

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

Table of Contents

1. INTRODUCTION
2. MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES
3. GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE
4. CHILDREN PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES
5. ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2024
6. FINANCIAL OVERVIEW
7. CHILDREN PROTECTION POLICY
8. PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS
9. EVENTS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
10. FUTURE PLANS AND OBJECTIVES FOR 2025
11. HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT
12. CONTACT INFORMATION

1. INTRODUCTION



Established in 2008 by Caroline W. Gichuhi, The Ark Children's Home is dedicated to providing care and support to orphaned and vulnerable children in Kenya. Over the



THE ARK CHILDREN'S HOME

P.O BOX 3548 THIKA – KENYA

Email: info@thearkchildrenshome.org

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past 16 years, the Home has impacted the lives of over 250 beneficiaries, offering shelter, education, and holistic development opportunities.

2. MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES

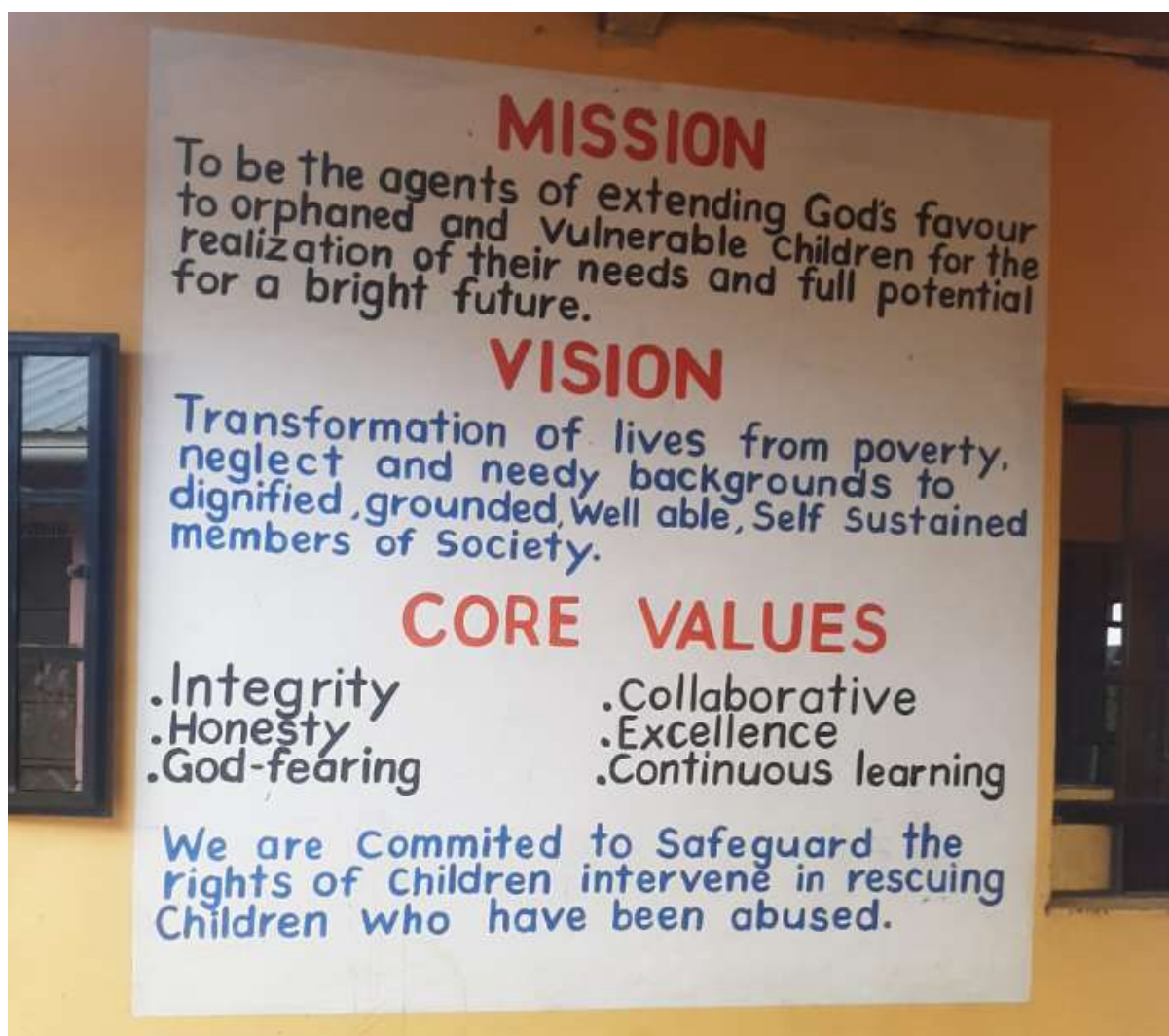
Mission: To be agents of extending God's favor to orphaned and vulnerable children, enabling them to realize their needs and full potential for a bright future.

