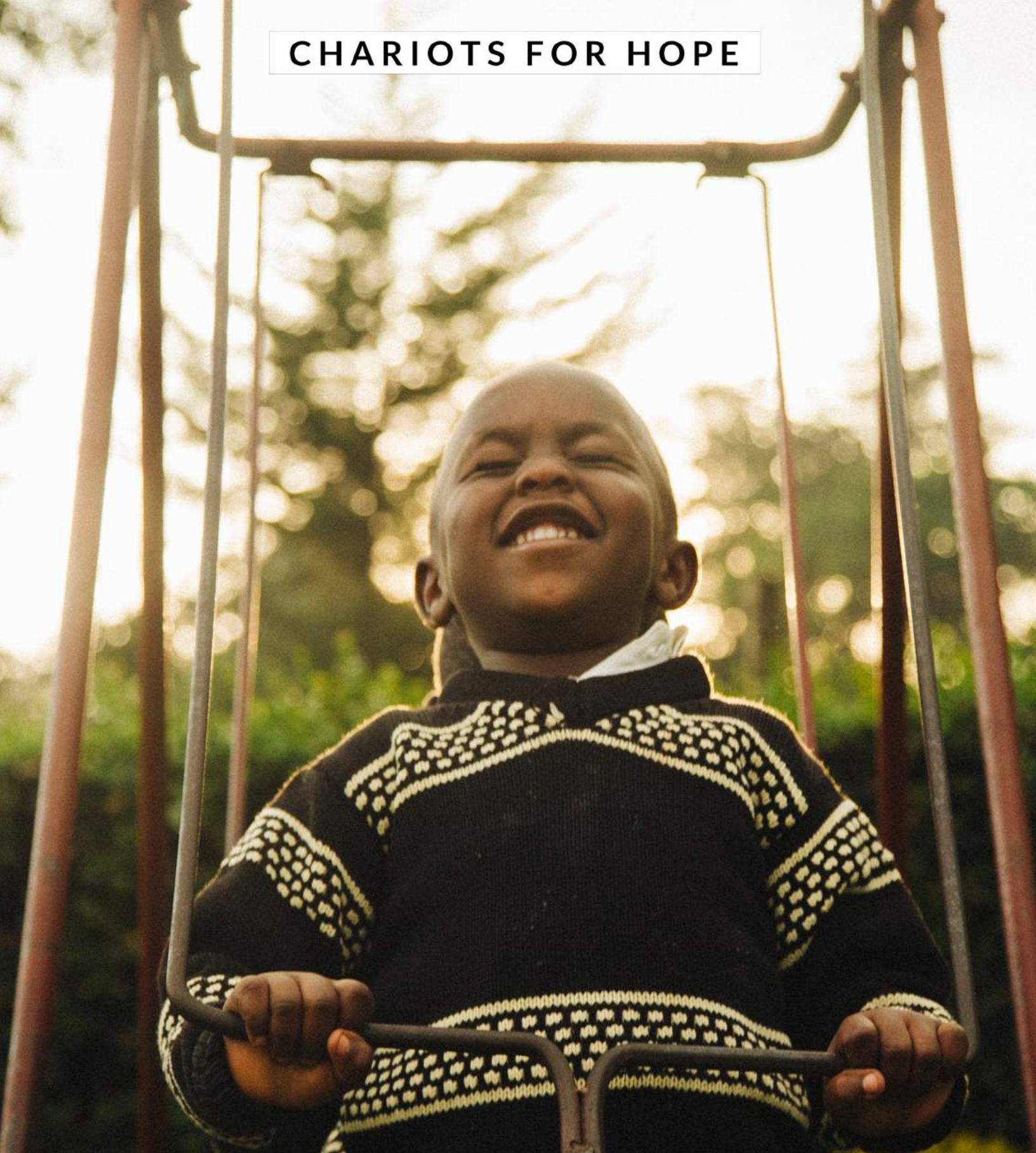


CHARIOTS FOR HOPE



annual report 2018





# stories being changed

Dear Friend of Chariots for Hope,

The phrase “put down roots” has been used so often that it has become an idiom. It means “to settle somewhere, become established, to make a place one’s home.” The reason this phrase has been used so often is that it reflects the natural yearning of human hearts. This yearning is present in the heart of every child who comes to live at a Chariots for Hope children’s home. And it’s the mission of Chariots for Hope to provide the loving and holistically healthy home where every child in our care can settle and become established and deeply rooted.

