

A young girl with a joyful expression is holding up a large bunch of green bananas in a banana plantation. She is wearing a light-colored, striped tank top. The background is filled with lush green banana leaves and other plants.

ANNUAL REPORT

2018-19

FOOD. HEALTH.
OPPORTUNITY.



East African Children's Fund



Dear Friend,

For many of us, planting a summer garden is a welcomed hobby. It's a chance to be outside to plant our favorite fruits and vegetables. Imagine if what you grew in your garden were both your sources for food and income. Now imagine that your garden is mostly rain fed. This is the reality for small-scale farmers in East Africa, most of the population.

What parents grow on their land affects how their children grow, both physically and intellectually. Children are more likely to attend school when their parents can contribute to school fees from their crops, their main source of income. Their educational growth and overall development is bolstered in times of high crop yields and thwarted during times of low rainfall, drought or invasive pest.

East African Children's Fund strives to break this cycle so that children remain in school regardless of harvest yields by supporting school feeding and farming programs for vulnerable children. With your generous support last fiscal year, we increased our school feeding program by 56%. This translates to approximately 568,000 school meals served!

Those meals represent opportunity for the communities we work alongside. You enabled our partners' school farms to produce more than 20 different varieties of nutrient dense fruits and vegetables, including amaranth, blackjack, African nightshade and cowpea leaves. You also helped plant an additional two acres of moringa oleifera, so the children can add the leaves or dried powder to meals, and the stalks end up in pig, chicken and fish feeds. Your support made it possible to build two additional fishponds stocked with 20,000 medium fingerlings, providing an alternate source of protein. Finally, your support expanded our partners' livestock program to include laying chickens for their eggs.

With your assistance, more than 1,000 children received deworming medications that improve the uptake of nutrients from the food security programs. The impact is that fewer children visit our partner's on-site school infirmary, resulting in an 80% decrease since program inception.

Our focus is to teach food security skills that will serve the school youth and their communities for years to come. Almost 4,000 children and community members were trained in improved nutrition, and the number of youth trained in agricultural best practices more than doubled.

None of this would have been possible without your support! Thank you for making a positive difference in the lives of more than 1,000 orphaned and vulnerable school children and youth in Kenya.

With Deep Gratitude and Continued Appreciation,

Lisa Peracchio
President



WHAT WE DO

East African Children's Fund improves the nutrition and health of vulnerable children in East Africa by partnering with locally-led community organizations. By combining school feeding with teaching sustainable farming techniques, EAC Fund and its partners ensure that orphaned and vulnerable children eat today and for years to come.

OUR APPROACH

- Orphaned and vulnerable school children
- Locally-led organizations: We partner with local leaders who develop long-term solutions for challenges in their communities.
- 100% Direct Giving: Your donations go directly to improving the nutrition and health of vulnerable school children in East Africa.





PROBLEM

EAC Fund targets two interrelated issues: a growing young population and food insecurity. EAC Fund's current projects are located in Kenya, East Africa, where children make up almost half the population. Most Kenyans are small-scale farmers who rely on agriculture for both food and income sources. When harvests are poor, due to a lack of rainfall or pests, there is less income available to purchase other food sources or to pay school fees for children. Children are less likely to attend school.

SOLUTION

East African Children's Fund recognizes this complex relationship between crop yields, school attendance and child nutrition. We support the food security programs of our partners in eastern and northern Kenya to benefit school children through school feeding and farming programs. The school feeding programs promote school attendance, especially for girls, and the farming programs provide access to a more nutritionally diverse diet than would otherwise be available. Healthcare is delivered through improved nutrition. The farming programs train both the local community and school youth in nutrition and agricultural best practices, adapted for local conditions.



MOVING FORWARD

We support short-term inputs that address immediate needs and contribute to long-term changes by:

NUTRITION

- Purchasing locally-grown, highly nutritious food staples: beans, flour, and maize
- Training children, youth and their communities in improved nutrition

HEALTH AND HYGIENE

- Purchasing clothing, mosquito nets, and health test kits
- Supporting deworming initiatives
- Educating children, youth and their communities in the importance of proper health and hygiene, including HIV/AIDS awareness