Vision: Transforming lives from poverty, neglect, and needy backgrounds to dignified, grounded, well-able, self-sustained members of society.

Core Values:

- Integrity
- Honesty
- Continuous Learning
- God-fearing
- Collaboration
- Excellence





3. GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

The Ark Children's Home is governed by a Board of Directors that meets quarterly to oversee the organization's strategic direction and ensure alignment with its mission and vision. The daily operations are managed by a dedicated House Committee, which convenes monthly to address operational matters and ensure the well-being of the children under their care.



Madam Caroline, the Founder and Director, having a conversation with Bishop Dr. Kennedy Mbatia, during The Ark's 15th Anniversary celebration.

4. CHILDREN PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES



Julius Kariuki thriving academically in the Maguguni Special Unit class.

Children Welfare Initiative

Provides temporary shelter and basic needs to orphaned and vulnerable children, ensuring their safety and well-being.

Children Education Initiative

Ensures access to quality education from primary to tertiary levels, including the provision of school uniforms, stationery, and payment of school fees.

Water Initiative

Focuses on providing clean and reliable water sources to the Home, including the construction of boreholes to ensure a consistent water supply.

Self-Reliance – Agriculture Initiative

Harvesting farm produce for food security and income generation through surplus sales.

Children Affected by HIV/AIDS Initiative

Offers medical attention, treatment follow-up, and psychosocial support to children orphaned through HIV/AIDS, ensuring their health and integration into society.

Child Re-integration

Undertakes intensive social work to establish links with existing family ties, facilitating the reintegration of children into their families or alternative family care.

5. Achievements in 2024

Educational Milestones

- Supported children in completing various educational levels, including Kenya Primary School Education Assessment.
- Ten teenagers are currently undertaking their secondary education in provincial and district schools.

Facility Upgrades

- Bought new working tables, storage cabinets, freezer and gas cookers for the Kitchen thanks to Martijn Tempelaar of Refresco company who hopes to see a hazard free kitchen.
- Enhanced security by constructing additional sections of the perimeter wall.

Agricultural Success

- Harvested significant yields from the farm, providing food for the Home and generating income through the sale of surplus produce.

Community Engagement

- Hosted football matches and established an educational garden, promoting teamwork, sustainability, and community involvement.

Child Success Stories

- Many children have been reintegrated back into society through different alternative family care methods such as guardianship and foster care. Alternative family care such as guardianship and foster care. The Ark Children's home supports some of these homes as they reintegrate to ensure the children are not in lack of food, shelter or education. This is through the

outreach program. Some success beneficiaries were Peter Maina, Evon Njeri and Mirriam Kathoni.



Children in our residential care enjoying fresh boiled maize from our farm, enhancing their nutrition.



Fresh tomatoes generously donated by our good friend, Mr. Robert, will help ease our burden of purchasing them from the market.



Dry maize harvested from our farm will be essential in providing nutritious meals for the children under our care while also contributing to the institution's sustainability.