All of us at Chariots for Hope are very grateful to you—the many supporters who make it possible for us to fulfill our vital mission. Your involvement, gifts, and prayers enable us to provide the caring homes where more than 800 children in Kenya are finding opportunity and hope. They are becoming deeply rooted in a loving community, and we are seeing them develop into exemplary young men and women. Thank you for partnering with us to bless their lives!


With great hope,

Bob Feller  
President & CEO

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Teresa Castronuovo  
Sherri DeWalt, Chair  
Bob Feller  
Paul Keisling  
Jim Kulp  
Richard Smyth  
Stella Mugambi Tai





**R**oots are intricate. Deep. Unseen. Yet they provide an anchor for even the largest of trees.

Roots in our own lives keep us grounded, secure, and established on a strong foundation. Think of the impact parents, grandparents, spouses, and friends have had in establishing a deep, interwoven root system to help you stand strong.

So what happens when a child loses every one of their roots?

Every foundation and bit of security they've ever known?

This is the reality for far too many children in Kenya. But our children do not stay there.

Chariots for Hope is establishing roots with every child in our care. Deep, life impacting roots that go far beyond just today, changing their stories to ones of hope and opportunity.

**because deeply  
rooted matters**

IT MATTERS FOR TODAY

AND IT MATTERS

FOR THE FUTURE



# a life changed

ONE YOUNG MAN'S DETERMINATION  
TO SUCCEED AND HIS THANKS FOR THE SPONSOR  
WHO MADE IT ALL POSSIBLE

“This is what I would say to those who have never seen or met us children. You only hear stories about us but you sacrifice a lot of monies and belongings to keep us here at the children's homes in Kenya. It is not a waste of your money or resources, it is a blessing and a life change to the children. You have changed many children's lives; you have changed our future. You give us a reason to live and a reason to see life in a much different and better way than we could have seen it some few years back when our future was blind. You are a glowing light in the darkness in our lives. I could not be who I am today if it were not for you sponsors, well-wishers, and organizations. My family could not have educated me and brought me up the way a children's home has done through you.”

The excerpt above is from a letter written to Chariots for Hope by a young man named Kimanthi who graduated from our program in 2018 after completing his college education. Kimanthi is currently 23 years old.



Kimanthi's story reflects that of so many of our children. He is one of ten children, and his parents struggled to provide food, shelter and clothing for them all. Kimanthi and several of his siblings were sent to live at a local children's home when he was just five years old. The home he lived at was one of many in Kenya that closed their doors in the early 2000's due to lack of funding. That's when Kimanthi moved to our Mukaa Children's Home. He shared that coming to live at our home was a completely different experience. It was the first time he had everything he needed.

For Kimanthi, education was very important but not always easy. When he came to Mukaa Children's Home he was enrolled in fourth grade. He found the classes to be very challenging because he did not have a strong foundation. Kimanthi exhibited such determination and continued to work hard and

press into things that challenged him. This hard work paid off as Kimanthi completed high school and has recently graduated from Moi University with a degree in education and is pursuing a career as a high school math teacher.

Without the help of sponsors and supporters, Kimanthi's life might have looked very different. There is a good chance he would not have finished his education and would be living in survival mode—each day looking for casual work to provide basic food, shelter, and water to sustain him for just that day.

As Kimanthi says in his letter, your gifts and your sacrifices make a difference. They change lives!



# more than basic needs

You'll often hear our team say that we're focused on more than just meeting a child's basic needs of food, shelter, and clothing. We're not content to just help them survive until they reach 18, but rather we desire to see their lives changed by investing in their social, emotional, and spiritual health, education and life experiences. Below is a glimpse into a few of the ways our homes expanded the children's horizons.



## FIELD TRIP OPENS OPPORTUNITY

A group of children from our Mahiga Children's Home visited the local airport this year. They learned about booking flights, how airports and aircraft operate, and got to see planes land and take off! Children saw opportunities for careers and gained understanding of new things. Will this open a door for a child to pursue a career as a pilot, mechanic, or flight attendant?

## CAREER CONVERSATIONS

Our homes receive many visitors each year from within Kenya as well as from the US. One thing we ask of each visitor is to share what they do for employment. We want to continually expand the thinking of our kids as to what their futures hold and the opportunities that are available to them.

## HIKING MT. LONGNOT

In November, Maai Mahiu Children's Home hiked Mt. Longonot—an inactive volcano and crater. This expands learning beyond the classroom to broaden how our kids see the world around them.

## CARING FOR ANIMALS

Caring for goats, chickens, and livestock is essential knowledge for individuals living in rural Kenya. Our older children work closely with the groundsmen at every home to learn these important life skills.

