



Village HopeCore International Organizational Profile

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Vision

A transformed, enabled, and empowered people of Kenya and the rest of Africa who can respond to their personal, social, and economic changes effectively

Background

Village HopeCore International (HopeCore) was founded in California, USA in 1982 by Dr. Kajira “KK” Mugambi, as a tax-exempt charitable organization. It was registered in Kenya as a non-governmental development organization in September 2001.

Dr. Mugambi was born in a small village in Chogoria, endured hardships of poverty and disease in his family, and had to drop out of elementary school at nine years old because he could not afford the \$8.00 annual school fee. He overcame these challenges and was able to travel to the United States for high school, earn a Doctorate in Law from the University of California, Los Angeles, become a member of the California State Bar and Assistant Dean at the University of California, Los Angeles.

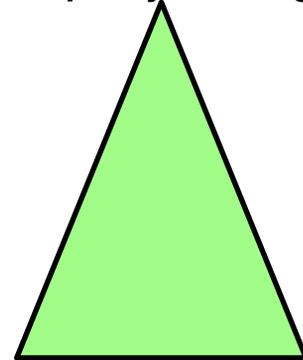
By founding HopeCore, Dr. Mugambi realized his dream of making a difference in the community of his birth and beyond. In 1993, he transitioned from practicing law in California to full-time management of HopeCore, with a firm determination to successfully eradicate poverty and improve health in Kenya’s rural communities through microenterprise, public health, and capacity building beginning in Chogoria, his place of birth.

Mission

Transforming lives through enterprise, health, and education

We promote alleviation of poverty in Kenya, East Africa, by providing microloans, business education, health education, and health support with an emphasis on HIV/AIDS, malaria, and mother/child wellness.

Capacity Building



Microenterprise

Public Health

Village HopeCore aims to eradicate poverty and improve health with two main branches of operation: microenterprise and public health. Through these branches, we build the capacity of the communities we serve and our staff to overcome, and grow from, challenges and hardships.



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Microfinance

Activities

- Provision of micro loans to groups of 12 people with business education, monitoring, and financial advice ✓
- Provision of education, training, and support to pre-loan groups of 12, emphasizing savings, entrepreneurship, mutual support, self-sufficiency, and self-reliance ✓
- Education and training to sponsored and unsponsored groups on prevention, detection, and management of malaria, typhoid, HIV/AIDS, and other preventable diseases ✓

Achievements

- Micro loans have enabled 89 loan groups to begin or expand their family-owned businesses, empowering 1,068 individuals and their families in our community. ✓
- The average income increase per family has been approximately 165% over our two year loan cycle. ✓
- Our current loan groups have an average repayment rate of 102%, that is, many clients repay earlier than scheduled in order to be eligible for more loan funds during normal loan cycles. ✓
- Our microenterprise staff members continue to provide small business advisory services to all loan clients. ✓

Public Health

Activities

- Distribution of mosquito nets to the community, in partnership with Population Services International ✓
- Implementation of school-based mobile health clinics at rural schools to provide health education and clinical services to students and teachers ✓
- Implementation of peer education programs, in conjunction with Planned Parenthood Global, during which HopeCore-trained youths deliver health presentations on various topics including HIV/AIDS, drug abuse, and self esteem, at schools and community events ✓
- Distribution of clean drinking water and hand washing tanks to rural schools in the district ✓

Achievements

- 11,900 primary school students in the Maara sub-county have received insecticide-treated mosquito bed nets as well as malaria prevention and treatment education. ✓
- In the past year, the school-based mobile health clinic program has expanded its reach to 72 primary and secondary schools, reaching over 19,000 students. ✓
- Peer educators have reached 2,458 community members with health education and contraceptives. ✓
- Through our WASH program, all 180 schools (45,000 children) in the Maara Sub-county have received clean drinking water and hand washing tanks and completed pre-surveys about health issues connected to clean water and hand hygiene. ✓



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Challenges HopeCore faces today...

- 720 families are still waiting for micro loans due to our limited financial resources.
- Our mobile health clinic cannot fully respond to community needs due to lack of sufficient medications used to treat certain ailments.
- Many adults in our community suffer from chronic health problems (i.e. hypertension, diabetes), but statistics on prevalence are not accessible.
- It is difficult to secure funding for the administrative expense of our daily operations.
- The public health program is rapidly expanding, and additional funding for newer programs is needed.

Lessons we have learned...

- The micro lending program is more successful when people in a group are able to hold each other responsible for the group's loan and business performance. When group members support each other, loan repayment rates are high.
- Micro businesses are effective strategies for self-sufficiency and self-reliance.
- Mobile clinics can remain sustainable and make a substantial community impact when a private or government partnership is forged. HopeCore has a successful partnership with Magutuni District Hospital and receives a variety of medications from the hospital to benefit our health clinics.
- Peer health educators are able to more efficiently reach a large number of target populations at schools rather than at market places.

Looking to the future...

- By 2018, HopeCore plans to fund 6,000 microenterprises, benefitting 42,000 people. Our public health department will provide preventative health education and training, as well as other health services, to these people so that their health may contribute to helping their businesses thrive.
- HopeCore hopes to expand its health program to include maternal health and baby-wellness education and support.
- WASH program post-surveys will be conducted to measure impact they have had on health. Health clubs that encourage students to bring clean drinking water and hand hygiene practices from their schools to their communities will also be initiated.
- A new female reproductive health program will be launched for pre-pubescent girls and young women to counsel females with peri-menses support, unplanned pregnancy prevention, health education, and a women's support group.
- By partnering with the government, HopeCore plans to deworm the 45,000 school children in our sub-county once per term.
- School mobile health clinics will include a mother-child wellness component focused on providing education, support, and health services to mothers and children under five.



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Partners and Sponsors

- ❖ Segal Family Foundation
New York, USA
- ❖ African Medical and Research
Foundation (AMREF)
Nairobi, Kenya
- ❖ Giving Hands
Germany
- ❖ Rotary International
Evanston, Illinois
- ❖ Planned Parenthood Global
New York, USA
- ❖ United States Peace Corps
- ❖ Population Services International
Nairobi, Kenya
- ❖ Rotary Club of Sebastopol
Sebastopol, California, USA
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Santa Rosa, California, USA
- ❖ Children Hunger Relief
California, USA
- ❖ Food for Thought
Sebastopol, California, USA
- ❖ Jamestown College
Jamestown, North Dakota, USA

For more information

Visit: villagehopecore.org

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To make a donation

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Donations can be mailed to

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*Village HopeCore International is a
nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, ID
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***“Hope changes
everything.”***