At the Centre, we maintain a kitchen garden where we grow a variety of fruits, kale, maize, and tomatoes. Pictured above is Esther, one of our housemothers, harvesting fresh kale from the garden.



A stainless steel sink was installed, courtesy of Martjin and the Mwanzo Foundation, significantly improving efficiency, especially in utensil cleaning.

• **Notable achievements include:**

- Sophia being readmitted to University (Bachelor's in Tourism Management, Co-operative University of Kenya)
- Clinton Kamau Joining University (Bachelor's in Banking & Finance, Co-operative University of Kenya)
- Patrick Ngigi joining College (General Agriculture Diploma, Mully College)
- John Kamanga joining college (Electrical & Electronics Diploma, Thika Technical Training College)
- Ryan, who is autistic, successfully enrolled at the International School of Autism.

- Regan & Emmanuel (siblings with Sick Cell Anemia) received medical care and were reunited with their parents after their release from prison.

Please see below more details on this success stories and the sustainable impact Ark children's home has had in the lives of children and the community.

- ✚ **Patrick Ngigi & John Kamanga** – Orphaned at a young age, Patrick and John were rescued and placed under our care. Ark Children's Home nurtured them through primary and secondary school, and today, they are pursuing diploma programs in college, securing a promising future.
- ✚ **Sophia Waruguru** – Abandoned by her mother at the age of five, with no known whereabouts of her father, Sophia was placed under our care by the Kenyan government through the Children's Department. We have provided for her basic needs, including education, ensuring her well-being and development.
- ✚ **Ryan** – Diagnosed with autism, Ryan was abandoned by his mother at a daycare center in Thika when he was just four years old. With the generous support of our friends from the Netherlands, he now attends The International School of Autism, Kenya, where he is thriving. His speech and social skills have significantly improved, giving him hope for a brighter future.
- ✚ **Clinton & David** – Rescued at the age of 11 along with his brother David, Clinton's academic excellence earned him a place at one of Kenya's top universities. Meanwhile, David is currently in Form 4 at Lang'ata High School, one of the country's most prestigious institutions. Their success would not have been possible without the unwavering support of our donors and friends from the Netherlands.
- ✚ **Regan & Emmanuel** – Siblings diagnosed with Sick Cell Anemia received critical medical care at Thika Level 5 Hospital, where they were admitted for a month and later discharged. Through our collaboration with the government, their parents were released from prison, enabling them to reunite and care for their children.

Through these interventions, Ark Children's Home continues to make a lasting difference in the lives of children, empowering them through education, healthcare, and family reunification. We remain deeply grateful to our partners, donors, and the community for making these success stories a reality.



Clinton Kamau at The Co-Operative University of Kenya.

6. Financial Overview

The Ark Children's Home operates within a budget approved by the board and as received donations. The Home is committed to financial transparency, with proper books of accounts audited by a registered auditor annually.

7. Children Protection Policy

The Ark Children's Home follows a comprehensive **Children Protection Policy** to ensure that all children are safeguarded from abuse, neglect, exploitation, and harm. This policy is based on national and international child protection standards, including the **UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989)** and **Kenyan child protection laws**. Key elements include:

- Ensuring a **safe and secure environment** for all children.
- Implementing strict **recruitment policies** for staff and volunteers, ensuring that no one with a history of child abuse is employed.
- Establishing a **confidential reporting system** for any suspected cases of abuse.
- Partnering with **government authorities** to take immediate action in child protection cases.
- Providing **training and awareness programs** on child rights and protection.



Eunice Njeri playing at the Centre.

8. Partnerships and Collaborations

Key Partners:

- Mwanzo Foundation (Special thanks to the founder and director Clements Radenborg for continuous support and love)



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- Refresco Group (Acknowledging Martijn Tempelaar for visiting in December)
- Local Community (Donations, Engaging in sports, educational, and agricultural initiatives)

Communications and Publications Team

The Communications and Publications Team consists of dedicated volunteers and staff who ensure timely updates and outreach for The Ark Children's Home.

