



# MID YEAR REVIEW

summer 2020





## FACING THE PANDEMIC TOGETHER

Tree of Lives continues to stand ready to help our Kenyan partners in any way we can as we face the pandemic together. The fallout from the virus in Kenya has led to additional challenges including food shortages, reduced access to hospitals, and loss of wages for many of those we serve. Your support has been vital in making it possible for us to navigate this unprecedented season and provide special aid and assistance where it is needed most. See below for some of the areas where Tree of Lives has made a difference.



**63** connections with **21** families have been made by Joy Village staff for the children who are at their home of origin since the government mandated closure of charitable children's institutes and schools in April.



**638** food packets and **121** tins of infant milk formula have been distributed by the Holy Family Center since the pandemic began.



The average patient count at Nazareth is down due to Covid. However, patient count is rising from April. At the beginning of the pandemic hospital patients went down from 175 to 25 people.



**97%** of HFC patients have an undetectable viral load thanks to long-standing drug adherence and counseling programs, making them less susceptible to complications from COVID-19.



**85+** food packets have been provided to the students of the Allamano School and their families. Like other schools, Allamano is closed due to the virus.



Coronavirus  
**COVID-19**



*As of August 3, 2020 there are 22,597 confirmed cases of COVID-19 throughout Kenya, with 8,740 recovered patients and 382 related deaths. The Kenyan Government took strict precautions at the beginning of the outbreak to prevent the spread of the virus including a curfew, travel limitations, closing businesses and work limitations. This left vulnerable families without food and no source of income. Tree of Lives and Nazareth Hospital worked to provide food packets and medication.*



## SUSAN LILLY SCHOLARSHIP FUND ONE YEAR LATER

This May marked the one-year anniversary of the establishment of the Susan Reich Lilly Scholarship Fund to provide ongoing education for the children of the Allamano School in Kenya. Susan passed away in April 2019 after a nearly decade long battle with breast cancer, but her legacy of love, generosity, and learning lives on in the bright futures her scholarship makes possible for the Allamano students. These students are the children of tea pickers who live on less than \$2 a day. Their opportunities without this scholarship would be extremely limited.

More than \$12,000 was contributed last year in honor of Susan's memory. This generous outpouring of love and support enabled Tree of Lives to fund a further four years of education for the entire 2019 class of fourteen students. As a remedial primary school, Allamano only goes through grade three. The Susan Reich Lilly Scholarship provided these fourteen students placement into high-quality secondary schools and will continue to pay for yearly school fees and supplies through grade eight.

In January 2020, ten of the students entered grade 4 and four students were placed into grade 5 due to their excellent test scores. The Allamano families, our partners in Kenya, and we at Tree of Lives are deeply grateful for your overwhelming generosity to this meaningful program.

We ask that you consider contributing to the Susan Lilly Scholarship for future classes. You can give online at [treeoflives.org](https://treeoflives.org) or send a check made out to Tree of Lives with 'Susan Lilly Scholarship' in the memo line to Tree of Lives



# NGO - TREE OF LIVES KENYA

Great news! Earlier this year, we announced in our 2019 Annual Report that we were working toward the founding of an NGO based in the U.S. but operating out of Kenya that would help manage and distribute aid with greater efficiency and enhance communication between our partners. This spring, we were granted our Certificate of Registration from the NGO Coordination Board of Kenya. The Tree of Lives Kenya NGO board will consist of six members, three from the U.S. Tree of Lives team and three from among our Kenyan colleagues. The new NGO will make your donations even more valuable, as it allows us to - for example - apply for Kenyan governmental health insurance to cover expenses for patients with non-emergency conditions so that we can focus our support on paying for those whose medical needs are more urgent and/or cost-prohibitive. We are excited by the possibilities that the NGO will open up for us in partnerships, grants, and, most especially, in providing better opportunities and care for those who depend on Tree of Lives.

CHECKOUT OUR WEBSITE & MEET OUR TREE OF LIVES KENYA TEAM.

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## MEET NKATHA PART OF OUR TREE OF LIVES KENYA TEAM

Nkatha is a public health specialist who specializes in HIV/AIDS. Nkatha first got involved with Tree of Lives when she was working at Nazareth Hospital with HIV+ patients and met Drs. Dick and Judith Brown, whose work in Kenya laid the foundation for Tree of Lives. Since then, she has maintained contact with Nazareth and Tree of Lives and has even visited Virginia. She has also worked for the Catholic Medical Mission Board helping them gain HIV/ AIDS funding and currently works with the Africa Christian Health Association Platform (ACHAP) which focuses on advocacy, prevention, and education for HIV+ patients in numerous African countries. Even with that full time work, she still assists in running the Women of Worth program, which instills in young girls the confidence and knowledge to make positive and empowering choices. Nkatha has been an invaluable partner to Tree of Lives over the years. Her positive and hopeful outlook energizes everything she does, and we are excited to have her faithful support and guidance on the Tree of Lives Kenya board.

