



# **GROWING UP WITH HOPE**

## **THE 2019 GLOBAL CONNECTIONS IMPACT REPORT**



Global Connections, through our friends, supporters, donors and those participating in our adventures in Kenya and elsewhere are affecting lives in many ways. This report is full of wonderful stories, testimonies and important statistics. Our organization's stated purpose is to connect people and let God transform lives.

This publication is primarily showing the statistics for the people served in Kenya. Many people being served are the "orphans and widows", the "hungry, the sick", and the "homeless and those suffering the chains of injustice". We are, hopefully, easing their pains and struggles and creating a community that resembles "God's kingdom". However, I submit that the true transformation takes place in the people that go, that support, that donate and pray!

In Isaiah 58:6-12 and Matthew 25: 34-36, we see that when we "loose the chains of injustice, share our food with the hungry, clothe the naked and visit the sick" then "The Lord guides us always and satisfies our needs" and invite us to "take our inheritance, the Kingdom prepared for us since the creation of the world."

We thank you for being a part of this Global Connections community and welcome anyone whose heart desires to join us in this God guided adventure of serving and learning from the marginalized people of our world and building God's Kingdom on this earth. Come and reap the benefits of true transformation.

*Al Puckett*

Chairman

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Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this:  
to visit orphans and widows in their affliction – James 1:27

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# MISSION

Serving and Learning from the  
orphaned, widowed, poor and oppressed

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# METHOD

Serving, Partnering, and Transforming...  
by engaging Global Connections family,  
team members, and our friends in Kenya  
in loving and serving relationships

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# LOOK HOW FAR WE'VE COME

Margaret Wangechi was one of the original children in the LCC feeding program in 2005. Margaret joined the McCrary family as Godchild in 2013. Their lives have been interwoven together and they've been a blessing to one another. Margaret will graduate from Utali College in Nairobi in October of 2020.

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# LOOK HOW FAR WE'VE COME

“ My name is Patrick Kungu. I am the third born of three boys in our family. I may not have that deep connection with my blood family after I lost both my mom and dad, but God is always watching over our lives and is in charge of every aspect and stage of our lives. Through his ultimate love I was chosen to join the Limuru Children Centre when I was four years old. Through them, I have learnt to appreciate what I have and also give back to the community just like what they have been doing for the last 15 years without giving up on us. May God bless the whole of MISSISSIPPI team and GLOBAL CONNECTIONS and fill your cups each and every day of your entire lives. I am thankful for my Godparents, Lindsey and Rainer Powell.”

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In **2018** the Limuru Children's Center served  
**300+ CHILDREN**  
through boarding, feeding programs,  
healthcare, and education.

The LCC currently partners with  
**53 FULL TIME  
CAREGIVERS**

who are serving and engaging these children daily.  
Their talents include and supersede mum, counsel-  
ing, grounds keeping, security, drivers, kitchen staff,  
and accounting.

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# IMPACT SINCE 2007

**1795**  


Children have  
received the  
gift of education

**46**  


Babies have been adopted  
and found forever families

**19**  


other impactful  
NGO's and  
partnerships  
have formed in  
conjunction with  
Global Connections  
spanning the US and  
4 other countries

**69**  


families in 9 states and 6 countries  
have become Godparents themselves

**250+**  


people from over 15 states and 5 countries  
have visited Kenya and had their lives  
impacted by new connections with others

**4,741,464**



Meals  
served

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# THE COST OF CONNECTING:

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“ Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world. ”

- Desmond Tutu

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## 3.5 MILLION DOLLARS

has been entrusted back into the partnerships with programs such as the Limuru Children's Centre, Pat's Feeding Program, the education of children, the feeding of the hungry, and humanitarian aid/disaster relief in the US, Kenya, Ecuador, the Czech Republic, and Haiti.

## 1.25 MILLION DOLLARS

has been invested in the transformation of people who embark on **team** travel and reap the benefit of new relationships that form from simply loving and aiding one another.

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Partner Updates



The LCC children and staff are thriving. There are currently 243 children being served through the LCC. The staff are constantly searching for new ways to better serve the children and growth is abounding. Lilian Mutua is leading the guidance of the centre with great attention to detail, whole child growth, and partnership preservation.

Partner Updates

# BABY HOME

The baby home saw 15 Kenyan adoptions this past year. The need for the baby home is ever present as it has stayed at capacity for most of 2018. Tesni Anderson and her staff are “loving the least of these” daily. Tesni and her team serve these babies with great patience and skill. Please continue to remember them in your prayers as they have celebrated life and loss this year.



# EMPOWER TO TRANSFORM WITH JULIUS

Julius has been busy teaching "Journey to Freedom" classes at the YMCA, mentoring LCC teenagers, teaching small vbs type classes to the surrounding areas, writing workplace devotions for MS companies, and keeping us all smiling while he does it. Global Connections is so grateful to be walking alongside Julius. His 2018 reach touched 1289 people. Julius's weekly bible study estimated reach at 150+ in the US. and 307 souls have given their life to Christ through Julius's loving leadership.