- Volunteers: Maëlys Nizan, Hanna Engholm, Manda Djidji, Ruth Gichuhi, and Joseph Abuya.
- Supported by Ark Board Members: Clements Radenborg and Caroline Gichuhi.
- Assisted by Ark Children's Home Staff: Jackson Kivuva, Linet Gichuhi, and Susan Kituku.

Since July 2024, this active group has been publishing monthly newsletters and sharing key updates about The Ark Children's Home.

Follow us and stay updated on:

- ❖ **LinkedIn:** [Ark Children's Home](#)
- ❖ **Facebook:** [The Ark Children's Home](#)
- ❖ **Instagram:** [@ark_childrens_home_thika](#)





Super Foam Mattress generously donated new mattresses for all the children under our care and protection during their visit. They also shared a celebratory cake with everyone, joined by our esteemed friends and partners, Mr. Clement and Martjin, as seen in the picture above.



Mr. Isaac from Norfolk Hotel in Nairobi, They donated foodstuffs and Beddings for all our children.

9. Events and Community Engagement

Day of the African Child 2024

Participated in events held at Chania Boys High School, focusing on children's rights and well-being.

Local football Matches.



During the School holidays, our children actively participate in various activities designed to enhance their life skills and overall development. Pictured here is a friendly football match between our boys and a local team, promoting teamwork, discipline, and community engagement.

Christmas Celebrations

- Hosted donors and foster families, ensuring every child spent the holiday in a family environment.
- Conducted community outreach projects, distributing care packages to needy families.
- Staff end-of-year party celebrated the achievements of 2024.

10. Future Plans and Objectives for 2025

Completion of Pending Projects

- Construction of the multi-purpose house.
- Completing the security wall.
- Acquiring a van.

Ark City Development

- Begin transitioning into Ark City, a sustainable community featuring schools, colleges, hospitals, and elderly homes.



The Ark Family visited by a team from Nairobi led by Pastor David.

11. Support Now!

Ways to Donate to The Ark Children's Home

1. Wise Money Transfer (International, Quick, and Online)

How to Send Money via Wise to Caroline Gichuhi (Mpesa)

🔗 Go to Wise: [Wise - Send Money to Kenya](#)

- Choose Currency: Select KES (Kenyan Shilling) as the currency.
- Select Delivery Method: Choose Mpesa.
- Register/Login: Sign in or create an account if you haven't already.
- Enter Recipient Details:
 - Send to Mobile Number: +254 723 989 046
 - For New Recipient: Choose "Someone else" and enter Caroline Gichuhi (Do not select "Name of the business/organization").

2. MoneyGram (Alternative to Wise)

🔗 Go to MoneyGram: [MoneyGram - Send Money to Kenya](#)

- Works the same way as Wise for international transfers.

3. Mpesa PayBill (For Local Donations in Kenya)

- PayBill Number: 688805



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- Account Name: Donation

4. Bank Transfer

USD (\$) Bank Details

- Account Name: The Ark Children's Home
- Account Number: 0102072144003
- Bank Code: 060
- Branch Code: 010
- Swift Code: SBMCKENYA
- Address: P.O. Box 3548-01002, Thika, Kenya

KES (Kenyan Shilling) Bank Details

- Account Name: The Ark Children's Home
- Account Number: 0102072144001
- Bank: SBM Bank, Thika

5. PayPal (For Online Donations)

🔗 Donate via PayPal: [Click Here](#)

6. Mwanzo Foundation (For International Donations & Tax Benefits in the Netherlands)

- Mwanzo Foundation, founded by Clements Radenborg, supports The Ark Children's Home.
- User-friendly platform for international donations
- ANBI Tax Benefits: Donors in the Netherlands get tax exemptions by donating via Mwanzo.

🔗 Mwanzo Donation Plattform: [Donate via Mwanzo](#)





The Ark Children enjoying a Christmas treat courtesy of our good from Ann Hendry.

Sponsor, Volunteer, Spread Awareness!

Together, let us continue to build hope, one child at a time!