## OFF TO CAMP

The older girls at Kaptagat Children's Home had the opportunity to go to camp this summer! GLOW Camp, (Girls Leading Our World) hosted by Moi University, exists to empower and equip girls with knowledge and practical skills to make wise decisions and cultivate female leaders in the community.





# over 100 godly men and women in kenya work at our 8 homes and are the hands and feet of our vision

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Each one, whether a home manager, social worker, tutor, dorm mom, cook, or groundsman, plays an essential role in caring for the children who have been entrusted to our care.



**P**ouring into our staff continues to be a critical focus. In November, Bob Feller, president of Chariots for Hope, traveled to Kenya to host our annual leadership meeting. The meeting was attended by 17 of our key leaders including managers, social workers, regional accountants, and our national director and program manager.

Over two and a half days the agendas were full but the time together was invaluable. From casual conversations over a cup of chai to small group discussion and more formal large group meetings, our leaders got the chance to learn, grow, share, and encourage one another.

## A FEW KEY TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

**How to make devotional time more impactful—**  
This was a great discussion on how to keep daily devotions engaging, relevant, and gospel-centered for our children.

**Education Matters—**Home leaders had the opportunity to learn from one another as they shared their struggles and successes in helping their children succeed in their education.



**Risks in human trafficking—**Because human trafficking is a very real concern in nations like Kenya, it is important that all of our leaders are aware of red flags and understanding strategies that could be employed against children at our homes and in their local communities.

**Influence of drugs on teens—**Our homes have a lot of teenagers who are growing up and going off to higher education, living away from home for the first time. Our leaders had in-depth discussions on how to teach our teens about the dangers of drug use and standing up to peer pressure when they are exposed to difficult situations.

In addition to the formal group discussion, each home leadership team had time to work on their strategic plan for their home. Each manager spends intentional time working on the home's goals for the coming year by way of projects and initiatives.

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Plans are already underway for dedicated trainings for our Social Workers and a retreat for our Dorm Moms in 2019



# 65:1

While the numbers above could mean many things, would you ever imagine that in Kenya this represents the student-to-teacher ratio in the classroom? In the public schools surrounding several of our homes, this ratio of 65:1 has been the reality. At one of our homes we have even seen classroom ratios of over 100:1.

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## what is education like in kenya?

Unlike the US, children in Kenya must qualify through national exams to attend high school. Because many children don't attend school consistently before coming to our homes, they begin their education at a disadvantage.

Each of our homes has an onsite tutor who works with our students after school, on weekends, and during school breaks to help with homework and in areas where they struggle.

At Kaptagat and Maai Mahiu many of our primary students (1st- 8th grade) are attending local private schools as their public schools were some of the worst.

Education needs are significant. While we are making progress, raising the bar on education takes resources. We expect to spend \$325,000 on education in 2019. Gifts designated for education go a long way in changing a child's life!



Each child's path looks different. Our staff knows each child as an individual. Their strengths, challenges, and passions, all influence what their path of education and life training looks like.

**a path as  
unique as them**





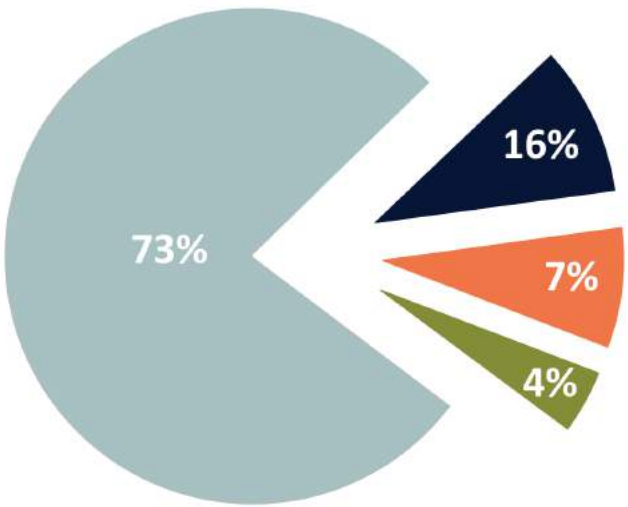
# 2018 in numbers



GIFTS COME  
BY MANY DIFFERENT METHODS BUT  
HAVE ONE THING IN COMMON:  
THEY CHANGE LIVES!

Expenditures	2018	2017	2016
Children's Home Expenses	\$943,761.80	\$854,099.05	\$821,257.56
Other Program Expenses	214,134.09	165,838.29	168,995.10
Administrative Expenses	95,591.11	72,265.56	69,255.19
Fundraising Expenses	50,167.63	49,432.84	45,563.81
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,303,654.63</b>	<b>\$1,141,635.74</b>	<b>\$1,105,071.66</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,511,263.70*</b>	<b>\$1,139,870.29</b>	<b>\$1,173,561.92</b>

2018 Expenses



\* \$197,700 raised as part of initial stage of education capital campaign.  
*Unaudited results. 2018 audit will be completed in the coming months.*

Chariots for Hope is proud to be ECFA Certified. ECFA holds Christ-centered ministries and churches to the highest standards of fiscal responsibility, transparency, and integrity.