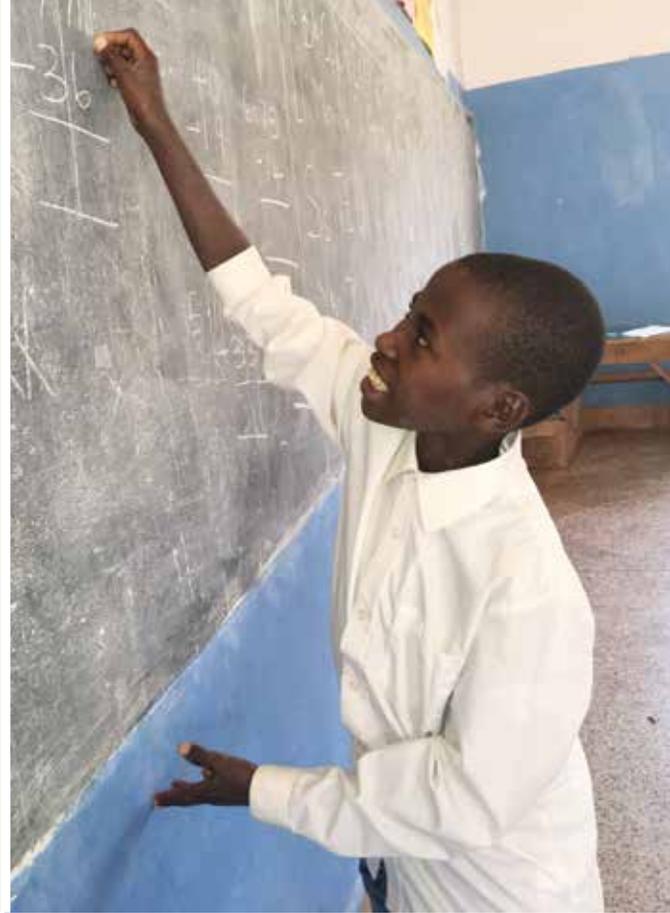
SUSTAINABLE FARMING

- Purchasing seeds, other inputs, and small farming equipment and tools
- Engaging in resource management: drip irrigation and rainwater harvesting
- Building and maintaining fishponds
- Raising pigs, rabbits, chickens & goats
- Beekeeping
- Training school youth in best practices and sustainable farming techniques for their own sustenance and so that they can teach other members of their home communities

SMALL-SCALE ENTERPRISES

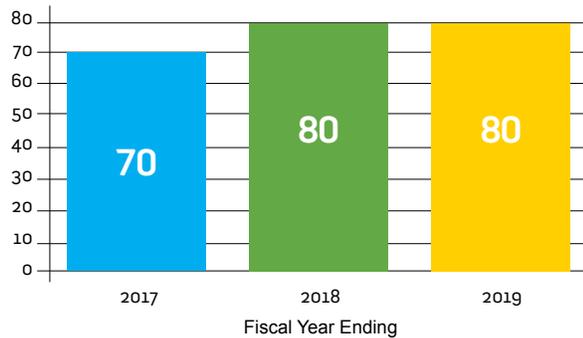
- Supporting our partners' entrepreneurial projects of income-generating activities of excess crop, fish, and beekeeping production

My name is Isaac and I'm 13 years old. I was a farm laborer in someone's farm before I joined St Francis Boys School. I planted trees and harvested fruits from morning to evening with very little pay. The police came to my rescue and put me under their custody before bringing me to St Francis Boys School. Here, I get an education and I have learnt a lot. I now know how to read and write. I stay in a safe place and eat healthy and delicious food. When I grow up I would wish to be a president of my country. This way I will be able to help all those children suffering at home and in the streets without going to school. I will make sure they are all in school by offering free education. I thank all who gave me a chance to be in St Francis.

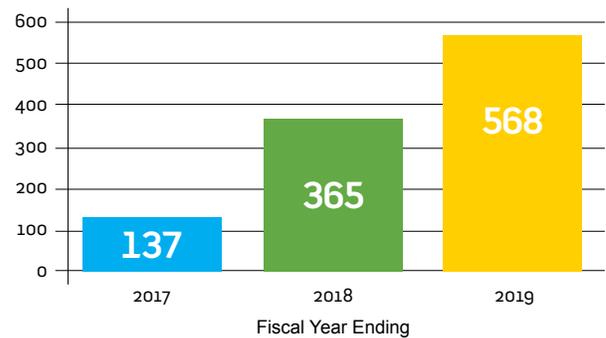


IMPACT AND OUTPUT

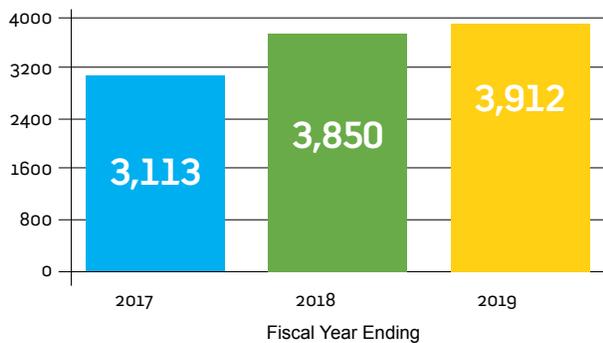
Improved Health: Decrease in School Infirmary Visits (%)