# K-BRANCH

Teacher David is continually infusing his zeal for life and learning through the K-branch pre-school daily. The school is currently serving **112 students** with a wonderful education and meals twice a day. This program has been teaching pre-school children for 12 years now.





Partner Updates

# LIFEHOUSE OASIS OF HOPE

As the LCC children have begun to move from childhood through adolescence and into adulthood, the need for specialized programs to help them transition successfully to independence has become apparent. The LCC is excited to announce a partnership with Duncan Kimani Kamau and Oasis of Endless Hope which will serve as a transitional home for LCC high school age students. Programming at Oasis of Endless Hope models a Christian lifestyle and emphasizes a parent-child relationship, healthy family dynamics, spiritual development, counseling, life skills, career training, and entrepreneurship.

Partner Updates

# PAT'S FEEDING PROGRAM

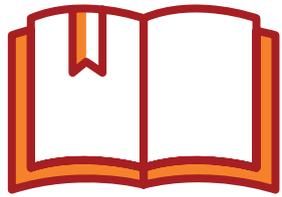
Pat's feeding program is still **nourishing 400+** elderly people bi-weekly, many with HIV. Peter is still at the helm and the program is thriving. This program continues to challenge our summers teams inviting them to experience the great need in the elderly community.

# 124,800

elderly have been fed since 2007.



# TIGONI COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



The scholarship program is currently educating **22 children** in secondary and post secondary education. This is still one of our most needed programs. Education is such a gift to these children. This program stands in the gap and offers scholarships to children living in our surrounding community.



# KATANA FEEDING PROGRAM

3270

The Katana Feeding Program has fed and **nourished 3270** since inception. This program is not only feeding the hungry, it is spiritually nourishing souls.





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GC Team Travel will enter its 14<sup>th</sup> year this summer. We are on track to have **25 team** members aging 7-69 fill our 2019 teams.

Our mission is to offer encouragement, support and love to those in need by sharing our gifts and getting involved as we put our own lives back into perspective. Most all go to Kenya expecting new friendships and return with a whole new family that reside in the US and Kenya.

Transformation happens in so many ways. Kenyans and team members are dually aligned for great things. These teams also continue to help our Godparent Program to grow and thrive.

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Partner Updates

# GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

## TEAM

## TRAVEL

*"When I come I am empty  
and when I leave I am full."*

*- Margaret Anne Schmidt  
(trip participant)*

# GODPARENT PROGRAM

There are currently **69 Godparents** matched with LCC children in 2018.

Families are grown and lives are changed with each match that is made. The blessings gained with these relationships are infinite.



Godparents are able to provide for their matched child's most basic needs and in return are given a lifetime gift of joy in being able to love and provide for that child. One of the most intimate ways Godparents are able to interact with their child is through a birthday gift. For the children, this gift comes in an envelope complete with letters, pictures, and a small gift.



# CAMP BRETHREN

In a country where the disabled are also the outcast, we have partnered with Camp Brethren, a school and clinic founded and run by local Kenyans by the call and grace of God, for the benefit of all who will come. We are funding a dorm for the disabled students while they are fully integrated into their new classes. This partnership will refuse, against all cultural norms, to turn away children. Miracles happen in this place.

Our blessed Brian (opposite page), a child who has transferred from the LCC and has found his place in a school that can effectively serve God's most special children.



Constructing High School for

**400**



**100%**

of primary children passed their national exam

**201**

children boarding



**416**

children in Primary school



Brian

# FIKIA DADA: REACH A GIRL

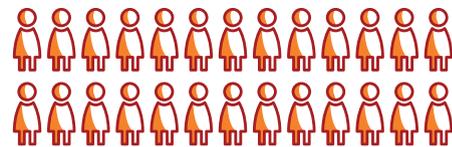
Once girls start missing school because they cannot afford feminine hygiene products during their menstrual cycle, they are far more likely to be exposed to other risks such as early pregnancy. Global Connections has formed a new partnership with Fikia Dada to address this issue and seeks to improve the education and future of rural girls in particular. **The Reach A Girl** program helps educate these young women on the menstrual cycle, menstrual hygiene, abuse risks and AIDS awareness. We also provide them with washable sanitary pads, soap, panties and teach them about God’s love.



**600 girls** were educated in 2018 by the Global Connections and Fikia Dada teams



Reaching **1200 girls** is the goal for the 2019 teams



**1296 girls** were reached in the past 4 years

# YOUNG LIFE AFRICA

Young Life Africa has just recently partnered with Julius and Empower to Transform. Julius will receive the YL training and tools for discipling teenagers. Under Julius’s guidance, some teens will also gain the opportunity to experience Young Life camps. We are very excited about this partnership that we pray will produce new relationships for Christ, our US team members, Julius, and the LCC children.

# 15TH ANNIVERSARY

Global Connections is embarking on planning a reunion trip in the summer of 2020. In 2020 teams will have been traveling to Kenya for 15 years. The dates of this trip will span June 15-July 15, 2020. If you are interested in being part of this celebration, please contact us to make a reservation by October 1, 2020 at [info@globalconnectionsonline.org](mailto:info@globalconnectionsonline.org).



[GlobalConnectionsOnline.org](http://GlobalConnectionsOnline.org)

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