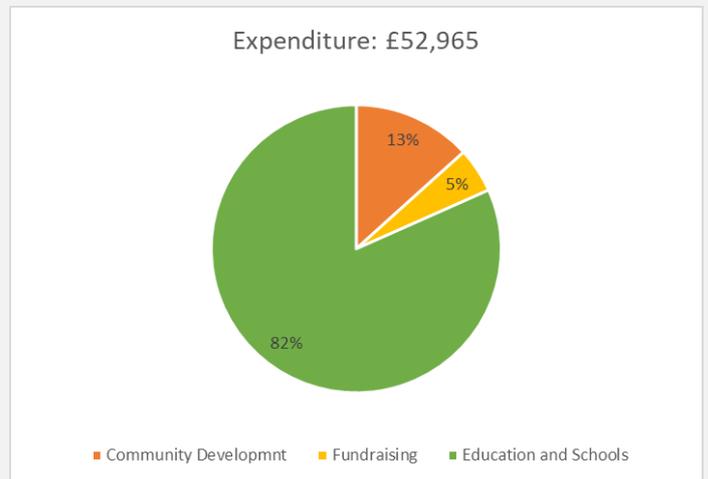
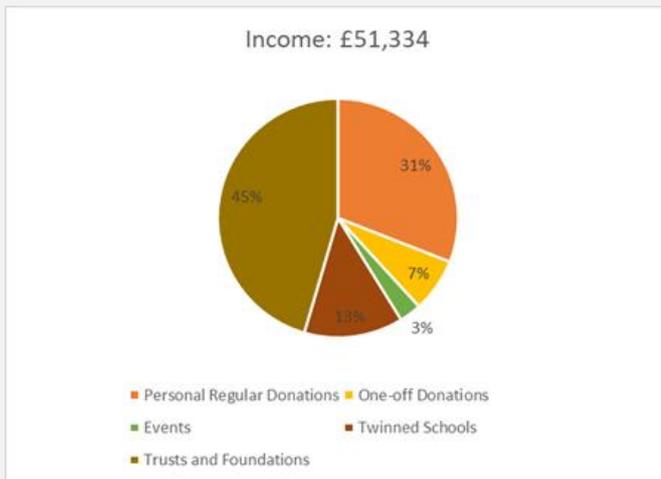


Building an eco-brick wall

## FINANCIALS

### Annual Accounts 2018-2019

The latest [EACP annual trustee report and accounts](#) are available on our website and from the UK Charity Commission. A snapshot of our income and expenditure last year is shown below. Our 2019-2020 report and accounts which will be available soon.



## Other News

**Safeguarding Policy** - EACP has recently updated its [Child Safeguarding Policies](#) which all our partner organisations sign up to as a condition of working with us.

**Personnel** – EACP has two new (pro bono) advisors. Barry Harper is an economist and has considerable UK university teaching and senior management experience. Barry advises on project management and quality assurance. Colin Anderson has a background in large scale civil engineering projects both in the UK and Africa. Colin is interested in the development of small scale local sustainable projects within deprived communities and advises on construction and related works.

If you wish to find out more about our work, please do contact us.

Pieter Lagaay (Chair) and EACP Team

**EACP is a Registered Charity in England and Wales (No. 1136340)**

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