

Kakrao prayer update - December

KAKRAO PROJECT

Supporting Kenyan families with HIV/Aids

Dear Friends,

As we enter into the period of Advent, waiting for the coming of Jesus, the farmers in Kakrao are waiting for their training to start, so that their lives can begin to transform. Many of those who have been selected have a Christian faith and are praying that God will provide for them. Please do join with them and support them and their community through prayer.



Farm group selection

The selection process has been completed. Farmers have been selected according to the Send a Cow criteria (those who have the deepest level of poverty within their community). The training is now beginning. The key priority will be to start training in the Send a Cow values, record keeping, leadership, group dynamics and gender. Each group will have an individual training plan based on identified gaps. We will also be identifying one person in each group who will take on the role of peer farmer. They will receive the bulk of the training and will cascade their learning on to other members of the community.

The project baseline assessment started late November. This assessment ensures that we are able to keep clear records of where the families started (ie their level of poverty and what their basic needs are), so that the team can design an individual plan of training for the community. As well as having records to compare by the end of the project, we will be able to analyse the impact we are having in the community and make sure we use everything we learn to help with future projects.

Ward Administrator, Bernard Kasese, has been particularly supportive of this project and has offered the use of the government office as a farmer resource centre and a nine acre plot of land as a farmer demonstration centre. This is really positive for Send a Cow and we are very grateful for this support.

Caren: an update

Caren has been interviewed for Send a Cow before and features in our Kakrao promotional materials. She is a member of the Ohinga Anjegu Support Group and has been using ARVs

(drugs to combat HIV/AIDS) for 15 years now. The situation has not really changed for her since she was last interviewed by SAC as the project activities are yet to start. Her main concern seemed to be to keep her children in school and university and she recently held a community fundraising activity so that her neighbours and group members could support her in covering their school fees. She said that she remains with a household of 7 children/ grandchildren – 2 of her daughters have married and moved away, but 2 other children died last year. She grows maize, tobacco and beans and makes just KShs 15,000 (£100) for nine months of very hard work, including cutting all the firewood for curing the tobacco. Apart from educating her children her primary concern is for her health to be normal and not to suffer from any stigma in her community. Do keep her in your prayers.



Hassan and Judith working with community groups

Please pray

- Please pray for the team as they develop the individual plans for each group. Pray that God would bless their work and these plans would be the right ones for each group.
- Praise God that this community has understood that this project will not deliver handouts, and they understand that they must work hard to transform their futures. Thank God too that they understand that they are not alone in this, and that the Send a Cow staff will walk with them all the way.
- The community members have already shown a high motivation to participate in the project and we would like to pray that this positive attitude towards getting knowledge and skills is maintained throughout the project period and beyond.

- Pray too against the stigma of those with HIV/AIDS. Pray that God would touch them and show them that they are not alone.

- Praise God that the staff have their transport sorted out (motorbikes with helmets), do pray for safety as the team have to travel often long distances to the rural farmers, and often on rough roads.

Merry Christmas to you all and thank you for your continued prayers,

Best wishes,



Ann Hatton

Church Development Manager