**A**re you interested in giving in a less traditional way or do you want to better understand your opportunities? Chariots for Hope wants to work with each donor to find a solution that works for their individual situation.

- ⇒ IRA/401k distributions
- ⇒ Gifts in kind
- ⇒ Stock gifts
- ⇒ Planned giving

## TOGETHER WE ARE CHANGING LIVES



### Did you know...

If you are 70.5 years old and taking a required minimum distribution from your retirement savings, you can gift those assets to a non-profit without it counting as income?

**Learn more by contacting us at:**  
information@chariotsforhope.org  
267-815-1067





# vision trip 2019–2020

TRAVEL WITH CHARIOTS FOR HOPE  
TO GAIN A BETTER UNDERSTANDING  
OF OUR WORK IN KENYA

**W**e invite you to join us in Kenya and see the work you have so generously supported. Imagine seeing the children's joy, meeting the child you sponsor, and learning how your support is changing lives—firsthand!

2019 & 2020 VISION TRIPS—12 Days

While visiting two to three of the children's homes, we'll spend time with the children and staff, experiencing the culture, playing games and having

fun, hearing from leadership about their goals and struggles, and sharing Kenyan meals together.

We'll also visit local communities to gain a better understanding of where our children come from.

Our trip will end with a two-day safari. Relax and enjoy as you experience the beauty of Kenya before heading home.

Find more info:  
[chariotsforhope.org/get-involved/travel/](http://chariotsforhope.org/get-involved/travel/)

Important projects were completed on each campus in 2018. Though some of these projects may sound mundane, each one helped to better care for and invest in our children.

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## MAHIGA GIRLS DORMITORY

Below you'll see the start of our largest capital project of 2018: a new girls dormitory at Mahiga Children's Home. This project was fully funded in 2018, and the building will be completed in early 2019. Everyone at the home is so excited!

## ADDITIONAL 2018 PROJECTS

- New Washing Machines—Mogogosiek Baby Home
- Vehicles—Ogada Children's Home, Mogogosiek Baby Home
- Dining Hall Improvements—Kaptagat Children's Home, Kitui Baby Home
- Library Enhancements—Mahiga and Kaptagat Children's Homes
- Perimeter Wall—Maai Mahiu Children's Home
- Assistant Manager Home—Kaptagat Children's Home
- Office and Guest House—Mogogosiek Baby Home
- Guest Housing—Maai Mahiu Children's Home
- Red Cross First Aid and Fire Safety Trainings—7 homes
- Dining Hall Renovations—Ogada Children's Home
- Greenhouse—Mukka and Mulango Children's Homes
- Bathroom Renovations—Kitui Baby Home





# thank you!

Our gratitude is far too great to fully express. The generous and faithful support of our partners, donors, and prayer warriors pushes our work to new heights each year, by the grace of God.

## HOME PARTNERS

**Home partners** play a vital role in our homes. They are committed to providing significant resources and building deep, meaningful relationships with our children’s home staff members and children.

- 58ten
- Bethlehem Baptist Church
- Chelten, a church of hope
- Christ’s Home
- Cornerstone Church of Skippack
- Friends of Mulango
- Immanuel Leidy’s Church
- Integrity Foundation
- Sustained Acts

## FRIENDS OF CHARIOTS

**Friends of Chariots** are businesses and organizations that generously contribute to the work of Chariots for Hope through donating finances, resources, or services.

- Ambassador Advisors
- Bring Me Hope
- Chelten Child Development Center
- Dean Weaver, Inc.
- Gwynedd Manufacturing
- Hunsberger Family Foundation Inc.
- M. Hayner Productions
- Lightify Creative
- Mission Projects Fellowship
- Pretty Bird Coffee Co.
- Rotary International
- Trinity Valley Community Church
- Vitamin Angels

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**W**e are so thankful for the hundreds of individuals and families who have faithfully and sacrificially given in 2018. Though we have chosen not to recognize individual donor names here, please know that we could not meet the needs of so many children in Kenya without your gifts.







**chariotsforhope**  
Defending the fatherless in Kenya

267-815-1067

CHARIOTSFORHOPE.ORG

1601 N. LIMEKILN PIKE DRESHER, PA 19025