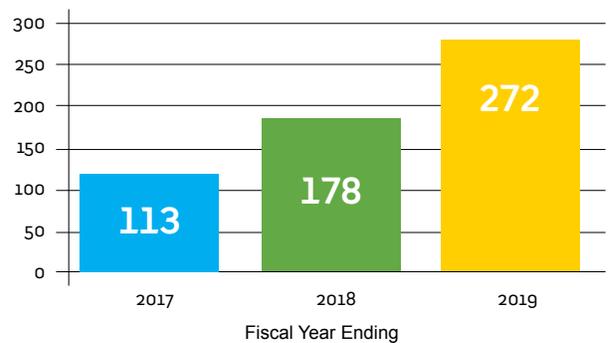
School Meals Served (000's)

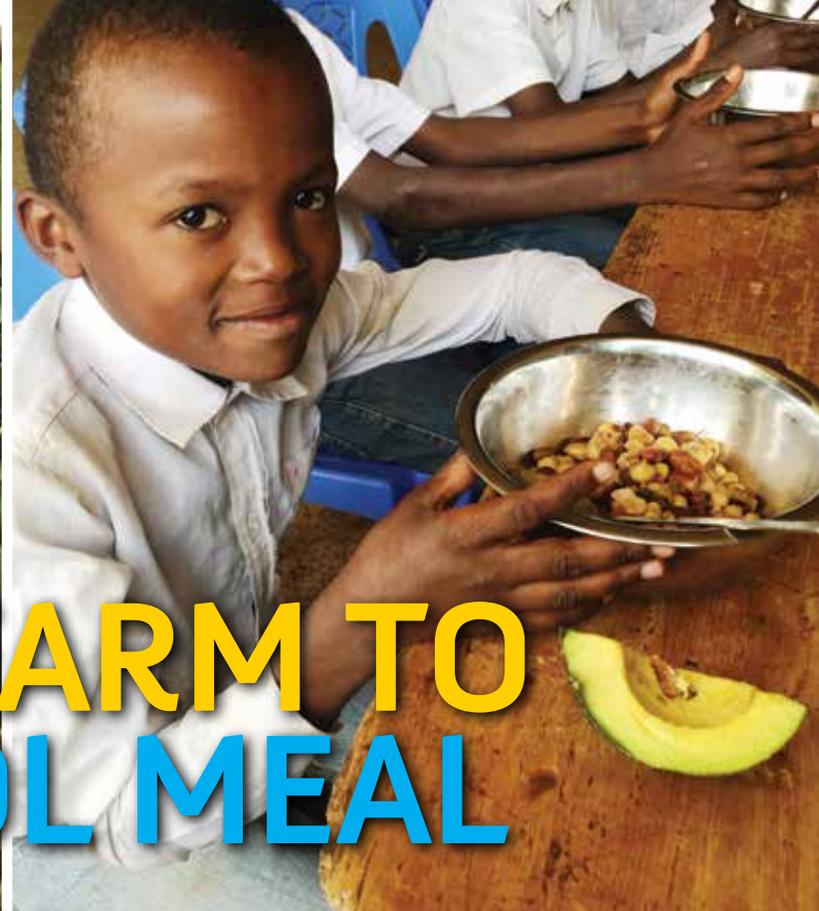


Community Members Trained in Improved Nutrition



Youth Trained in Farming Best Practices





FROM FARM TO SCHOOL MEAL

FINANCIALS

INCOME
\$204,701

\$159,677 from Foundations (unrestricted)
\$45,024 from Individuals

EXPENSES
\$164,947

Program Service: \$155,453
Management: \$4,116
Development: \$5,378

22%
FROM INDIVIDUALS



78%
FROM
FOUNDATIONS
(unrestricted)

3.3%
DEVELOPMENT

2.5%
MANAGEMENT



94.2%
PROGRAM
SERVICE

Our directors cover our operating costs so that your donations go directly to improving the nutrition and health of vulnerable children in East Africa.

WHAT'S NEXT

We continue to receive partnership requests from communities in East Africa for school feeding and farming programs so that children receive a meal in school.



East African Children's Fund

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